

Distributional notes of the  
crested hairtail, *Tentoriceps  
cristatus* (Klunzinger, 1884)  
from Spermonde Archipelago,  
South Sulawesi, Indonesia

*by* Andi Iqbal Burhanuddin

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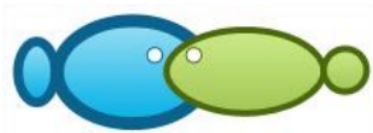
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## Distributional notes of the crested hairtail, *Tentoriceps cristatus* (Klunzinger, 1884) from Spermonde Archipelago, South Sulawesi, Indonesia

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**Abstract.** One specimen (570.0 mm in standard length) of *Tentoriceps cristatus*, belonging to the family Trichiuridae, was newly collected in a local fish market in Makassar, South Sulawesi, constituting a first record for the species in the Indonesian archipelago. We suggest "layur kakak tua", a translation of its existing common name "ribbon fish" and parrot-like dorsal profile of head, for the Indonesian species names.

**Key Words:** new record, Trichiuridae, first record, layur kakak tua, ribbon fish.

**1 Introduction.** The family Trichiuridae is widely distributed from tropical to warm temperate waters (Burhanuddin & Iwatsuki 2003; Nakamura & Parin 1993). Characters of this family include very elongate and strongly compressed body, large mouth, jaws not protractile, lower jaw extends anterior to upper jaw. Teeth extremely strong, fang-like in anterior part of upper jaw and sometimes in anterior part of lower jaw and lower jaw protruding than upper jaw, and dorsal fin extremely long based, with spines and soft rays (Burhanuddin et al 2002; Nelson 2006).

The crested hairtail, *Tentoriceps cristatus* (Klunzinger), was originally described from the Red Sea (Burhanuddin & Parin 2008; Klunzinger 1884). Then, this species is now known to distribute in Indo-West Pacific Ocean including East China Sea, Japan, Philippines and North Australia (Eschmeyer 2013). Recently, one specimen of *T. cristatus* was caught from the Makassar Waters, South Sulawesi on April 2015. Here, we describe the morphological characters of *T. cristatus* as an addition to the list of Indonesian fishes.

**Material and Method.** One specimen of *T. cristatus* was found at the Rajawali local fish market, Makassar, South Sulawesi. The specimen had been collected by hook and line on vessels that frequently fish as far as the Spermonde Archipelago, South Sulawesi. Counts and measurements generally followed the method of Hubbs & Lagler (1964). Counts of vertebrae column followed Burhanuddin et al (2002). Tissue was collected from the dorsal fin of the specimen and preserved in 96% ethanol. The present tissue sample and specimen were deposited at the Laboratory of Marine Biology, Faculty of Marine Science and Fisheries Hasanuddin University, Indonesia. Molecular identification of the specimen was conducted using the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) of a 651 bp DNA fragment of the mitochondria cytochrome oxidase subunit I (mtCOI). DNA was extracted using 10% Chelex solution (Walsh et al 1991) and PCR performed using a M13-tailed universal fish primer cocktail VF2\_t1, FishF2\_t1, Fishr2\_t1 (Ward et al 2005). The DNA sequence of the mtCOI gene obtained from the present specimen was compared to that of *T. cristatus* (KP267579) deposited at the DNA Data Bank of Japan (DDBJ). The genetic variation

among sequences was assessed by eye using the program Molecular Evolutionary Genetic Analysis-MEGA 5.1. (Tamura et al 2011).

**Material examined.** MSFUH00069, one specimen, 570.0 mm SL, hook and line, off Spermonde Archipelago, South Sulawesi, Indonesia, April 2015 (Figure 1).

*Trichiurus cristatus* (Klunzinger 1884): 120 (type locality: Kosseir, Red Sea Coast of Egypt). *Tentoriceps cristatus* (Nakamura 1984): 228 (Japan); Mohsin & Ambak 1996): 527 (Malaysia); Randall & Lim (2000): 643 (South China Sea); Kim et al (2014): 236 (Korea). Parin & Mikhailin (1982), Yang (1974), Lee et al (1977).



Figure 1. *Tentoriceps cristatus*, MSFUH00069, 570.0 mm SL, Spermonde Archipelago, South Sulawesi, Indonesia (original).

**Description.** Counts and measurements are shown in Table 1. Body extremely elongated, tapering to a point; upper profile of head convex, a steep continuous curve from the tip of snout to the origin of the dorsal set at about 40° to longitudinal axis; head small; interorbital space convex; eye somewhat large and situating at middle part of head; nostrils positioning in front of eye; mouth large, slightly oblique, end of upper jaw extending below posterior part of eye, lower jaw more projecting than upper jaw, 3 pairs of fangs at tip of upper jaw. A pair of canines at front of both jaws; lower jaw with 2 rows soft teeth, but no enlarged canines at mid-side of jaw. Pectoral fins short and rounded, the middle rays longest, sub equal to pelvic fins, 2.4 times in head length. Caudal fin absent and pelvic fin modified into a scale-like process. Pectoral fin is not reaching lateral line due to its short length.

**Color.** In fresh specimen, the body is generally silvery white; head and interorbital region dark; tip of upper and lower jaw black; dorsal fin base and its terminal part black pectoral and pelvic fin white, becoming silvery gray with dark cloud-like patches after death.

Table 1  
Comparison of morphological characters of *Tentoriceps cristatus*

Morphological characters	Present study	Klunzinger (1884)	Senta (1975)	Kim et al (2014)
Number of specimens	1	9	50	1
Total length (mm)	605.0	?	283.0-633.0	619.0
Counts		-		
Dorsal fin rays	V, 135	-	V, 126-144	V, 131
Anal fin rays	II	-	II, 82-91	II
Pectoral fin rays	11	-	-	11
Pelvic fin rays	1	-	1	1
Gill rakers	4+10	-	2-6+7-11	3+9
Vertebrae	50+110=160	-	45-48+105-117=152-164	49+112=161

**Distribution.** The present species was first reported from the Red Sea (Klunzinger 1884). This species is known to inhabit depths in the range of 140–367 m, from the Western Pacific to French Polynesia, Ryukyu Island, Okinawa, the Great Barrier reef, Taiwan Province of China, South China Sea, Marina Island, Society Island, Cook Islands,

American Samoa, Fiji, Tuamotus, and the Philippine Sea (Nakamura & Parin 1993; Eschmeyer 2013), Korea (Kim et al 2014). The specimen utilized in this report was collected by hook and line in the sea off Spermonde Archipelago, South Sulawesi, Indonesia.

**Remarks.** The morphological characteristics of the present specimen agreed well with those of *T. cristatus* having an extremely elongated body, having lateral line running almost straight mid laterally nearer the ventral than the dorsal contour; the interorbital convex, posterior end of opercle acutely elliptical, reaching to middle of pectoral base; pectoral fin short and not reaching at lateral line, pelvic fin reduced to a scale-like process and caudal fin absent (Senta 1975; Nakamura & Parin 1993; Nakabo 2002; Nelson 2006). Also, the meristic characters of the present specimen were compared with those of *T. cristatus* previously reported by other researcher (Parin & Mikhailin 1982; Yang 1974; Lee et al 1977) (Table 1), although several taxonomically important meristic characters of type specimen were not examined by Klunzinger (1884). In addition, we adopted molecular identification method based on COI DNA sequences to make sure of the accurate species identification. The result indicated that COI sequence of present specimen was almost identical (99%) to that of *T. cristatus* from DNA Data Bank of Japan (DDBJ). One specimen of *T. cristatus* (Trichiuridae) which was presented in this study provides new knowledge about their specific distribution and gave a new country record for this species.

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