

## AMPLIACIONES DE AMBITO

**Range extensions of the lophiid anglerfish *Lophiodes spilurus*  
and the stingray *Urotrygon nana*, along the Pacific coast of America**

Since 1979, we have been sampling the demersal fishes of the continental platform of southern Sinaloa, extending our research to the entire Gulf of California from May 1982 onwards. The geographical distribution of many of these demersal fishes, most of them of "Panamic" origin (sensu Walker 1960) is not known in detail. The present paper is intended as a contribution to its understanding.

The specimens of *Lophiodes spilurus* were collected with the R/V "El Puma" of the Instituto de Ciencias del Mar y Limnología, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. Individuals of *U. nana* were obtained with the fishing boat FC-1 of the Secundaria de Técnica Pesquera, Secretaría de Educación Pública.

Standard length = SL; total length = TL.

*Lophiodes spilurus* (Garman, 1899).

**Previous known range:** Caruso (1981), in his revision of the genus *Lophiodes* indicates the geographic distribution of *L. spilurus* as from 14°17'N to 5°02'S (from the border between Guatemala and Mexico, off the mouth of the Suchiate stream, to Colombia) and reports that the species is found in depths between 119 and 475 m.

**New record:** 19 specimens, (8.5–13.8 cm SL)  $\bar{X}$  = 11.2 cm SL, off Bahía Santa María, Sinaloa, Mexico (24°56'12"N–108°44'30"W). Collected by the R/V "El Puma" during the CORTES-II cruise, March 10, 1985. Taken by otter trawl at 109 m depth.

**Observations:** of the genus *Lophiodes*, only two species occur in the eastern Pacific. *L. spilurus* and *L. caulinaris* (Caruso 1981). However, in the literature, other incorrect names are frequently applied to the latter species, creating confusion. For example, the name *Lophiomus setigerus* (Vahl, 1797) corresponds to a species of anglerfish restricted to the Indo-West Pacific, and *Chirolophius forbesi* Regan, 1913, is considered now to be a junior synonym of *L. caulinaris*. *L. spilurus* is apparently restricted to waters deeper than 100 m whilst *L. caulinaris* also occurs in shallower waters (14–311 m); possibly therefore, the latter species has been collected more frequently and is better known than the former. Our record represents an important extension of about 10° latitude of its previously known northern limit, from the border between Mexico and Guatemala, to the southern part of the Gulf of California.

*Urotrygon nana* Miyake and McEachran, 1988.

**Previous known range:** from the Gulf of Nicoya, Costa Rica, to the coast of northern Nayarit (Miyake and McEachran, 1988).

**New record:** 1 female, 18.3 cm TL, August 20, 1980; 2 males (13.2–16.0 cm TL)  $\bar{X}$  = 14.6 cm TL and 1 female, 13.7 cm TL, August 22, 1979; 2 females (9.4–20.3 cm TL)  $\bar{X}$  = 14.9 cm TL, January 20, 1981. All specimens were collected in the central area of the Bay of Mazatlan at approximately 23°13'00"W and 106°26'30"N, with a small otter trawl, at stations 3 and 4, and at lesser depths of 10–20 m.

**Observations:** Miyake and McEachran (1988) examined a male which was collected in 1932 along the coast of northern Nayarit. Unfortunately, the authors provide map co-ordinates of the collecting site which correspond to a point that falls on land, within the state of Sinaloa. Assuming that the specimen was collected in Nayarit, the extension of its northern limit of distribution to Mazatlan, Sinaloa, implies that *U. nana* is definitely present in the Gulf of California; how far this small tropical stingray has eventually penetrated into the Sea of Cortéz remains to be investigated. Miyake and McEachran (1988) do not mention the bathymetric range of the species; nevertheless, since we have collected all our specimens between 10 and 20 m depth, it is most likely that it is restricted to shallow waters.

## REFERENCES

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