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AUSTROPERCA, A NEW NAME TO REPLACE
TORRENTARIA, FOR A GENUS OF
MEXICAN FISHES

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IN the course of other work on the Mexican fish fauna, it has been observed that a generic or subgeneric name based on a Mexican darter (family Percidae) is preoccupied. A new name is consequently proposed:

Austroperca, new genusOrthotype, *Diplesion fasciatus* Girard.

DIAGNOSIS.—Like *Poecilichthys* (in broad sense), but anal fin with a single strong spine. Lateral line incomplete. Head, nape, and breast scaleless. Gill membranes moderately connected.

The name is proposed, because *Torrentaria* Jordan and Evermann (1896: 1066, 1068, and 1080) is preoccupied by *Torrentaria* (Hodgson, MS) Gray (1863: 34), a name which appears to have been available proposed for a genus of birds (see Richmond, 1917: 627). Gray merely listed:

180. *Ruticilla leucocephala*, Cat. Hodgs. Coll.*B.M.* p. 68.*Torrentaria leucocephala*, *Hodgs. MSS.*

We regard the name *Torrentaria* as validly proposed for a bird in 1863, because it complies with Article 25 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature in that it was published and accompanied by an indication and in that the author applied binary nomenclature. The indication, following Opinion 1 of the International Commission, is valid because a bibliographic reference is given, to the first edition of the catalogue of the Hodgson collection, Gray and Gray (1843), where further references are listed. The fact that the reference is to the species concerned rather than the genus does not disqualify the name, since a parallel reference was accepted as valid in Opinion 17. The fact that Gray did not accept the manuscript name has no bearing on its validity (Opinion 4).

The darter group *Torrentaria* was proposed as a subgenus of *Etheostoma*, to include the Mexican species *Etheostoma australe* Jordan (1889: 362) and the Tennessee species *Etheostoma sagitta* Jordan and Swain. Jordan and Evermann indicated *australe* as the type species of *Torrentaria*, by the method of type-designation practiced by them for subgenera, namely listing *australe* in parenthesis following the first listing of the new subgeneric name *Torrentaria*, in the synonymy of the genus *Etheostoma*. This action invalidates the specification of *sagitta* as the type by Jordan, Evermann, and Clark (1930: 293), who elevated *Torrentaria* to generic rank.

Since there is no good reason to believe that the relationship between *Etheostoma sagitta* and *Etheostoma australe* is intimate, and since the status as well as the relationships of *Etheostoma sagitta* are uncertain, the new name *Austroperca* is proposed to include only the Mexican species, *Austroperca australis* = *Etheostoma australe* Jordan = *Diplesion fasciatus* Girard. *Diplesion fasciatus* was rendered a homonym of *Catnotus fasciatus* Girard when both species were later referred to the genus *Etheostoma*, and according to the strict interpretation of the International Code (Articles 35 and 36) may not now be resurrected even though the two species are again referred to different genera.

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