

Camilleacanthus nom. n., a new replacement name for *Priacanthopsis* Arambourg, 1967 (non Fowler, 1906) (Teleostei: Perciformes)

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The new replacement name *Camilleacanthus* nom. n. is proposed for *Priacanthopsis* Arambourg, 1967 (non Fowler, 1906). The type and the only species *C. crassispinus* (Aramb.) deserves a separate generic rank, however, its relationships with the family Priacanthidae, in which it was originally placed, are obscure.

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Camilleacanthus nom. n.

Priacanthopsis Arambourg, 1967: 103 (junior homonym of *Priacanthopsis* Fowler, 1906).

The percoid *Priacanthopsis crassispinus* was described by Arambourg (1967: 103, pl. VIII, fig. 4; text-fig. 42) from the Lower Oligocene deposits of Elam (Iran), and referred by him to the family Priacanthidae. Unfortunately, Arambourg's (1967) generic name is preoccupied by *Priacanthopsis* of Fowler (1906). For this reason, I propose a new replacement name *Camilleacanthus* nom. n. The generic name is given in honour of the late Prof. Camille Arambourg, eminent French paleontologist who described this taxon.

Diagnosis of the genus. Body round and strongly compressed laterally, greatest depth approximately 50% of standard length; caudal peduncle short and low; head large, with convex dorsal profile. Cranial roofing bones and pectoral girdle bones expanded and massive. Lacrymal smooth (Arambourg, 1967: fig. 42). Preopercle with expanded ventral flange, and with straight, stout, posteriorly directed spine at angle; posterior and ventral margins of preopercle smooth, without denticles. Two postcleithra, according to Arambourg's fig. 42. Dorsal fin single, deeply notched between spinous and soft portions; third and fourth dorsal-fin spines longest. Predorsal bones apparently absent. Pectoral fins short, but pelvics long. Body covered with minute ctenoid scales. D XII, 15-16; A III, 13-14; V I, 5; C 4-I-8-7-I-3; vert. 9-10+15.

Discussion. Though *Camilleacanthus crassispinus* resembles Priacanthidae in the general ap-

pearance, it differs from other taxa of this family in the numerous important respects having apomorphic conditions in the priacanthids (Starnes, 1988): smooth (vs. denticulated) lower margin of lacrymal; two (vs. single or none) postcleithra; 15-branched caudal-fin rays (vs. 13-branched); short pectoral fins and deeply notched dorsal fin. *C. crassispinus* differs from all recent priacanthids (Starnes, 1988) in a higher count of the caudal vertebrae (15 vs. 13), however, some fossil forms from the Eocene-Miocene have similar counts (14-15 caudal vertebrae) (Arambourg, 1967; author's unpublished data). There are no data about presence or absence in *C. crassispinus* of spinules on the fin rays and spines being characteristic for Priacanthidae. The Oligocene taxon differs from all priacanthids (both fossil and recent) in high counts of the dorsal-fin spines (12 vs. 10). The shape of preopercle is similar to those of Holocentridae rather than Priacanthidae. Thus, the taxonomic position of *C. crassispinus* is not clear, and this taxon is questionably belonging to the Priacanthidae. However, its generic validity is doubtless.

References

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