



Founded 1938

F.B.A.S.

THE RASBORAS

NATIONAL
SHOW FISH GUIDES
&
TECHNICAL INFORMATION
Book. No. 16.

EDITION OF BRITISH AQUATIC SOCIETIES. (c) 1984.

FOREWORD

Some time ago Terry Waller declared an interest in Rasboras. Three years ago he decided to gather together all the information he possessed on these fishes following his researches into various books, magazines and papers on the subject of Rasboras. He found that he was able to describe some forty species and sub-species. It was then he formulated the idea of offering this information to the Federation to form the basis of a booklet on Rasboras.

The production of any F.B.A.S. booklet is undoubtedly a time consuming exercise. Terry, in common with most of us found he was not able to produce to his satisfaction the drawings, that a work of this nature so clearly needed. The Judges & Standards Committee with Terry's approval approached Cyril Brown to see if he would do the drawings. Cyril agreed to take on the task of producing the line drawings for Terry's descriptions. However whilst drawing these fishes and delving into information concerning the genus to ensure, both that his drawings were accurate and to verify Terry's descriptions, Cyril found a further fifteen species and sub-species. When he had completed the drawings for Terry's descriptions, he then undertook the task of producing drawings and descriptions of the Rasboras that he had turned up. We therefore now have a booklet of sixtyfour descriptions and drawings of Rasboras divided into two supplements, but able to be combined into a single booklet. Book No: 16. THE RASBORAS.

The identification of many Rasboras has long been the subject of much discussion and friendly argument. The net result of this booklet is that without doubt it should become the standard work for settling all such disputes. But not only that, it will prove a boon to all aquarists interested in Rasboras, not only Judges and exhibitors but also the aquarist who just wishes to widen his knowledge of an extremely interesting group of fishes.

In this age of modern technology, it may be of interest to note that this is the first in the range of Federation National Guides & Technical Information booklets to be produced by our word processor. We believe that the type face, (we have retained our usual layout) is acceptable. It certainly makes the storage and retrieval of the information far easier.

On behalf of us all I thank Sylvia Brown for producing the fish name headings, Terry Waller for the original thought and for getting the book off the ground with his initial work and descriptions, Cyril Brown for his drawings and all the extras, Bob Esson for putting the words into the computer, setting out and assembling the masters. This booklet more than adequately fills a need. Gain pleasure from your labour well done.

Peter Cottle.
Chairman
J & S Committee 1984.

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INTRODUCTION

Rasbora heteromorpha, the Harlequin is a dainty little jewel when seen swimming in a shoal of twenty or more, in a well planted aquarium in a home or the display tank in a dealers shop. It swims serenely never hurried, always peaceful. The subtle greens of the foliage being perfectly complimented by the striking red and black colouration of these fishes.

Many are the Aquarists who have been introduced to the hobby by this single specie and millions of Rasbora heteromorpha must have passed through dealers tanks in the last forty years or so. Rasbora have been popular for decades being one of the first tropical fish to make an impression on the hobby, their popularity does not appear to be diminishing.

As yet the Rasboras appear to have confounded all the Western World's aquarists, with only a minority of aquarists having achieved the distinction of breeding them. For this reason virtually all stocks available are imported from the Far Eastern Fish Farms, or are wild caught specimens turning up with other fishes as oddments in dealers shops.

My interest began a few years ago when sitting in a friends lounge spellbound with the sight of sixty or so Harlequins shoaling along the length of a two metre aquarium heavily planted with Cryptocorynes. It was through this interlude that I decided to find out more about the genus but unfortunatley was somewhat frustrated by the lack of available information, hence this booklet which I hope will stimulate your interest giving you an introduction into this fascinating, beautiful and challenging family of fishes.

In this booklet I have attempted to resolve some of the confusion that surrounds the genus, only using information available to me that was in my opinion reliable, doubtful information has been omitted. I have also attempted to explain and use Dr. Brittan's scientific complex, for it shows species that are so closely linked that one wonders if in fact they really are true species, or just races of an ancestral form.
1984 Terry Waller.

Bibliography.

FRESHWATER FISHES OF THE WORLD
Dr.Guther Sterba.

RASBORA.
Dr. Martin. Brittan.

RASBORAS

The word rasbora is a native name without accurate translation, while the specific name usually refers to the area the fish was originally collected or to the collector. Rasboras are members of an old family of fishes called Cyprinidae which fall in the order Ostariophyci. Within the fish time scale they are fairly old, appearing during the Pleistocene, just as the world was emerging from the great ice age.

When the continents of the world were joined together forming the super continent, Gondwanaland, there lived fishes that were the ancestors of the fishes we are familiar with today. In the land mass that was to become Africa there was a group of fishes that would eventually evolve into the present day African Barbs. This land mass seated on great plates split up and began to move as the earth's core cooled and shrank, Gondwanaland broke up into the continents we know today. This continental drift is still in progress.

The area we know as India was then part of the east coast of Africa. It broke away, drifted North, taking some of the early 'African' barbs with it, eventually colliding with Southern Asia, forming the Himalayan Mountains. Over millions of years one of these fishes evolved into the ancestral Rasbora, this fish was eventually collected by Hamilton-Buchanan in 1822 and named *Rasbora rasbora* and from this specie many of today's Rasboras have evolved.

Towards the end of the Pleistocene it is believed the world underwent a polar shift and moved a few degrees on its axis. This brought about the great ice age and stimulated the jump in evolutionary process that was to affect all living creatures. The oceans subsided, vast tracts of land appeared that had been ocean beds, new vast rivers appeared, one the Greater Sunda River had its origins in India flowed into the Pacific and was fed from tributaries that had their origins from the areas that were to become the Malayan Peninsula and the Islands of the East Indies.

Rasbora rasbora made its way along this great river and into its many tributaries over a vast area so that when the world emerged from the great ice age the melting ice caused the seas to rise again, flooding the old sea beds, many fishes were cut off by the salt water in separate river systems and locations. However the fish continued to evolve but now because of their isolation each group developed in its own way. Even today it is still thought by many that South East Asia is one of the most evolutionary active parts of the World.

So today the boundaries of the *Rasbora* fishes are set and would appear geographically impossible to alter. They are found from the West coast of India, as far East as the Phillipines, and from the foothills of the Himalayas in the North to Borneo and Sumatra in the South.

But by far the greatest concentration of Rasboras are found in the many islands that form the East Indies, within these islands they inhabit great rivers, small streams, lakes, ponds and even roadside ditches. In general as is to be expected the larger species are found in larger volumes of water, the smaller in ponds and ditches, this being a purely practical evolutionary process. The water inhabited by the Rasbora is usually acid because of the high rainfall the area is subject to at various times, in particular the Monsoon Season.

The rain filters through the rotting jungle vegetation replenishing the rivers etc, as a result the acidity could be as high as 5.5 PH. It is my contention that this sudden change in water conditions coupled with the accompanying violent thunder storms is the trigger that induces spawning.

Single species of Rasbora can vary considerably in size, shape and in particular, colour, due to the ecology and the food available, as well as temperature and fluctuations in PH, all have their effect. So a Harlequin from say, a pond in Singapore, may differ considerably from a population of Harlequins that inhabit a river in Sumatra, in habits, colour pattern and shape.

Identification of many Rasboras is not easy especially when appraising small immature specimens. Certainly identification should not be based on external appearance alone, in a number of instances a positive identification may only be made by carrying out a biological examination. It is probable that the whole genus can be broken down into three or four ancestral types.

True Rasboras are mostly slim and elongated, strong, fast swimmers, the mouth is set at an oblique angle and has a small hard lump on the lower lip, this is called the symphyseal knob. Within the mouth there are three rows of pharyngeal teeth, which are small with minute hooks on their tips. Most species carry horizontal lines or strips of variable intensity, this normally takes the form of a black or blue/grey stripe that follows the lateral line, commences either at the snout, operculum or midway along the flank usually terminating at the caudal peduncle, the stripe may sometimes be edged with red or gold.

Most young Rasboras carry a pre-caudal spot or blotch, and as the fish grows older, this may be obscured by the lateral stripe. A number of species display a line or blotch on the body at the base of the anal fin, this is known as supra-anal pigment, this seems to vary at different times of the year. Could this have a sexual connection?. Scales tend to be large in proportion to the size of the fish and may be edged with pigmentation giving a reticulated appearance, which varies in intensity between species. Rasbora finnage is unspectacular and varies only slightly in shape and length. Fins are mostly clear or tinted pale yellow or orange but there are notable exceptions.

Unlike most other Cyprinoid fishes Rasboras, with the exception of *Rabora elanga* which has a tiny pair, carry no barbels. As a genus they are shoaling fishes which become nervous when kept as single specimens, they tend to be jumpers and for this reason suffer damage the top of the head and mouth which may result in the fish contracting mouth fungus.

Rasboras do not require a high temperature, being happiest at around 70°f/21°c, but will tolerate a temperature as low as 65°f/18°c, and as they are very active the water should be well aerated, it would also be beneficial for the fish if the water is acidic and peaty. Great care must always be taken when introducing fishes into a new environment as any violent change in their water conditions could prove fatal. The genus as a whole do not take kindly to frequent water changes preferring aged to new water.

Feeding members of the genus presents no problems as they will accept most dry foods that are offered to them, but one should remember that their natural food is insect life, and this should be included in their diet. Rasboras are excellent community fishes, even the largest species are peaceful, however care must be taken to ensure that diminutive fishes get their share of the food.

Longevity is not unknown amongst Rasboras with some species living for six or more years, but one drawback is that the fin structure seems to deteriorate after about three years.

THE COMPLEX GROUPING OF RASBORAS

For ease of understanding, recognition and various scientific reasons, Dr. Martin Brittan has felt obliged to place the Rasboras into groups or 'complexes'. The fishes within each complex are closely related and linked evolutionarily, each of these complexes having evolved in its own way. The species within each complex has outwardly retained some similarity with its near relation, but it would take a very close examination and dissection of the species to find the true reason why Dr. Brittan has grouped certain fish with others within a complex.

The eight complexes devised by Dr. Brittan are:-

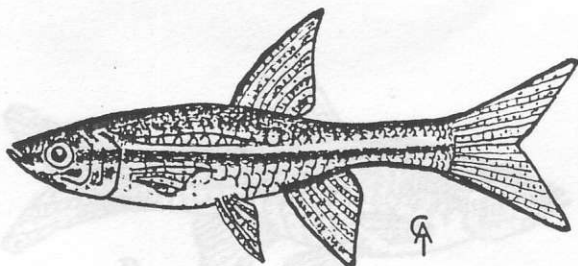
- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| (1) <i>Argyrotaena</i> . | (5) <i>Lateristriata</i> . |
| (2) <i>Caudimaculata</i> . | (6) <i>Pauciperforata</i> . |
| (3) <i>Daniconius</i> . | (7) <i>Sumatra-Elegans</i> . |
| (4) <i>Einthovenii</i> . | (8) <i>Trifasciata</i> . |

There are a few species that Dr. Brittan has not linked with any of the complexes listed above. Scientifically their lineage and relationship to other *Rasbora* species are somewhat obscure. Among these species are:-

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| (a) <i>Rasbora heteromorpha</i> . | (c) <i>Rasbora maculata</i> . |
| (b) <i>Rasbora kallachroma</i> . | (d) <i>Rasbora reticulata</i> . |

There are also two sub-species of *Rasbora* which carry many of the scientific characteristics of the genus, one, *Rasbora waterfloris* is located in Sri-Lanka at the extreme edge of the *Rasbora* range. The ancestry of this fish is unknown and it has been placed in the sub-order, *Rasboroides*. The other is *Rasbora elanga* the only member of the genus to possess barbels, so typical of the Cyprinoid fishes. This specie Dr Brittan places in the sub-order *Megarasbora*.

Rasbora agilis (Rendahl)



Popular name:

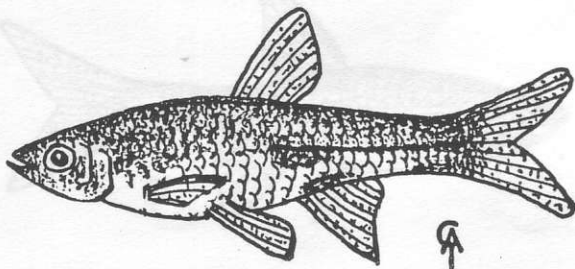
Habitat: Sumatra.

Characteristics: Body brownish/olive, darker towards the dorsal contour, silvery white on the belly. A black stripe runs from the operculum to the root of the caudal, this stripe is edged above with reddish gold. Fins tinged with pale yellow, dorsal fin tall and pointed, rear margin concave. Pectorals and pelvics pointed rear margin of pelvics concave. Anal broadly pointed, rear margin concave. Caudal deeply forked and pointed.

Remarks:

Confusion exists as to whether this is a valid specie or merely a race of *Rasbora taeniata*. Brittan tends to suggest that both the species are valid. Personally with limited information to assist me, I feel convinced that *Rasbora agilis* is a race of *Rasbora taeniata*.

Rasbora aprotaenia (Hubbs & Brittan)



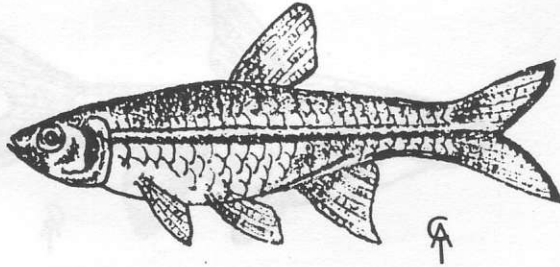
Popular name:

Habitat: Java.

Characteristics: Body brownish, paler towards the anal contour, a lateral stripe commences below the dorsal terminating at the caudal with a spot or widening of the stripe at the anterior end joining an oval blotch, supra-anal pigment present forming a round or oval spot. Fins clear. Caudal moderately forked, lobes rounded or broadly pointed, dorsal and pelvics broadly pointed rear margins convex, anal pointed rear margin concave, pectorals round.

Remarks: In many respects an intermediate between *Rasbora elegans* and *Rasbora lateristriata*. The blotchs on the body are similar to *Rasbora elegans* but less prominata, and the head is less pointed than *Rasbora lateristriata*.

Rasbora argyrateaenia (Bleeker)



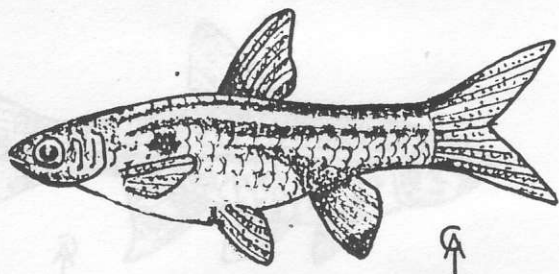
Popular name: Silver Rasbora.

Habitat: Bali, Borneo, China, Japan, Java, Malaka, Malaya and Thailand.

Characteristics: Body brilliant silver becoming darker towards the dorsal contour, a horizontal gold line runs from the operculum to the caudal peduncle, this line edged with black below continues faintly to the fork of the caudal. Fins clear or slightly dusky. Caudal deeply forked with pointed lobes, rear margin edged with black, base dusky. Dorsal broadly pointed, rear margin convex. Anal pointed, rear margin concave. Pectorals and pelvics pointed.

Remarks: This specie is closely related to Raboras myersi, and dusonensis. There are also a number of sub-species which are probably local races or varieties. Rasbora argyrateaenia everitti, would appear to be a race from the Philippines. Rasbora vaillanti, comes from Borneo, being identified by its slightly extended finnage, while Rasbora borneensis, is yet another race.

Rasbora axelrodi (Axelrod)



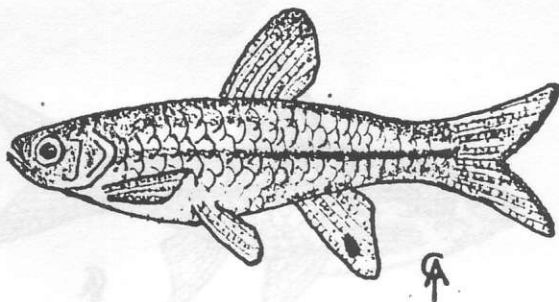
Popular name: Axelrods Rasbora.

Habitat: Malayasia.,

Characteristics: Body mettalic grey/green above the centre line, mettalic rosy red below, a dark green line runs from above the eye to the caudal peduncle. Anal scarlet, dorsal clear with red base, other fins clear. No apparant lateral line.

Remarks: A new little known specie, small and colourfull with a fairly deep body. This specie poses the question as to whether this is a true Rasbora or an obscure sub-genus.

Rasbora baliensis (Hubbs & Brittan)



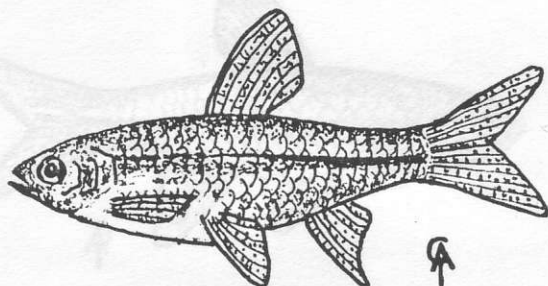
Popular name: Rasbora from Bali.

Habitat: Bali.

Characteristics: Body light brown darker towards the dorsal contour, a dark lateral stripe runs from the operculum to the base of the caudal, becoming darker towards the caudal peduncle. Fins clear, tip of dorsal and margin of caudal have a slight greyish colouration. Anal has quite a distinguishing black spot. Caudal and pectorals pointed, dorsal rounded, anal and pelvics broadly pointed.

Remarks: A small specie, which is sometimes confused with *Rasbora bankanensis*.

Rasbora bankanensis (Bleeker)



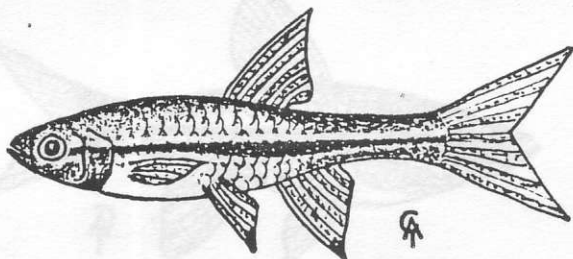
Popular name:

Habitat: Malay & Sumatra.

Characteristics: Body brown becoming lighter towards the anal contour. A dark lateral stripe runs from the operculum to the caudal peduncle, this stripe becomes darkest towards the rear. The Sumatra race has a weaker lateral stripe and a pronounced black tip to the anal fin. All fins broadly pointed, caudal deeply forked, dorsal and pelvic convex, anal concave.

Remarks: A smallish fairly deep bodied specie. Sometimes confused with *Rasbora baliensis*. *Rasbora bankanensis* is closely related to *Rasbora rutteni*.

Rasbora beauforti (Hardenberg)



Popular name:

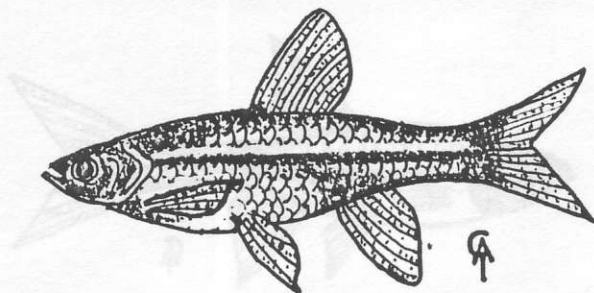
Habitat: Southern Borneo.

Characteristics: Body dark brownish paler towards the anal contour. A dark lateral stripe runs from the snout through the eye to the caudal, being narrowest on the head and caudal, this stripe edged above with a light band. Some members of the species have the tips of the anal and pelvics backish. Caudal deeply forked with pointed lobes, dorsal, anal pelvics and pectorals pointed, dorsal and anal rear margin concave, pelvics straight.

Remarks:

Rasbora beauforti is probably a member of the pauciperforata group, being closest to the Rasoras pauciperforata, taeniata and borapetensis.

Rasbora borapetensis (H. Smith)



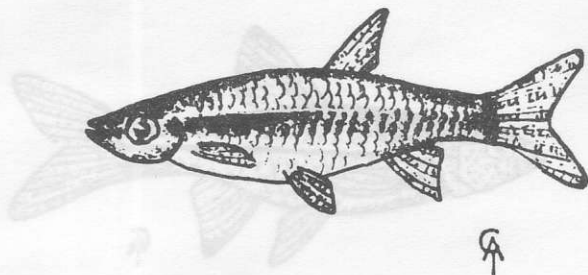
Popular name: Red-tailed Rasbora.

Habitat: Bung Borapet, Thailand.

Characteristics: The back has a green sheen which becomes silver towards the anal contour. A broad black line runs from the operculum to the caudal peduncle, above this line lies a gold stripe. Caudal peduncle reddish, this colour extending into the caudal. Other fins clear. Caudal pointed lobes, dorsal broadly pointed, rear margin convex. Pectorals and pelvics pointed their margins convex.

Remarks: A fish with limited distribution being found only in a single lake and a few nearby streams, *Rasbora palustris* comes from the same location as *Rasbora borapetensis*, but the structure and scale counts differ. *Rasboras beauforti*, *pauciperforata* and *taeniata* are closely related.

Rasbora brittani (Axelrod)



Popular name: Brittan's Rasbora.

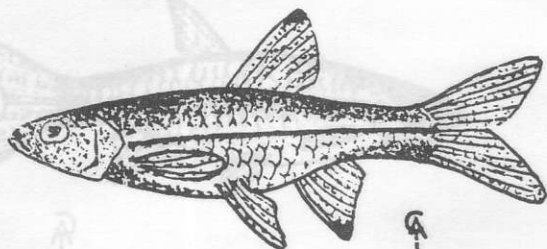
Habitat: Malaysia.

Characteristics: Body colour silver-grey darker towards the dorsal contour, a dark runs from the snout to the eye, then from the operculum to the caudal peduncle. posterior to the operculum the line divides and continues as a series of marks on the edges of the scales, terminating in a black blotch superimposed on a red caudal peduncle, above runs a faint gold line fading away beneath the dorsal. Fins clear, dorsal, caudal and anal with fine black anterior margins, dorsal with faint red markings on the base of first and second rays. Caudal moderately forked with rounded lobes, dorsal and anal rear margins concave.

Remarks: A species, about which information is still scarce.

Show Class: J

Rasbora bron sii (Kattagen)



Popular name:

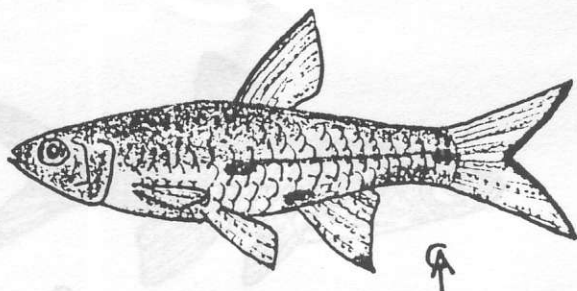
Habitat: Thailand.

Characteristics: Body light brownish, with a narrow dark lateral stripe, commencing behind the operculum terminating at the caudal peduncle, a further gold line borders the edges of the strip dorsally, fins pale yellow, dorsal and anal with black tips, caudal moderately forked with rounded lobes, dorsal, anal and pelvics slightly rounded, dorsal convex, anal and pelvics concave.

Remarks: *Rasbora bron sii* is closely related to both *Rasbora cheroni* and *Rasbora sumatrana*, and may be a variety or sub-species of either species.

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Rasbora bunguranensis (Brittan)



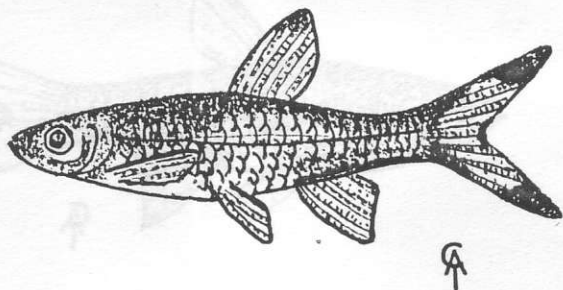
Popular name:

Habitat: Island of Bungaron.

Characteristics: Body brownish, shading yellow/brown towards the anal contour with an overall silver sheen, a black blotch is present on the flank below the insertion of the dorsal, a second blotch is present on the caudal peduncle, a dark lateral stripe joins the two blotches, supra-anal pigment present in the form of a round or oval blotch. Fins dusky with black markings on the tip of anal, front edge of dorsal and rear margin of caudal. Caudal deeply forked lobes pointed, dorsal, anal, pelvics and pectorals pointed, dorsal and pelvics convex, anal concave.

Remarks: This species is probably a *Rasbora elegans*, but differs by being paler in colour, having a black line joining the body blotches, a black margin to both dorsal and anal and a blotch as supra-anal pigment.

Rasbora caudimaculata (Volz)



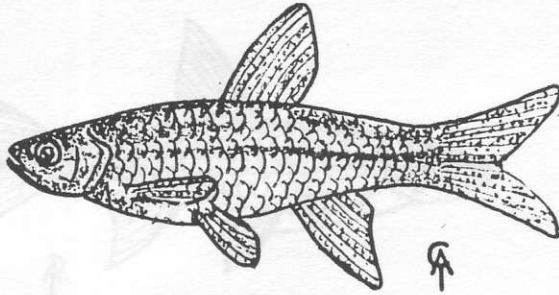
Popular name: Greater Scissortail.

Habitat: Malaya, Sumatra.

Characteristics: Body silver tinged with greyish green. A faint line extends from the operculum to the caudal peduncle. Dorsal fin tinged with orange, which varies in intensity between populations. The caudal is reddish orange with intense black tips, the extreme tips may vary between individuals from black through grey to white. The supra-anal streak present but faint. Caudal deeply forked lobes pointed, dorsal, anal and pelvic broadly pointed, dorsal and pelvic rear margins convex, anal concave.

Remarks: Unusually for the genus this specie has no visible pre-caudal spot. *Rasbora caudimaculata* was at one time confused with *Rasbora trilineata* possibly because young specimens do not look like their parents.

Rasbora caverii (Jerdon)



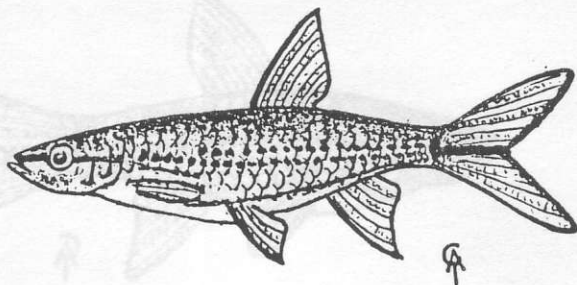
Popular name:

Habitat: River Cavery, Southern India.

Characteristics: Body pale brown darker towards the dorsal contour, a narrow black stripe extends from the operculum to the caudal peduncle, present on the operculum as a pale bar. There is a slight reticulated pattern to the body caused by the darker edging to the scales. All fins clear, but tinged with yellow. Caudal deeply forked lobes broadly pointed, dorsal, anal and pelvics broadly pointed, dorsal and pelvic rear margins convex, anal concave or straight, pectorals either pointed or rounded.

Remarks: *Rasbora caverii* is very similar to its close relative *Rasbora daniconius* but it differs from *Rasbora daniconius* by its scale patterns and counts.

Rasbora cephalataenia (Bleeker)



Popular name: Porthole Rasbora.

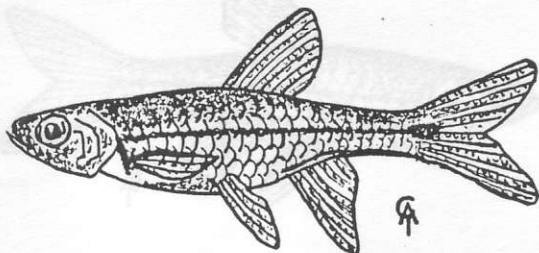
Habitat: Borneo, Malaya, Sumatra.

Characteristics: Body pinkish brown becoming silver white towards the anal contour. A double stripe consisting of a series of dots runs from the snout across the operculum along the body to the end of the caudal. Fins clear or tinged with yellow. Caudal, deeply forked, pointed lobes. Dorsal anal, pelvics and pectorals pointed, their rear margins convex, anal pointed rear margin concave.

Remarks:

An extremely beautiful specie elongated and slender which is susceptible to drastic water changes. Juveniles tend to carry the broken stripes as a solid band through the length of the fish, this juvenile pattern suggests that a common ancestry is shared with both *Rasbora einthovenii* and *Rasbora jacobsoni*.

Rasbora chromiei (Fowler)



Popular name:

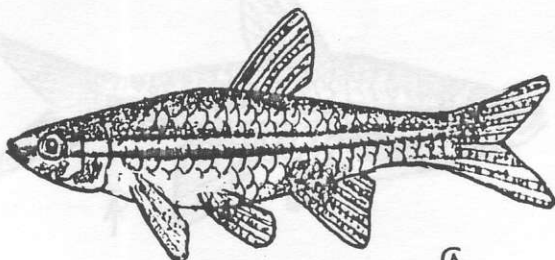
Habitat: Thailand.

Characteristics: Body brownish, a dark lateral stripe commences at the operculum terminating in an oval blotch at the caudal peduncle, an oblique blackish bar runs from the operculum to the base of the pectorals, fins tinged yellow. Caudal moderately forked lobes rounded, dorsal, anal, pelvics and pectorals rounded, dorsal rear margin convex, anal concave, pelvics straight.

MARKS:

This specie is closely related to *Rasbora sumatrana*, and may be a race of that specie.

Rasbora chryotaenia (Ahl)



GA

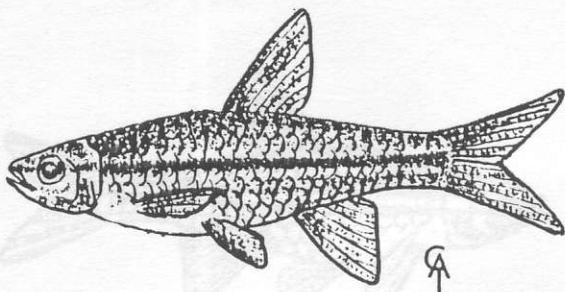
Popular name: Gold Striped Rabora.

Habitat: Malay Peninsular, Sumatra.

Characteristics: Body greenish, brown back, becoming paler on the flanks, belly bluish silver. A golden red band extends from the upper jaw across the eye to the start of the caudal, this is edged along its base with a blue black band. All fins clear.

Remarks: A largish specie that is closely related to Rasboras taeniata.

Rasbora daniconius (Hamilton Buchanan)



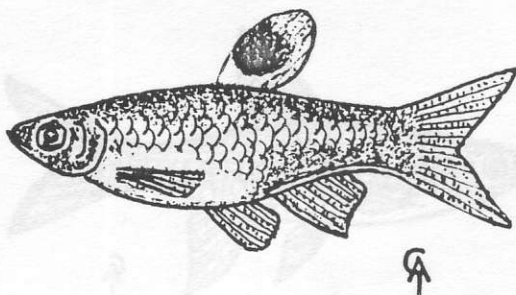
Popular name: Slender Rasbora.

Habitat: Burma, South East India, Sri Lanka, Thailand and The Greater Sunda Islands.

Characteristics: The colour of this specie is extremely variable between populations. Basicly the body colour is olive brown becoming silver grey towards the anal contour. A black line runs from the operculum to the caudal peduncle, the line is edged with golden brown, sometimes appearing broken. All fins tinged with yellow. Caudal moderatly forked, lobes pointed, other fins rounded, anal and pelvics rear margins convex.

Remarks: At the extreme edge of the Rasbora range *Rasbora daniconius* is sometimes confused with *Rasbora sarawakensis*, and due to its wide distribution it also has a wide variation of colour pattern, some populations have a very strong lateral line, whilst others have almost no line at all. *Rasbora labiosa* from Bombay and *Rasbora kobonensis* from Assam are probably races of *Rasbora daniconius*.

Rasbora dorsiocellata (Dunker)



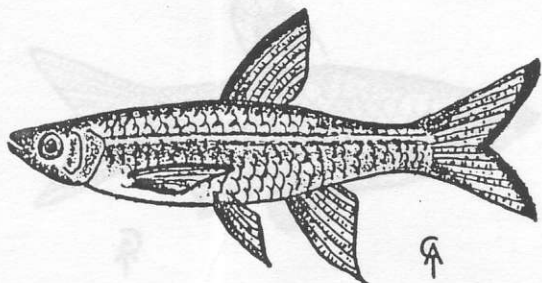
Popular name: Eye Spot Rasbora.

Habitat: Malay Peninsular, Sumatra.

Characteristics: Body pale yellow to silver with a blue lustre on the flanks, shading to white towards the anal contour. Fins delicate yellow to orange red. Dorsal with distinctive black spot, below which is a striking white triangle on the base of the dorsal. In certain light the lower half of the eye and the adjacent operculum is a brilliant metallic green. A faint line is present on the anal base running to the caudal, which is deeply forked with pointed lobes. Dorsal and pelvics may be either pointed or rounded their rear margins convex, anal pointed rear margin concave, pectorals pointed.

Remarks: A small specie so closely related to *Rasbora caudimaculata* that juveniles of the specie are almost identical to *Rasbora dorsiocellata*. Meiken in 1951 named a juvenile of the specie *Rasbora dorsiocellata*, *Rasbora macrophthalmus*, but this fish is known to be just a different race of *Rasbora dorsiocellata*.

Rasbora dusonensis (Bleeker)



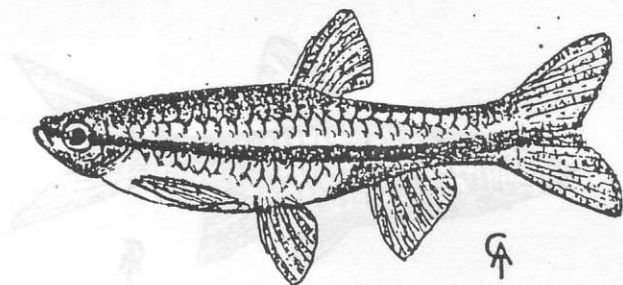
Popular name: Yellow Tailed Rasbora.

Habitat: Borneo, Malay, Sumatra.

Characteristics: Body brownish on back becoming yellow/brown towards the anal contour. A light stripe runs from the operculum to the base of the caudal, above runs a black line, below beginning above the pelvic fins is a further black line. No supra anal pigment is present. Fins are clear except the dorsal which has a black anterior margin and the caudal which is yellow with a black rear margin. Caudal deeply forked with pointed lobes. Dorsal broadly pointed rear margin either straight or slightly convex, anal, pelvic and pectorals pointed, anal rear margin concave, the pelvic convex.

Remarks: A large specie, elongated and slender. *Rasbora retrodorsalis* from Thailand is similar to *Rasbora dusonensis* but is generally much paler in colour and is probably a local race of *Rasbora dusonensis*.

Rasbora einthovenii (Bleeker)



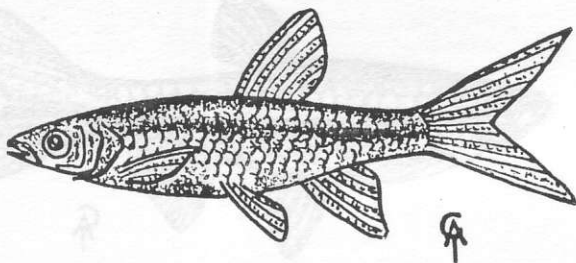
Popular name: Brilliant or Blueline Rasbora.

Habitat: Malaka, Singapore, Thailand,
The islands of the Malay Peninsular.

Characteristics: Body brown with a yellowish tinge and a blue lustre on the flanks. The scales edged with black. A blue/black line runs from the tip of the snout through to the fork in the caudal, this line has a reddish gold line along its dorsal edge. The eye is golden with the black line passing through it. Caudal, moderately forked with either pointed or rounded lobes, as is the dorsal the rear margin of which is convex. The anal and pelvics are broadly pointed, the rear margin of the anal may be either straight or concave, the pelvic convex, pectorals pointed.

Remarks: A well bodied active specie, which gives the impression of being bowed at the nose and caudal, almost boomerang in shape. Closely related to *Rasboras jacobsoni* and *cephalataenia*. *Rasbora einthovenii* has often been confused with juvenile *Rasbora cephalataenia*.

Rasbora elanga (Hamilton & Buchanan)



Popular name:

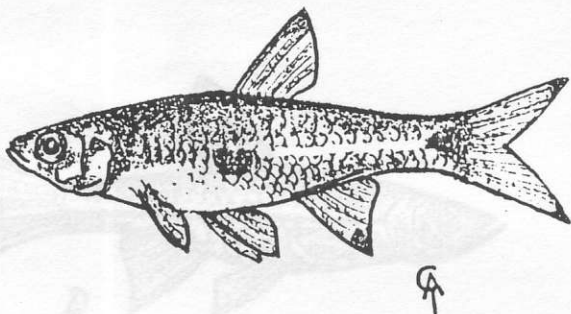
Habitat: Assam, Bengal, India.

Characteristics: Body silvery with a grey stripe running from top of the operculum to at the caudal peduncle, the lateral line is complete, whilst a pair of short barbels are present. Caudal deeply forked lobes pointed, dorsal, anal and pelvics broadly pointed, dorsal and pelvics rear margins convex, anal concave, pectorals pointed.

REMARKS:

Rasbora elanga is easily recognised being the only known Rasbora with barbels, and it is possible that the species evolved many years ago from a race of Rasbora daniconius. Dr. Brittan suggests that it should have its own sub-genus, and places it in megarasbora.

Rasbora elegans (Volz)



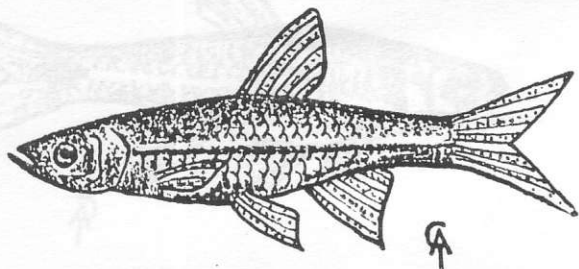
Popular name: Elegant or Two Spot Rasbora.

Habitat: Malaya, and Greater Sunda Islands.

Characteristics: Body brownish to silver/grey showing in some light a violet sheen. A black blotch is situated midway on the flank below the beginning of the dorsal fin, a second blotch appears on the caudal peduncle, the blotches are joined with a very faint stripe. The scales are edged with black giving a reticulated appearance. Fins clear, sometimes in adults they develop black tips and edging with age. The black spots however tend to fade with age. Caudal moderately forked and broadly pointed, dorsal and pelvics broadly pointed, their rear margins convex, anal and pectorals pointed the rear margin of anal concave.

Remarks: There appears to be several races of *Rasbora elegans*, one *Rasbora spilotaenia* has the two blotches joined by a black line, this race comes from Sumatra. A similar race from Java has been named *Rasbora aprotaenia*. Although both have been named as races of *Rasbora elegans*, there is also some similarity with *Rasbora lateristriata* suggesting that they may have evolved from a common ancestor. *Rasbora elegans* is also similar to *Rasbora sumatrana* and its near relatives.

Rasbora everettii (Boulenger)



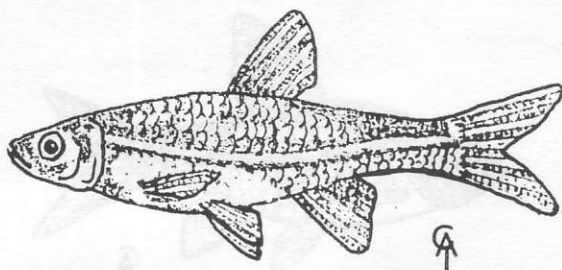
Popular name:

Habitat: Philippin.

Characteristics: Body silver becoming darker towards the dorsal contour, a faint gold line runs from the operculum to the caudal peduncle, edged below with a thin black line, supra-anal pigment faintly present. Fins clear or slightly dusky. Caudal deeply forked lobes pointed, dorsal broadly pointed, rear margin convex, anal, pelvics and pectorals pointed, anal and pelvics rear margins concave.

Remarks: Although this specie may be a race or sub-specie of *Rasbora argyrataenia*, it differs in having a much more slender body, a longer more pointed snout, and a smaller eye.

Rasbora gerlachi (Ahl)



Popular name: Gerlach's Rasbora.

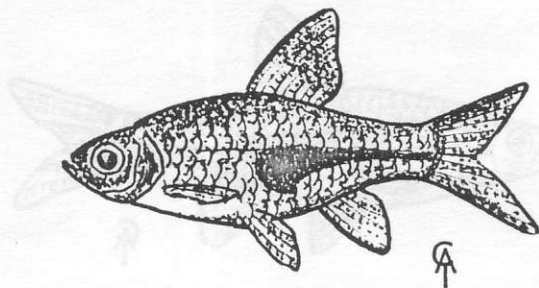
Habitat: Cameroons and East Africa.

Characteristics: Body basically yellowish, brown towards the dorsal contour. A bluish line edged with yellow runs laterally along the flanks, curved down between the pelvics and anal fins. Anal contour white, all fins pale brown or colourless.

Remarks:

Similar to *Rasbora sarawakensis*. Doubt exists as to the location of the specie. Historically no specie of *Rasbora* originates from Africa, and it is a matter of conjecture whether this specie as well a *Rasbora zanzibarensis* have naturally evolved in Africa or whether they were introduced as a form of insect control.

Rasbora hengeli (Meinken)



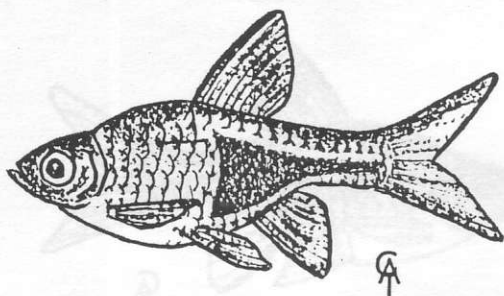
Popular name: False or Lesser Harlequin.

Habitat: Djambi, Sumatra.

Characteristics: Similar to *Rasbora heteromorpha* in looks but with a slightly slimmer body and duller colour, i.e. rosy rather than the reddish brown of *heteromorpha*. Both species have black wedges on their flanks that the of *Rasbora hengeli* being smaller and shaped as illustrated. Fins clear, some specimens sporting reddish streaks in the dorsal and caudal, caudal moderately forked with pointed lobes, dorsal moderately pointed with a straight rear margin, anal broadly pointed, pelvics and pectorals pointed. Anal and pelvics pointed rear margins convex.

Remarks: *Rasbora hengeli*'s similarity to *Rasbora heteromorpha* promotes the idea that the fish are one and the same specie, but until further information becomes available we will consider them separate species.

Rasbora heteromorpha (Dunker)



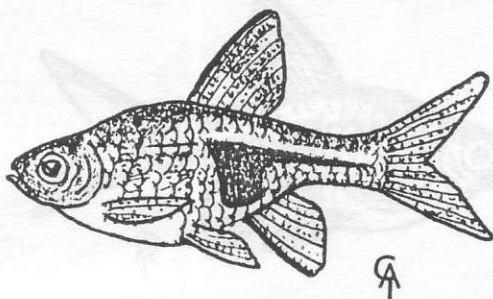
Popular Name: Harlequin.

Habitat: Malaka, Malaya, Sumatra and Thailand.

Characteristics: Body brownish red becoming lighter towards the anal contour. A distinctive black or blue/black wedge is present on the flanks shaped as illustrated, caudal and dorsal pale red to yellow, other fins clear, some black flecking may sometimes be apparent. Caudal moderately forked with pointed lobes, dorsal moderately pointed with a straight rear margin, anal broadly pointed, pelvics and pectorals pointed, Anal and pelvics with a convex rear margin.

Remarks: A deeper bodied specie than most of the Rasbora with a wide distribution. There is another type of this specie which has been named as Rasbora heteromorpha espei which is slightly less deep in the body and with a different shaped black wedge. Rasbora heteromorpha also has another close relative in Rasbora hengeli.

Rasbora heteromorpha espei (Meinken)



Popular Name: Harlequin.

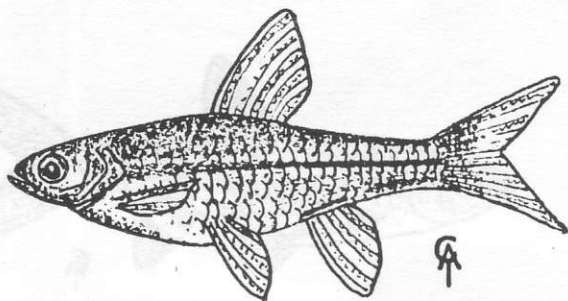
Habitat: Thailand.

Characteristics: Body deep brownish red becoming lighter towards the anal contour. A distinctive black or blue/black wedge is present on the flanks shaped as illustrated, caudal and dorsal pale red to yellow, other fins clear, some black flecking may sometimes be apparent. Caudal moderately forked with pointed lobes, dorsal moderately pointed with a straight rear margin, anal broadly pointed, pelvics and pectorals pointed, Anal, pelvics and pectorals with a convex rear margin.

Remarks:

A deeper bodied specie than most of the Rasboras but less deep than *Rasbora heteromorpha*. This specie also differs from *Rasbora heteromorpha* with the shape of the black wedge. *Rasbora hengeli* is also a closely related.

Rasbora hubbsi (Tubb)



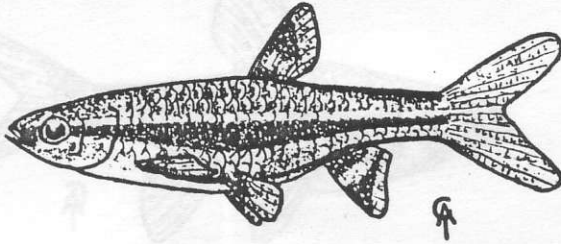
Popular name:

Habitat: North Borneo.

Characteristics: Body yellowish brown, darker towards the anal contour, a dark lateral stripe runs from below the operculum to the caudal peduncle, faint anteriorly, narrower and darker posteriorly, supra-anal pigment present. Fins clear slightly pigmented on some rays, caudal may be dusky yellow on base of both lobes. Caudal moderately forked, pointed lobes, dorsal and anal broadly pointed, pelvics and pectorals pointed, dorsal rear margin straight, anal and pelvics convex.

Remarks: *Rasbora hubbsi* is closely related to *Rasbora trifasciata* and *Rasbora rutteni*.

Rasbora jacobsoni (Weber & De Beaufort)



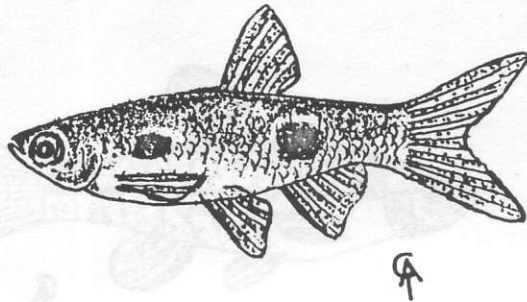
Popular Name: Jacobson's Rasbora.

Habitat: West Sumatra.

Characteristics: Body yellow brown, darker above, yellow white below, some scales are dark edged. A strong brown/black band runs from the snout to the caudal peduncle edged above with light gold and thickening just below the dorsal fin, a thin line also runs from the pectorals to the anal. Dorsal, anal and caudal pale brown, dorsal and anal carry a dark triangular blotch. Caudal moderately forked with pointed or rounded lobes, dorsal and pelvics broadly pointed or rounded with convex rear margin, anal broadly pointed, rear margin concave, pectorals pointed.

Remarks: Closely related to the other species of the (*einthovenii*) complex. i.e. *Rasbora einthovenii*, *cephalotaenia* and *tubbi*. In fact juvenile *Rasbora cephalotaenia* look very like adult *Rasbora jacobsoni*.

Rasbora kalochroma (Bleeker)



Popular name:

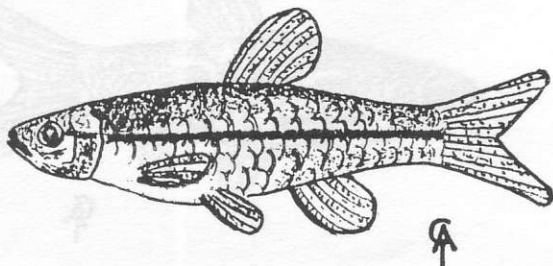
Habitat: Borneo, Malaya and Sumatra.

Characteristics: Body rich reddish brown, becoming lighter towards the anal contour, Two dark blotches are displayed on the flanks the first behind the operculum the second below the rear of the dorsal, the body has a barely visible reticulated pattern, fins red the intensity of which is variable, in fact one race has an almost clear dorsal with streaks along the fin rays. Caudal moderately forked, pointed lobes, dorsal, anal and pelvics broadly pointed, dorsal rear margin convex, anal and pelvics rear margins concave, pectorals pointed.

Remarks:

This is one of three species that display bold blotches on the flanks. *Rasbora maculata* and the *elegans* complex are the other two. Here the similarity ends as *Rasbora kalochroma* is somewhat unique in its distant relationship to the other species within the genus.

Rasbora labiosa (Mukerji)



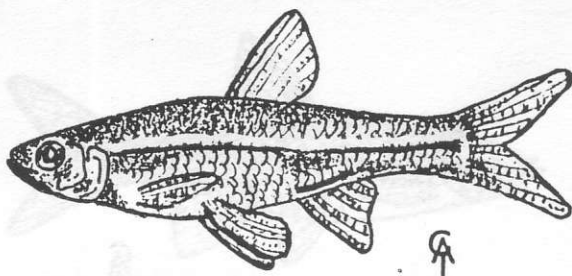
Popular name:

Habitat: India.

Characteristics: Body brownish, yellow brown towards the anal contour, a black lateral stripe runs from the eye to the caudal peduncle. Fins whitish. Caudal moderately forked, all fins rounded, dorsal anal and pelvic rear margin convex.

Remarks: Rasbora labiosa is thought to be an odd race of Rasbora daniconius, the features where this species differs from the typical race are the fleshy lips, the slender body, the small rounded fins and the thickened first rays of the anal, pelvic and pectorals.

Rasbora lateristriata (Bleeker)



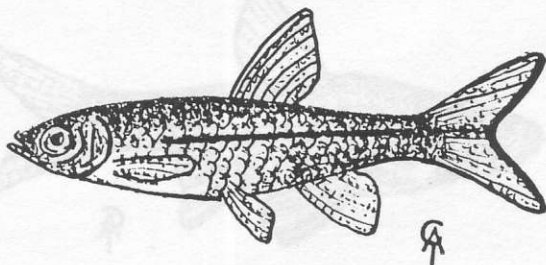
Popular name: Side Striped Rasbora.

Habitat: Greater Sunda Islands, Java, Sumatra and Thailand.

Characteristics: Body brownish olive with a green lustre on the back, sides brown with a golden sheen shading to greenish off white towards the anal contour, a red band runs from the operculum to the caudal peduncle, this is edged below with a blue back sheen which forms a thin line, scales dark edged with silver spots. All fins tinged a reddish brown. Caudal moderately forked, lobes slightly rounded, all other fins broadly pointed, dorsal and pelvics rear margin convex, anal rear margin concave

Remarks: Although this specie is widely distributed it is probable that the true Rasbora lateristriata only comes from Java and Sumatra, the various sub-species and races spreading the distribution very much wider.

Rasbora layanga (Fowler)



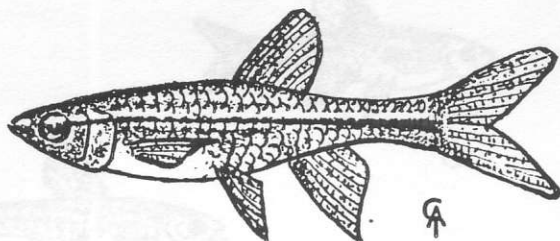
Popular name:

Habitat: Thailand.

Characteristics: Body olive green, silvery white towards the anal contour, a black line runs laterally from a point above the pectorals to the fork of the caudal. Fins clear, caudal with a black rear margin. Caudal moderately forked, lobes broadly pointed, dorsal broadly pointed rear margins slightly convex, anal, pelvics and pectorals broadly pointed rear margin convex.

Remarks: A specie which may be closely related to *Rasbora trilineata* or *Rasbora sumatrana* there is the added possibility that *Rasbora stigmatura* is the first available name for this specie, but has yet to be proven.

Rasbora leptosoma (Bleeker)



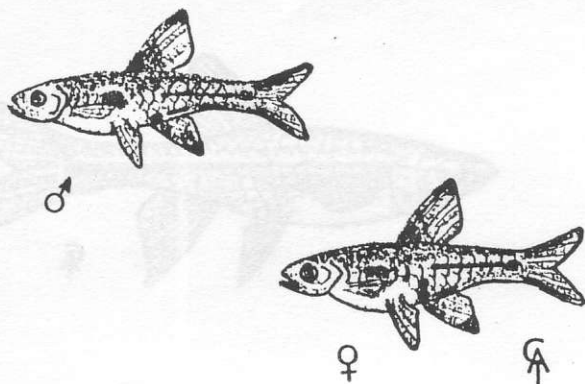
Popular name: Copper Striped Rasbora.

Habitat: Sumatra.

Characteristics: Body brown on the back, becoming lighter and more yellowish on the flanks shading to almost white towards the anal contour, a reddish band, golden edged above runs from the tip of the snout across the eye to the caudal peduncle, this is accompanied below by a black line which broadens posteriorly. Fin colour varies between races from clear to tinged with red. Caudal deeply forked, dorsal truncated, height approximately equal to the depth of body, anal, pelvics and pectorals pointed, rear margins concave.

Remarks: A species which is frequently confused with other members of the genus, its juvenile form being similar to *Rasbora pauciperforata* and its adult form almost identical to *Rasbora tawarensis*.

Rasbora maculata (Duncker)



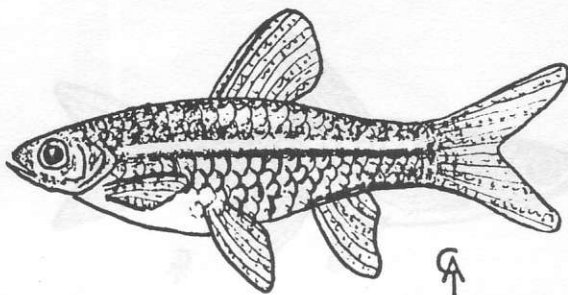
Popular name: Pygmy or Spotted Rasbora.

Habitat: Malaya, Singapore and Sumatra.

Characteristics: Body brick red darker towards the dorsal paler towards the belly, a largish black spot is present on the side midway between the eye and the insertion of the dorsal, another spot is present on the caudal peduncle which is frequently preceded by a thin black line, a third black mark is apparent at the insertion of the anal, this may take the form of either a round dot (thought to denote a male) or a keyhole shape (denoting a female). Fins red to orange, in some races the first rays of the dorsal and anal are black these fins being tipped with black. Caudal deeply forked lobes pointed, dorsal broadly pointed, convex rear margin, anal, pelvic and pectoral pointed, anal rear margin almost straight, pelvics rear margin convex.

Remarks: A very small specie at one time confused with Rasbora kallachroma of which it was thought to be a juvenile form.

Rasbora meinken (De Beaufort)



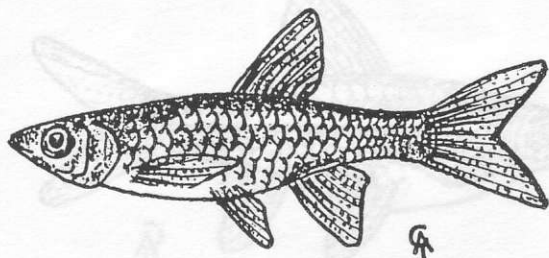
Popular name: Meinken's Rasbora.

Habitat: Sumatra.

Characteristics: Body brassy gold, shading brownish olive towards the dorsal contour, Many scales have a bluish sheen. A black stripe runs from the operculum to the caudal peduncle, a faint copper/gold line borders the edges of the strip dorsally, being strongest posteriorly. A second black strip is situated along the anal base and the lower side of the caudal peduncle, sometimes a few scales on the belly are edged with black, fins have a rosy to yellowish tinge. Caudal deeply forked, rounded lobes, dorsal rounded rear margin convex, anal and pelvics broadly pointed rear margins concave pectorals pointed.

Remarks: This specie is extremely closely related to *Rasbora trifasciata*.

Rasbora myersi (Brittan)



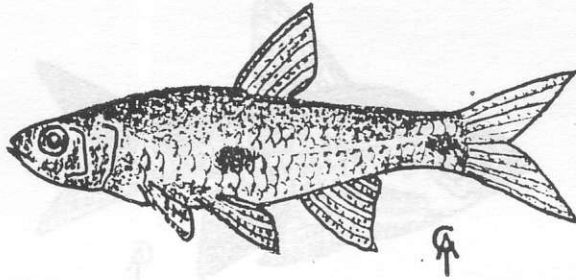
Popular name: Myers Rasbora.

Habitat: Borneo, Malaya, Sumatra, Thailand.

Characteristics: Body silver/grey, yellowish towards the anal contour with a faint stripe along the lateral line, which continues on to the operculum. Fins clear or greyish. Caudal edged with a faint black margin, dorsal and anal broadly pointed, dorsal convex, anal rear margin concave, pectorals and pelvics pointed, caudal deeply forked, lobes well spread and pointed.

Remarks: This specie is one of the few members of the genus that has no supra pigmentation.

Rasbora nematotaenia (Brittan)



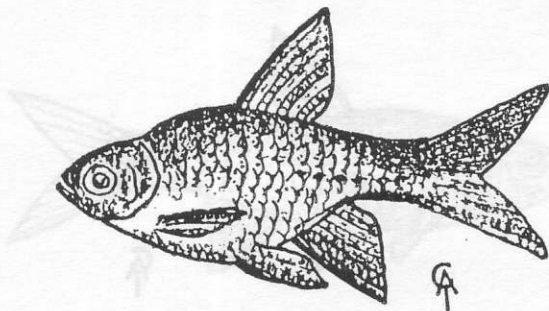
Popular name:

Habitat: Java.

Characteristics: Body light brown, paler towards the anal contour, a blotch is present on the flank below the insertion of the dorsal, a second blotch is present on the caudal peduncle, the blotches are joined with a faint stripe, the reticulated pattern of the scales is weakly developed and there is no supra-anal pigment present. Fins clear. Caudal deeply forked, lobes pointed, dorsal convex, anal and pelvic concave.

Remarks: This species is probably a race of *Rasbora elegans*, but differs by being paler in colour, deeper in the body and having no supra-anal pigment.

Rasbora nigromarginata (Meinken)



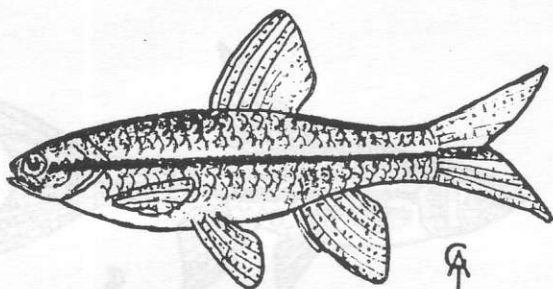
Popular Name: Red Rasbora.

Habitat: Sri Lanka.

Characteristics: Body reddish purple, paler towards the anal contour, upper part of caudal peduncle and upper caudal lobe blue-green, lower lobe reddish purple as in body, other fins bluish, anal and dorsal first rays black. Caudal deeply forked with pointed lobes, dorsal, anal, pelvics and pectorals pointed, convex rear margins.

Remarks: This specie is similar to *Rasbora vaterifloris* and is probably either closely related or a race or variety of that species.

Rasbora palustris (Smith)



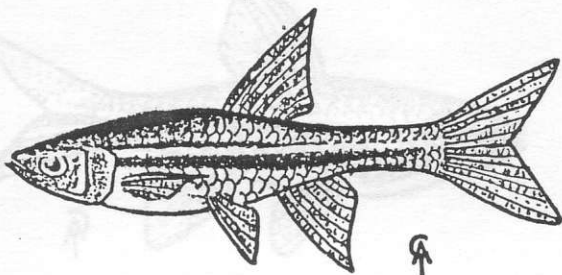
Popular Name:

Habitat: Central Thailand.

Characteristics: Body and top of head pale green, shading white towards the anal contour, lower part of operculum silver, a narrow black stripe runs from the eye to the caudal peduncle continuing into the caudal as a faint line, the stripe is edged above with a pale gold band its upper edge being level with the top of the eye. Fins clear. Caudal deeply forked lobes rounded, dorsal, anal, pelvics and pectorals rounded, dorsal, anal and pelvics rear margins convex.

Remarks: This specie is similar to *Rasbora borapetensis* however there are marked differences, i.e. the extension of the lateral stripe to the eye and the absence of black lines at the base of the caudal peduncle.

Rasbora pauciperforata (Weber & De Beaufort)



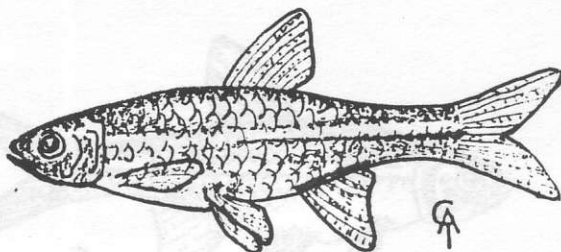
Popular Name: Red Striped or Glowlight Rasbora.

Habitat: Sumatra.

Characteristics: Head and nape yellowish olive, back shiny brown with dark edged scales, flanks to anal contour silvery white, a shining red stripe edged in brownish black extends from the tip of the snout to the caudal peduncle, all fins clear. Dorsal tall and pointed with concave rear margin, caudal deeply forked with pointed lobes, anal, pelvics and pectorals pointed, anal with concave rear margin, pelvics with straight rear margin.

Remarks: An elongated specie almost pointed at the tip of the snout. Races of this specie vary in the intensity and colouring of the red stripe.

Rasbora paucisquamis (Ahl)



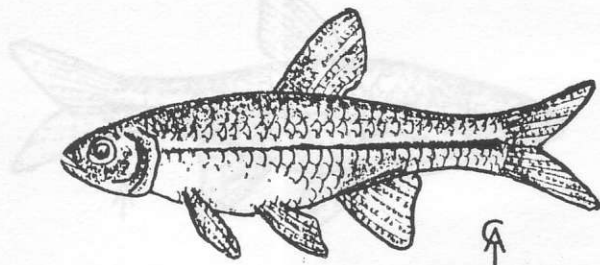
Popular Name: Large Scaled Rasbora.

Habitat: Malay archipelago.

Characteristics: Basic body greyish olive with silvery blue flanks becoming silvery white towards the anal contour. A light gold stripe runs from the snout to the caudal peduncle edged with black from below the the insertion of the dorsal fin to the caudal, all fins tinged with yellow or clear. Caudal moderately forked with broadly pointed lobes, dorsal rounded with straight rear margin, anal broadly pointed rear margin concave, pelvics and pectorals rounded.

Remarks: Rasbora somphongsi and juvenile Rasbora myersi are sometimes confused with Rasbora paucisquamis, some races of this specie have extended finage, longer and pointed.

Rasbora philippina (Gunther)



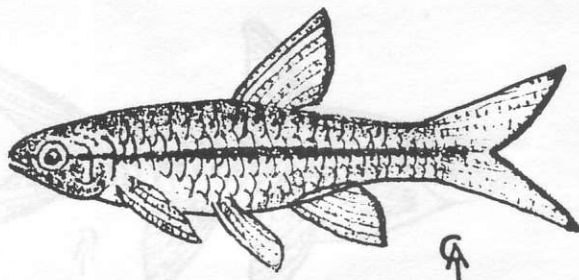
Popular Name: Philippine Rasbora.

Habitat: Mindanao and Philippines.

Characteristics: Basic body pale olive green, shading silver white towards the anal contour the scales dark edge, a pale gold stripe runs from the operculum to the caudal, edged below with a black line which widens posteriorly, all fins tinged with yellow. Caudal deeply forked with pointed lobes, dorsal rounded rear margin convex, anal and pelvics broadly pointed their rear margins concave, pectorals rounded .

Remarks: Closely related to *Rasbora argyrotaenia* but differs in having a less prominent stripe. It is felt by Brittan that *Rasbora philippina* and *Rasbora punctulata* are probably one and the same specie.

Rasbora rasbora (Hamilton & Buchanan)



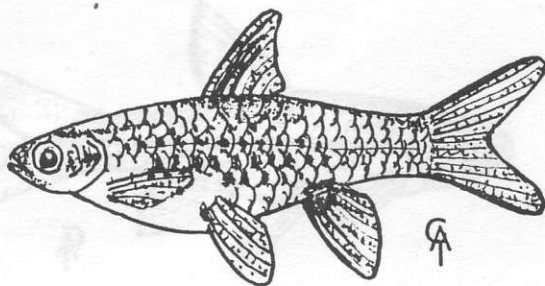
Popular Name: Rasbora.

Habitat: Burma, India, Malaya and Thailand.

Characteristics: Body light brown, darker on the back shading to pale yellow towards the anal contour. A black strip runs from the snout to the caudal peduncle continuing in some specimens onto the base of the caudal. All fins tinged yellow, some members of the specie carry dusky rear margins on their, caudal, dorsal and anal, the caudal sometimes carries black tips to the lobes. Caudal deeply forked with pointed lobes, other fins pointed, dorsal, anal and pelvics with covex rear margins.

Remarks: An ancient specie that has been traced back as far as the ice age, and has a very wide distribution. Rasbora rasbora is sometimes confused with Rasbora argyroteania and juvenile specimens tend to resemble Rasbora daniconius.

Rasbora reticulata (Weber & De Beaufort)



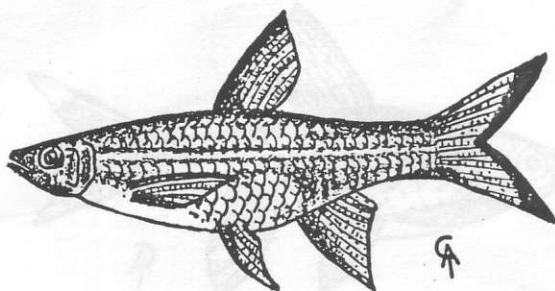
Popular name: Checkered Rasbora.

Habitat: Annam, Nias, West Sumatra and Vietnam..

Characteristics: Body rich reddish brown darker towards the dorsal contour, a reticulated net-like pattern covers the flanks less prominent towards the back, a stripe runs from below the caudal to the caudal peduncle, fading posteriorly. fins clear to yellowish the first few rays of the dorsal and anal with a dusky tinge, there is also a patch of dark pigment at the base of the anal. Caudal moderately forked, rounded lobes, dorsal broadly pointed rear margin concave, anal larger than dorsal, broadly pointed rear margin convex, pectorals rounded.

Remarks: A deep bodied specie with no clear relationship to any other Rasbora, although it is possibly a branch of the Rasbora trifasciata complex.

Rasbora retrodorsalis (Smith)



Popular Name:

Habitat:

Thailand.

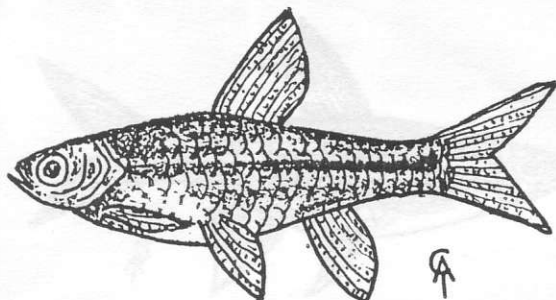
Characteristics:

Body brownish becoming lighter towards the anal contour, a light stripe runs laterally towards the caudal, edged above and below with faint dark lines which are strongest below the dorsal. Fins tinged yellow, caudal rear margin black, dorsal with black border. Caudal deeply forked with pointed lobes, dorsal, anal, pelvic and pectorals pointed, dorsal rear margin convex, anal and pelvic rear margins concave.

Remarks:

This species may be a race of *Rasbora dusonensis*, but is distinguished from it by its paler colour, deeper body and smaller head.

Rasbora ruttteni (Webber & De Beaufort)



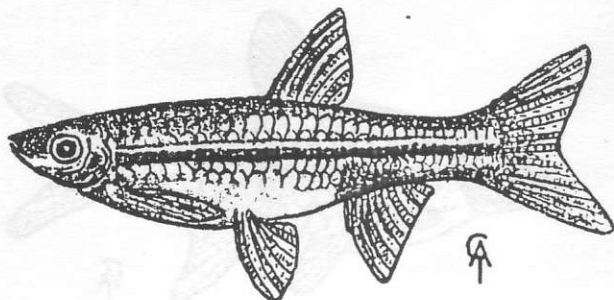
Popular name: Ruttten's Rasbora.

Habitat: Borneo.

Characteristics: Body yellow brown with a weak reticulated pattern on the scales, a lateral stripe runs from the operculum to the caudal peduncle, starting rather faint becoming stronger posteriorly, no supra-anal pigment present except a few scattered markings above the anal. Caudal deeply forked, pointed lobes, dorsal, anal and pelvics pointed, rear margin convex, pectorals pointed.

Remarks: This specie resembles *Rasbora trifasciata* but has a different lateral line scale count. *Rasbora hubbsi* is possibly a race of *Rasbora ruttteni*, but differs in having its dorsal slightly to the rear.

Rasbora sarawakensis (Brittan)



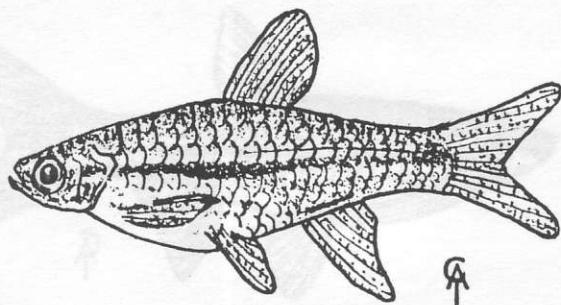
Popular name: Sarawak Rasbora.

Habitat: Kuching, North Borneo and Sarawak.

Characteristics: Body light brown becoming lighter towards the anal contour, a blue to black line on the flank runs from the operculum to the base of the caudal, this is edged above with a narrow white border. Fins clear to yellowish. Caudal moderately forked with slightly rounded lobes, dorsal and pelvics broadly pointed, rear margins convex, anal and pectorals broadly pointed, rear margins concave.

Remarks: This specie may be confused with *Rasbora danicon* and *Rasbora ruttnei* and could well be a race either.

Rasbora semilineata (Weber & De Beaufort)



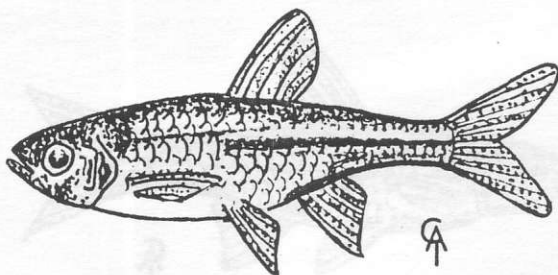
Popular name: Half Lined Rasbora.

Habitat: Borneo and Philippines.

Characteristics: Body yellowish brown, darker towards the back, lighter towards the anal contour, this specie has no lateral stripe, instead the axial streak is present running from the operculum to the base of the caudal, yellowish in colour it is faint both anteriorly and posteriorly widening below the caudal, a yellowish blotch is present on the caudal peduncle. Fins pale yellow. Caudal deeply forked with rounded lobes, dorsal rounded, rear margin convex, anal and pelvics broadly pointed with concave rear margins, pectorals pointed.

Remarks: This specie is an extremely heavy bodied one, of which *Rasbora taytayensis* is probably a race

Rasbora somphongsi (Meinken)



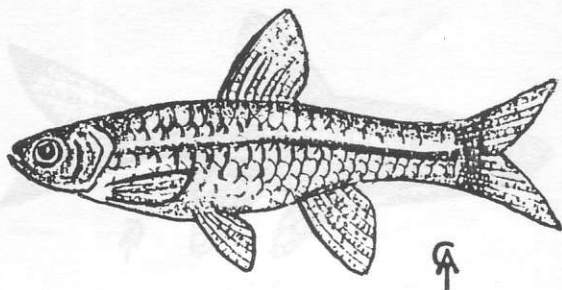
Popular name: Somphong's Rasbora.

Habitat: Thailand.

Characteristics: Body yellow, Fawn on the dorsal contour, Lower half of body silvery white, A black line edged above with gold runs below the insertion of the dorsal to the caudal peduncle, a further black line at the base of the anal continues into the lower rays of the caudal. Fins tinged yellow except the pectorals which are clear. Caudal moderately forked with rounded lobes, the upper lobe being more developed. Dorsal rounded, rear margin concave, anal and pelvics pointed rear margins concave, pectorals pointed.

Remarks: A small specie similar to *Rasbora urophthalma* and is probably a close relative.

Rasbora steineri (Nichols & Pope)



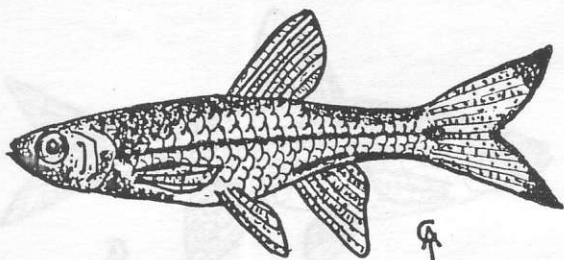
Popular name: Chinese Rasbora.

Habitat: Hainan Province Southern China.

Characteristics: Body olive green, becoming silvery towards the anal contour, a black line edged above with reddish gold runs from the operculum to the base of the caudal. Fins pale olive to yellowish, a pale red blotch varying in intensity is present at the caudal base. Caudal moderately forked with pointed lobes, dorsal, anal and pelvics broadly pointed, dorsal and anal with convex rear margins, pelvics with rear margin almost straight, pectorals pointed.

Remarks: Dr. Brittan in his book, 'Rasbora' makes no mention of the red marking on the caudal nor does he compare this specie with *Rasbora borapetensis* this may help to dispel the theory that the two specie are almost identical, an error which has been compounded by the aquatic press. Dr. Brittan further suggests that *Rasbora steineri* rather resembles both *Rasbora argyrotaenia* and *Rasbora lateristriata*.

Rasbora sumatrana (Bleeker)



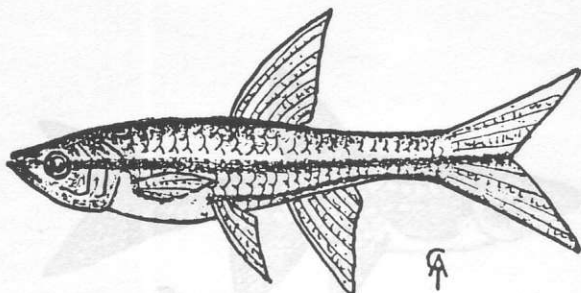
Popular name:

Habitat: Borneo, Malaya, Sumatra and Thailand.

Characteristics: Body drab greyish brown, a narrow dark stripe runs from the operculum to the caudal peduncle where it terminates as a dark spot, the reticulated pattern of the scales is distinct, supra-anal pigment is present, there is a dark line at the base of the caudal peduncle, fins tinged yellow, caudal lobes rear margins and tips black. Caudal deeply forked, pointed lobes, dorsal, anal and pelvics broadly pointed, dorsal and pelvics rear margins convex, anal concave, pectorals pointed.

Remarks: Due to its wide distribution, the many races of this specie vary both in colour and pattern, mainly the variations lie in the length and strength of the dark stripe and spot and the black markings on the caudal. A large bodied specie of which Rasboras, cheroni and volzi are probably races.

Rasbora taeniata (Ahl)



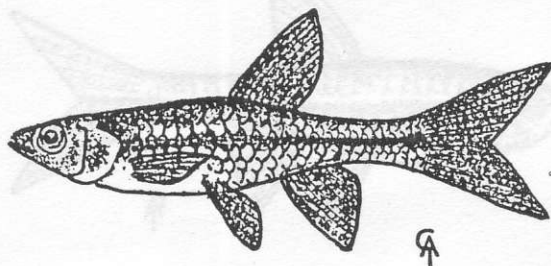
Popular name: Black Striped Rasbora.

Habitat: Sumatra.

Characteristics: Top of head blackish, body olive green darker towards the back silvery white towards the anal contour, a black line runs from the snout, through the eye to the caudal, edged above with a fine gold line, A thin black line runs forward from the base of the caudal, dividing when it reaches the anal, then running either side of the body and ending above the pelvics. Fins clear sometimes with scatered dark markings on the rays. Caudal deeply forked with pointed lobes, dorsal tall, pointed, rear margin slightly concave, anal and pelvics and pointed rear margins concave, pectorals pointed.

Remarks: A specie very similar to Rasbora agilis which is thought by many to be the same fish, it is also related to Rasboras chrysotaenia and pauciperforata.

Rasbora tawarensis (Weber & De Beaufort)



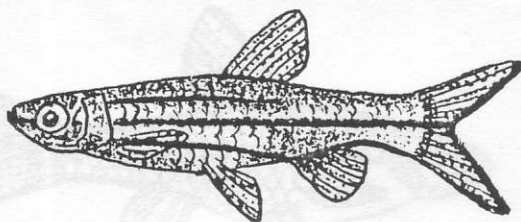
Popular name:

Habitat: Lake Tawar, Sumatra.

Characteristics: Body dull brown, becoming lighter and yellowish towards the anal contour, a whitish stripe runs from the operculum to the caudal peduncle, ending in a dark spot, the anterior of the stripe is faint. Fins yellowish brown. Caudal deeply forked with pointed lobes, dorsal anal and pelvics pointed rear margins convex, pectorals pointed.

Remarks: A slender specie which appears to be closely related tp *Rasbora myersi*.

Rasbora tornieri (Ahl)



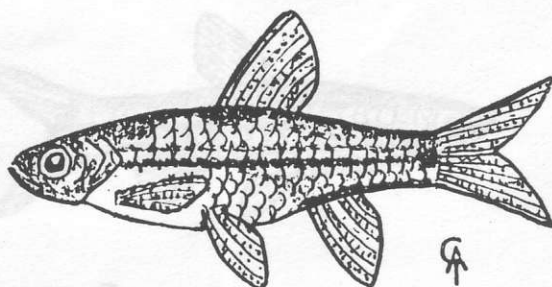
Popular name: Yellow Finned Rasbora.

Habitat: Sumatra.

Characteristics: Body colour fawn tinged with mauve, scales dark edged, three grey to black stripes run from the operculum the uppermost stops below the dorsal, the lower dips to the insertion of the anal, where it follows the anal contour to the caudal peduncle, the middle line may extend to the fork of the caudal, the area between the centre and upper stripe has a reddish gold tinge, that between the the centre and lower stripes brassy yellow, belly silvery. Fins yellowish, caudal with black rear edge. Caudal deeply forked with pointed lob dorsal, anal and pelvics rounded, rear margins convex, pectorals pointed.

Remarks: A slender specie, closely related to both Rasbora cephalotaenia and Rasbora dusonensis, in fact juvenile Rasbora cephalotaenia may be mistaken for Rasbora tornieri.

Rasbora trifasciata (Poey)



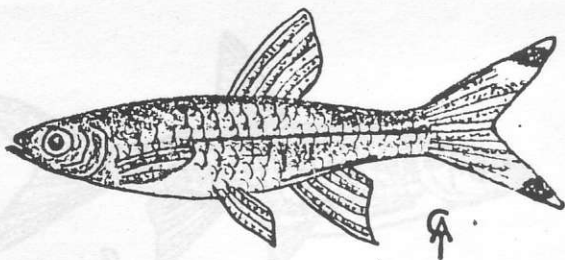
Popular name: Three Lined Rasbora.

Habitat: Borneo Malaya and Sumatra.

Characteristics: Body yellowish brown, becoming more yellow towards the anal contour, two brown stripes run from the operculum to the caudal peduncle, the lower stripe being the stronger of the two, a dark brown spot is present on the caudal peduncle, supra-anal pigment is present, continuing from the anal to the base of the caudal peduncle. Fins clear sometimes tinged with red. Caudal moderately forked with pointed lobes, dorsal, anal, pelvics and pectorals broadly pointed rear margins convex.

Remarks: Rasbora meinken is closely related to Rasbora trifasciata and may be only the Bornean race of the species.

Rasbora trilineata (Steindachner)



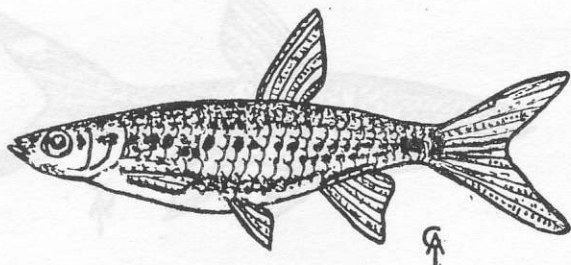
Popular name: Scissortail Rasbora.

Habitat: Borneo, Greater Sunda Islands, Malaya and Sumatra.

Characteristics: Body olive to green with silvery flanks shading to white towards the anal contour, A faint stripe runs along the side growing stronger towards the caudal, supra-anal pigment is present and continues as a black line along the base of the caudal peduncle. Fins clear except the caudal which carries white tips to the lobes preceded by black stripes. Caudal deeply forked with pointed lobes, dorsal broadly pointed, pelvics pointed, rear margins convex, anal pointed rear margin concave, pectorals pointed.

Remarks: A species in which the intensity of the caudal markings and the black stripe are extremely variable between races. *Rasbora stigmatura* is almost identical to *Rasbora trilineata*, as *Rasbora stigmatura* is the first available name, it may well be miss-named.

Rasbora tubbi (Tubb)



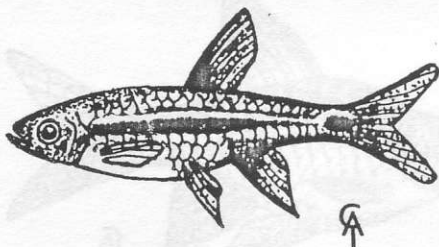
Popular name:

Habitat: Borneo.

Characteristics: This Body yellowish brown, darker towards the dorsal contour, a double row of spots runs from the operculum to the caudal peduncle where they end in a prominent spot the rows are not continuous, a further dark band runs from the operculum along the flank ending before the insertion of the anal, supra-anal pigment is present. Fins tinged yellow, central rays of caudal heavily pigmented, caudal moderately forked, lobes broadly pointed, dorsal, anal, pelvics and pectorals pointed, dorsal and pelvics convex, anal concave.

Remarks: This specie is similar in colour pattern to Rasbora cephalataenia, in any case it is apparent that they are related and have a common ancestor.

Rasbora urophthalma (Ahl)



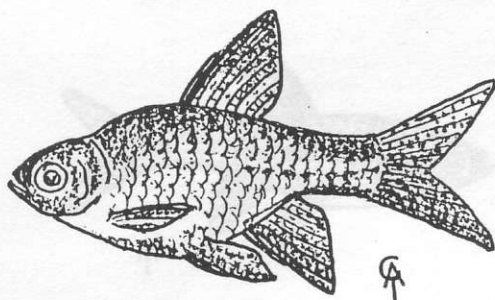
Popular name: Exclamation Mark Rasbora, or Ocellated Dwarf Rasbora.

Habitat: Sumatra.

Characteristics: Body golden-brown with reddish back, whitish towards the anal contour, a steel blue lateral stripe runs from the operculum to the base of the caudal terminating in an ocellated spot, the lateral stripe is edged above with a red line. Fins clear to brownish, the leading margins of the caudal, dorsal and anal are black. Caudal deeply forked with rounded lobes, dorsal, anal and pelvics pointed, anal with concave rear margin, dorsal and pelvics rear margin concave, pectorals rounded.

Remarks: A small well bodied specie, sometimes confused with *Rasbora somphongsi*, but which in fact has no close relative within the genus.

Rasbora vaterifloris (Deraniyagala)



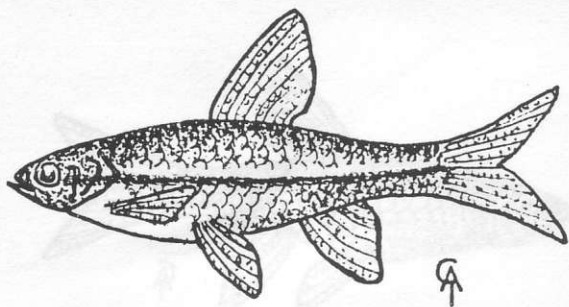
Popular name: Flame or Pearly Rasbora.

Habitat: Sri-Lanka.

Characteristics: There appears to be two colour varieties of this specie, three if a fish described by Meinkin as *Rasbora nigromarginata* proves to be a typical race. First colour pattern. Body flame orange with deep orange fins. Second colour, Greenish grey with olive fins. Caudal deeply forked with pointed lobes, dorsal tall, dorsal, anal and pelvics pointed with convex rear magins, pectorals pointed.

Remarks: A smallish somewhat delicate specie with a high back giving it a humped appearance, similar to *Rasbora heteromorpha* in shape it is not closely related, in fact Dr. Brittan suggests that it should be considered a sub-specie and places it in the sub-genus *Rasboroides*.

Rasbora vegae (Rendahl)



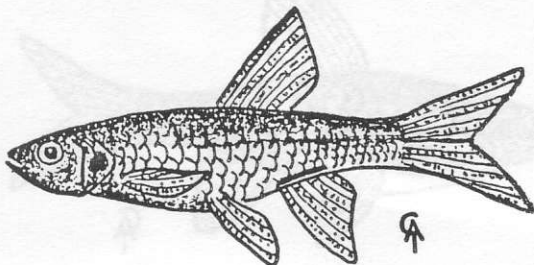
Popular name:

Habitat: Labuan Island.

Characteristics: Body light brown shading paler towards the anal contour, a brownish black stripe runs through the eye along the flank to the caudal peduncle, edged above with a less strong light stripe. Fins tinged yellow without markings. Caudal deeply forked lobes pointed, dorsal broadly pointed, rear margin convex, anal and pelvics rounded, anal rear margin concave, pelvics rear margin convex, pectorals pointed..

Remarks: Dr. Brittan has tentertivly suggested the Rasbora vegae be placed in the pauciperfor group.

Rasbora volzi (Poopta)



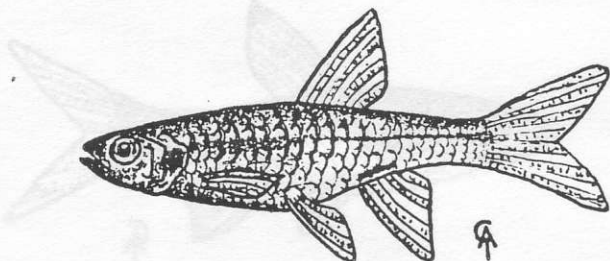
Popular name:

Habitat: Borneo.

Characteristics: Body brownish paler towards the anal contour, a faint lateral stripe is sometimes present commencing at the insert of the dorsal, terminating at the caudal peduncle, supra-anal pigment is present in the form of a black line, a dark area is found on the operculum and per-operculum. Caudal moderately forked, broadly pointed lobes, dorsal pointed rear margin convex, anal and pelvics broadly pointed, anal rear margin concave, pelvics rear margins convex, pectorals pointed.

Remarks: The foregoing description and drawing are of the typical form of *Rasbora volzi*. The sub-specie *Rasbora volzi fasciata*, carries two blotches on the flanks joined at the top with a dark stripe.

Rasbora volzi fasciata (Poopta)



Popular name:

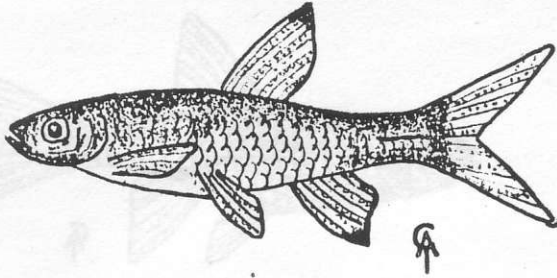
Habitat: Borneo.

Characteristics: Body brownish, paler towards the anal contour, on the flank situated between the insertion of the dorsal and pectorals is a small prominent elongated dark area, a further smaller dark marking is present on the caudal peduncle, the two being joined at the top with a dark stripe, supra anal pigment is present in the form of a black line, a dark area is found on the operculum and per-operculum. Caudal moderately forked with broadly pointed lobes, dorsal pointed, rear margin convex, anal and pelvics broadly pointed, anal rear margin concave, pelvics convex, pectorals pointed.

Remarks:

The foregoing description and drawing are of the sub-species *Rasbora volzi fasciata*. The typical form *Rasbora volzi* has blotches on the flanks and the lateral line is either faint or absent.

Rasbora wijnbergi (Meinken)



Popular Name:

Habitat: Borneo.

Characteristics: Body olive green towards the dorsal contour, flanks shining silver with dark edged scales, a narrow lateral line is faintly apparant on the caudal peduncle, bae of caudal red and the lobes deep yellow, dorsal and anal deep yellow with black tips, pelvics and pectorals clear. Caudal deeply forked with pointed lobes, dorsal, anal and pelvics broadly pointed, dorsal and pelvics rear margins convex, anal concave, pectorals pointed.

Remarks: Dr. Brittan having seen the holotype and paratypes of this specie suggests that they are apparently juvenile examples of *Rasbora caudimaculata*, whose habitat is Malaya and Sumatra, while *Rasbora wijnbergi* was discovered by Meinken in Borneo.