

NOTE ON TRACHINOPS TAENIATUS.

ROBERT HALL.

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This perciform fish apparently has not been recorded from Tasmania, our specialist, Mr. R. M. Johnston, being unfamiliar with it.

Hitherto only two species have been described, one from New South Wales, the other from Victoria.

The Tasmanian form appears to agree with *T. taeniatus* of New South Wales.

The geographical distribution should be an interesting one, judging from the fact that this conspicuous little form is not contained in the collections of the Australian Museum. Evidently it is local and uncommon. Although Boulenger speaks of the four British Museum specimens of *T. taeniatus* as having been found in New South Wales and Australia, and of their reference to *T. caudimaculatus* as being found on the Victorian coast. Their localities are more likely to agree with McCoy's Port Jackson for *T. taeniatus*, and Port Phillip for *T. caudimaculatus*. MacLeay speaks only of *T. taeniatus* and gives no exact habitat. No mention is made of Tasmania. The specimen referred to in this note I found in August, 1909, among the piles in the old pier adjacent to Argyle-street, Hobart.

A shoal was observed by Mr. A. Kirk opposite the abattoirs, up the Derwent, during the spring of last year. I know of no other records, and it would be interesting to learn if it is found in the Kent and Flinders Groups. This would indicate a broken or continuous distribution, and a part of the fauna of the Bassian coast. If it were found on King Island and not on the Kent or Flinders Groups it would appear as more properly belonging to the Eyrean coast. This will depend on the specimens yet to be collected. The Derwent fish has its middle caudal fin much produced, the canines conspicuous, and has the light longitudinal line along the base of the dorsal fin. Although neither of the mainland species are here for reference, these characters are inclined to weave them. It appears to be sluggish in habit judging partly from the fact that it remained among the mussels of the pile until the pile was hauled up clear of the water.

McCoy, in his "Prodrômus of the Zoology of Victoria," figures very faithfully this fish, and I am indebted to Mr. H. M. Nicholls for drawing my attention to it.