

***Crenicichla taikyra* (Teleostei: Cichlidae), a new species of pike cichlid from the middle río Paraná, Argentina**

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Abstract

Crenicichla taikyra, new species, is described from the middle río Paraná, Argentina. *Crenicichla taikyra* is distinguished from the other species of the genus by the following combination of characters: lower pharyngeal tooth plate stout, bearing molariform teeth, ascending arm of premaxilla longer than the dentigerous arm, posterior edge of preoperculum serrated, a well developed suborbital stripe, and absence of scattered dark dots on flanks. Molariform teeth on pharyngeal jaws is a derived character among *Crenicichla* species, however this character state has appeared several times in unrelated species.

Key words: taxonomy, Misiones, Corrientes, molariform teeth, pharyngeal tooth plate.