

Erratum

Mar. Biol. 118: 17–24 (1994) J. A. Hare¹; R. K. Cowen; J. P. Zehr; F. Juanes; K. H. Day

Biological and oceanographic insights from larval labrid (Pisces: Labridae) identification using mtDNA sequences

The adult *Xyrichthys novacula* and larval *Xyrichthys* sp. mtDNA cytochrome *b* sequences reported (GenBank Accession Numbers L16906 and L16907-9, respectively) are 99% similar to human cytochrome *b* mtDNA sequences (Kocher et al. 1989 Proc natn Acad Sci USA 86: 6196–6200) and probably resulted from contamination of the specimens with human DNA during collection or processing. The *X. marticensis* and *X. splendens* sequences reported are about 82% similar to the corresponding sequences of another labrid, *Gomphosus varius*, and about 70% similar to

human mtDNA. This suggests that these two sequences (GenBank Numbers L16905 and L16910, respectively) were not derived from contaminating human DNA. mtDNAs from the single adult *X. novacula* and *Xyrichthys* sp. larvae are currently being reamplified and corrected sequences for this material will be published at a later date. Until this work is completed, the identification of the two morphological types of *Xyrichthys* larvae remains unresolved, and the phylogenetic conclusions drawn from the published sequences are unsubstantiated.

Present address:

¹ NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service, Beaufort Laboratory, 101 Pivers Island Road, Beaufort, North Carolina 28516, USA