

A Lexicographical Introduction and Inventory of Pendau Fish Names

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1. INTRODUCTION

2. PROCEDURES AND CHALLENGES IN IDENTIFYING NAMES OF FISH

2.1 Field Techniques

2.2 Matching the Taxonomic Folk List with the Taxonomic Science List

Bulmer (1992:532) for example notes:

“Problems of identification are of different magnitude in different geographical regions and with different groups of animals. In parts of the world where most groups of animals of ethnobiological significance are well known to zoologists and where local fauna lists, good modern handbooks and identification keys are available, the ethnographer’s task is very much easier than in regions like New Guinea where general fauna lists are still far from complete, local fauna lists virtually nonexistent, the zoological taxonomy of many groups is under or awaiting revision, and handbooks and keys, accessible and intelligible to the amateur naturalist, are lacking for nearly all groups. Nevertheless, although the following notes apply particularly to New Guinea conditions, some parts may have wider applicability.”

3. DESCRIBING AND ANALYZING THE FOLK TAXONOMY

3.1 Introduction to Folk Taxonomy Conventions

Pendau Examples

- (1) Pendau folk generic:
mangiban ‘shark(s)’

Pendau folk specific:
mangiban bi’ung ‘hammerhead shark’

- (2) sample Pendau life-forms
bau ‘fish’
puu ‘tree(s)’
manu ‘birds (and chicken)’

3.2 Continuity, Stability and Innovations

Table 1. Total recorded fish names in some Oceanic languages (from Pawley 2004:11)

Language	Wayan	Marovo	Satawal	Gela	Palauan	Titan	‘Uvea	Kapinga	Marquesan
No. of names	484	400+	400	368	336	287	284	262	260

(1) Pendau Fish Taxa Data:

Total Fish Taxa: 290 (adjusted total = 269)
Number of saltwater fish taxa: 281
Number of freshwater fish taxa: 15
Number of brackish water fish taxa: 6
Number of taxa for whales, dolphins and dugong: 4
Number of uninomial names: 214 (= 74%) [adj. 203 (= 75%)]
Number of binomial names: 76 (= 26%) [adj. 66 (= 25%)]
Number of synonyms: 18 synonyms (37 total fish names)
Ratio between uninomial and binomial names: 3:1
Ambiguous entries: Uninomial = 3 and Binomial = 9

Figure 1. Boxplot of Pawley’s Oceanic Fish Data (2004) by Families With a Comparison to Pendau (for groupers, rock cod, coral cod, trevally, jacks, wrasses, parrotfish, goatfish, mullet, mackerels, tuna, marlin, swordfish, surgeonfish, and unicornfish)

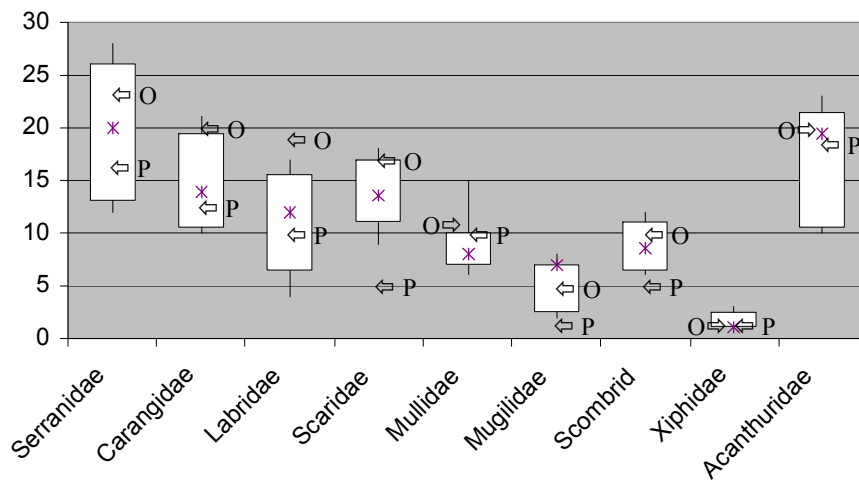
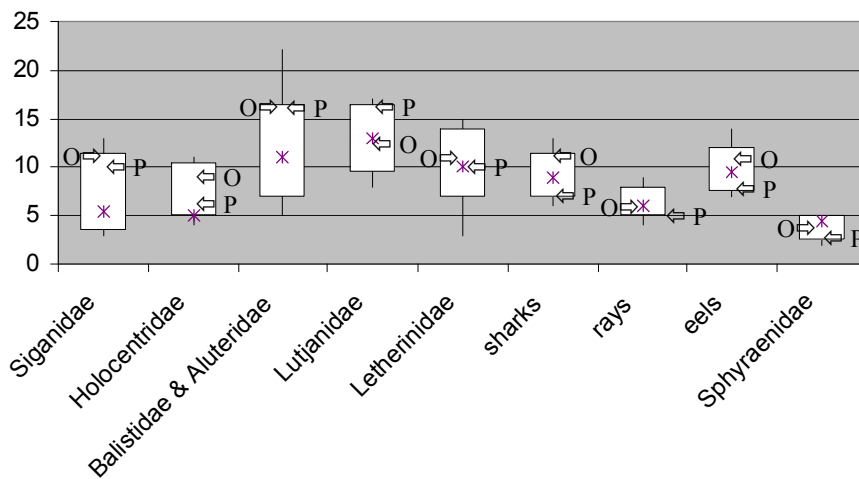


Figure 2. Boxplot of Pawley’s Oceanic Fish Data (2004) by Families With a Comparison to Pendau (for rabbitfish, squirrelfish, soldierfish, triggerfish, leatherjackets, snapper, sea-perch, bass, emperors, sharks, rays, eels and barracuda)



3.3 Semantic Dimensions of Ethnobiology

4. COMPOUND NOUNS

- (2) mangiban bi’ung hammerhead shark, *Sphyrna lewini*, *Sphyrna blochii*
 mangiban sipapi tiger shark, *Galeocerdo cuvier*
 mangiban tinumbu sandbar shark, brown shark, *Carcharhinus plumbeus*
 mangiban puteang great blue, reef white-tip shark, *Prionace glauca*,
Triaenodon obesus (lit. pigeon shark)
 mangiban memas great blue, reef white-tip shark (lit. white shark), *Prionace glauca*, *Triaenodon obesus*
 mangibang seseng catfish shark (lit. cat shark), zebra shark
- (3) *po-rembas goong*
 SF-hit/strike gong
 ‘flag-tail fish (lit. gong striker), *Malacanthus brevirostris*’

- (4) *ponjuju ngisi nubuaya*
pong-juju ngisi nu=buaya
 SF-clean teeth CN/GE=crocodile
 ‘spiny eel, *Macrognathus aculeatus*’
- (5a) *mpili-mpilis* ‘coach-whip trevally, *Carangoides amatus*’
ntui-ntuing ‘flying fish, *Cypselurus simas*; *Cypsilurus poecilopterus*, *Exocoetus volitans*’
ntui-ntuing nu=batu ‘butterfly gurnard, flying gurnard, *Dactyloptena orientalis*’
paka-paka ‘various groupers and rock-cods’
tamoa-moang ‘various cardinal fishes’
- (b) *abu-abu* ‘various moray eels’
lugu-lugus ‘various boxfishes’
robu-robung ‘cornetfish, trumpetfish, *Fistularia petimba*, *Aulostomus chinensis*, *Fistularia commersonii*’
tanda-tanda ‘various snappers, and juvenile hogfish *Bodianus bilunulatus*, *Lutjanus russelli*, *Lutjanus erenberghi*, *Lutjanu johnii*, *Lutjanus fulvilamma*, *Lutjanus monostigma*’
avu-avu ‘k.o. saltwater fish’
- (c) *abu* ‘dust’
lugus ‘betelnut, areca nut’
robung ‘k.o. bamboo’,
tanda ‘mark, sign’

5. VARIATIONS ON NAMES AND GROWTH PHASE NAMES

- i) *songko bolong* ‘various hogfish, and the juvenile half and half wrasse’
songkorong [same as above--contraction?]
- ii) *buade* ‘various goatfish’
buluade ‘blackbanded goatfish’ [same as above?]
- iii) *tatambangan* ‘various boxfish and various cowfish’
tatabangka ‘thorny-back cowfish, long-horn cowfish’

Figure 3. Growth Phase Names of Pendau Fish

Juvenile	Intermediate	Adult	English Gloss
seleling	avakan	mosidung	bluefin trevally
duong	--	belenga	anchovie
mangibang seseng	--	dede	zebra shark (juvenile), whale shark (adult)
kumuru, solisi	--	ruma-ruma	mouth mackeral
sinobulung	--	lape’	parrotfish
malelalang		lekeke	orange-blotch surgeon
lugu-lugus	--	--	yellow box-fish
sasavaran	sianjo	tadom	various emperor fish
tanda-tanda	--	tutudan	hogfish

6. FRESHWATER AND SALTWATER FISHES

7. COMMON NOUNS WITH FORMATIVES *SI* AND *‘ALI*

8. DISCOVERING NEW SPECIES

9. CONCLUSION

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