

## **Morphological variation in *Rasbora daniconius* (Teleostei: Cyprinidae) among selected geographic populations**

R.G.D.R. Jayawickrama and K. B. Suneetha  
Gunawickrama

Department of zoology, Faculty of Science, University of  
Ruhuna, Sri Lanka

Correspondence: suneetha@zoo.ruh.ac.lk

Intra-specific morphological variation and differentiation among eight populations of the common freshwater fish *Rasbora daniconius* (Cyprinidae) were investigated. Significant heterogeneity and differentiation was found among some of the populations studied indicating limited geographic variation, as suggested by relatively large overlap in canonical scores among most of the samples. However, two samples could be separated convincingly from the rest; Dediyaigala, and Pattiyaigala. Cluster analysis based on the pair-wise inter-location morphological distinctiveness identified Dediyaigala population as the most distinct one from all others. Maavil Aaru population formed a distinct branch as well. The group of fish (L9) having close resemblance to *R. daniconius* but with a slightly different lateral stripe also separated. The present results show that *R. daniconius* in Sri Lanka is not phenotypically homogenous. The absence of differences between population samples that experience highly limited present-day interchange may be partly explained by colonization history.