

Studies on the Zoarcidae (Teleostei: Perciformes) of the Southern Hemisphere. VII. A New Species of *Dieidolycus* Anderson, 1988 from the Bismarck Sea

M. ERIC ANDERSON

J.L.B. Smith Institute of Ichthyology,
Private Bag 1015, Grahamstown 6140, South Africa

ABSTRACT. A new species of abyssal eelpout is described from two specimens trawled north-west of Rabaul, New Britain. It is the second species of the genus *Dieidolycus*, previously thought to be endemic to the antarctic. The new species is distinguished from its congener by its fewer pectoral-fin rays and more posterior dorsal-fin origin.

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In September and October 1991 several deep-water trawls were made from the Australian national research vessel *Franklin* in the Bismarck Sea. In one haul north-west of Rabaul, New Britain, two small eelpouts (Zoarcidae) were taken by zoologists of the Australian Museum, Sydney. The specimens were sent to the author for study in April 1992 and although they had suffered some net damage, they were found to be diagnosable as a new species of the genus *Dieidolycus*, recently described from the antarctic abyss (Anderson, 1988).

Materials and Methods

Measurements were made with dial callipers to the nearest 0.1 mm. Definitions of characters, their measurement and quantification follow those of Anderson (1988), the first part of this series. Standard

length (SL) and head length (HL) are used in morphometric proportions. Types are deposited at the Australian Museum, Sydney (AMS). Other institutional abbreviations follow Leviton *et al.* (1985). Counts of fin rays, vertebrae, and other osteological observations were taken from radiographs. Drawings were made with the aid of photographs and a camera lucida.

Dieidolycus adocetus n.sp.

Figs 1, 2

Type material. HOLOTYPE, AMS I.32236-001, 88 mm (immature female), RV *Franklin*, Bismarck Sea, 3°41.5'S 151°52.2'E, 1957 m, 24 Sept.-14 Oct. 1991. PARATYPE, AMS I.32236-002, 73(+) mm (immature male), captured with holotype.