

EXTERNAL SEXUAL CHARACTERS OF PLA SALID⁽¹⁾*(Trichopodus pectoralis).*

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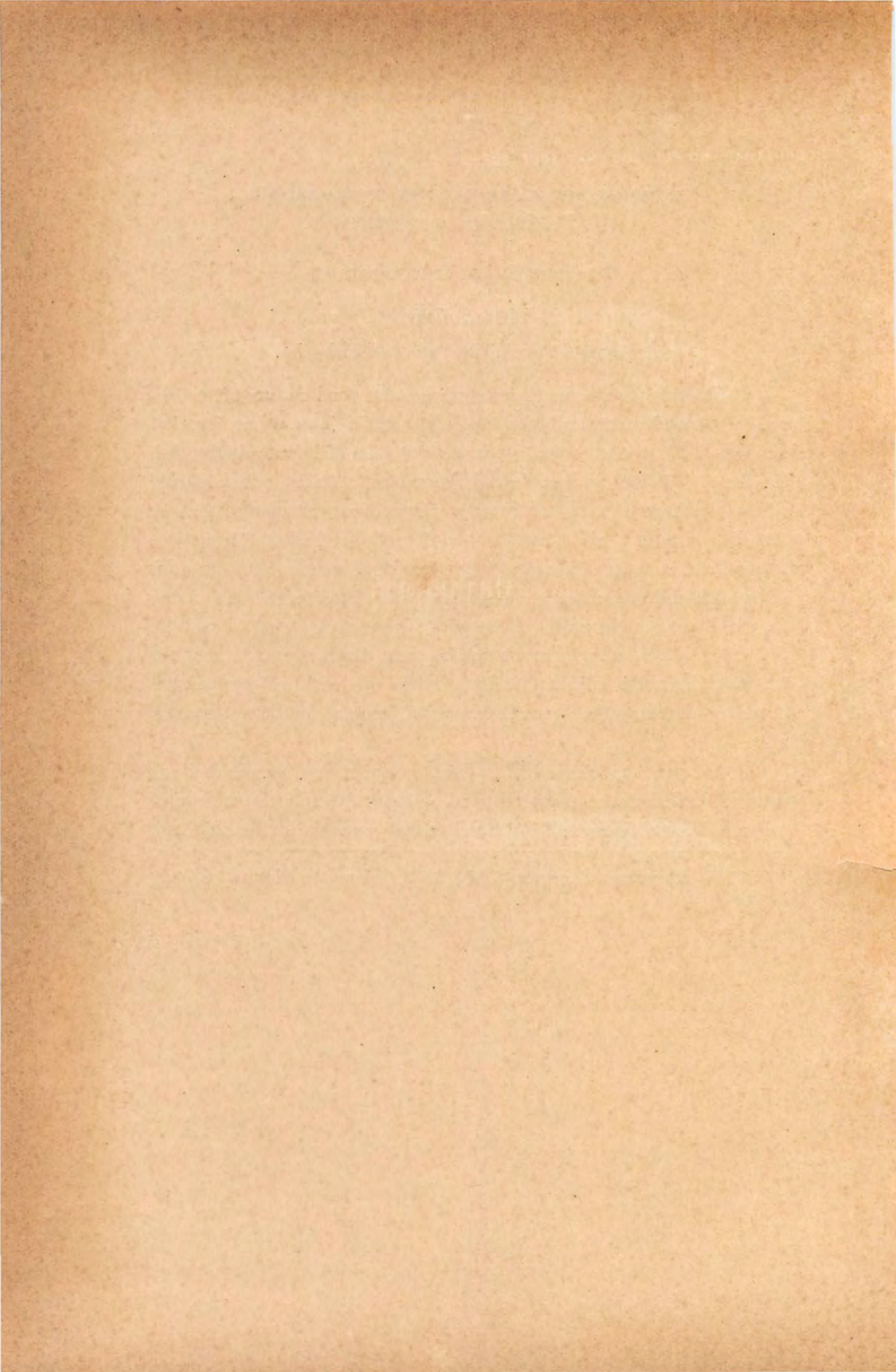
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During the course of our study on the pond-culture of *Trichopodus pectoralis* commonly known as Pla Salid (ปลาสลิด) or Pla Bai Mai (ปลาใบไม้), we were met with the question of how to distinguish the sex of this fish by its external characters. Nai Dhon Sritachitta, who was entrusted with the work at Bung Borapet, reported that he observed that the soft rays of the dorsal fin of adult fish may be either short or long. During the last breeding season he took a lot of the fish and sorted them according to the characters of the dorsal fin. He found, on dissection, that every spawner has a short dorsal fin, the end of which is far apart from the base of the caudal fin; but for the male, he could only assume it to be the one with a long pointed dorsal fin reaching the base of the caudal, because he did not see the milt.

In order to clear off his doubt, he put one female and one assumed male in a one-squared pond of about 30 centimetres deep of water. The fish spawned, and hundreds of young ones were obtained.

⁽¹⁾ Presented December 15th, 1939, before the Natural History Section.





ปลาใบไม้ตัวผู้



ปลาใบไม้ตัวเมีย

Top: Pla Salid (*Trichopodus pectoralis*) male, one year old; 4/5 nat. size.
Bottom: Pla Salid (*Trichopodus pectoralis*) female, one year old; 4/5 nat. size.

