

Pelagic Juveniles of Two Morids (Teleostei: Gadiformes: Moridae), *Antimora microlepis* and *Physiculus japonicus*, from the Western North Pacific

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Pelagic juveniles of two morids, *Antimora microlepis* Bean, 1890 and *Physiculus japonicus* Hilgendorf, 1879, were collected by midwater trawl (0–20 m depth) from transition waters between the Oyashio and Kuroshio fronts of the western North Pacific in May, 1989. Juveniles of *A. microlepis* (13 specimens, 30.2–54.3 mm standard length, SL) characteristically have an elongated body, posteriorly positioned anus, 24–25 precaudal vertebrae, chin with a barbel, no ventral luminous organ, elongated pelvic fin rays, and a non-protruding snout. Juveniles of *P. japonicus* (six specimens, 20.4–39.0 mm SL) characteristically have an elongated body, chin with a barbel, ventral luminous organ anterior to the anus, elongated pelvic fin rays, a pointed caudal fin, 9–10 dorsal fin rays, 66–70 second dorsal fin rays, 68–72 anal fin rays, six pelvic fin rays, 16+41–42 vertebrae, and ca. 130 longitudinal scales.

Key Words: Teleostei, Gadiformes, Moridae, *Antimora microlepis*, *Physiculus japonicus*, pelagic juvenile.