The relationship between the agonistic behavior and the color pattern of a Japanese freshwater serranid, Coreoperca kawamebari was investigated using a white or black background. When the fish were alone, the fish displayed an obscure vertex band and obscure vertical stripes and had inconspicuous eye-like spots. The coloration was coarse, but the pattern varied from fish to fish. During fights, the fish displayed an intermediate coloration between the palest and the darkest over the entire body, with conspicuous eye-like spots. The winner kept the aggressive color pattern. The loser lost its color pattern and came to show a distinct white vertex band and dark vertical stripes with inconspicuous eye-like spots. After the winner and the loser were separated, they lost their respective color patterns and returned to the obscure vertex band and obscure stripes. The color of the background affected the coloration of the fish to some degree, particularly when the fish were alone. One function of the eye-like spots may be deflection of the enemy’s bite. The color pattern of the loser may appease the aggressive opponent. The relationship of the aggressive motivation and fear motivation to the color patterns was discussed.
Coreoperca kawamebari (Temminck & Schlegel, 1843). Upload your photos and videos Pictures | Google image. Coreoperca kawamebari Picture by Kim, I.-S.

Classification / Names
Common names | Synonyms | Catalog of Fishes (gen., sp.) | ITIS | CoL | WoRMS | Cloffa.
Actinopterygii (ray-finned fishes) > Perciformes (Perch-likes) > Percichthyidae (Temperate perches)

Etymology: Coreoperca: Greek, kore, -es = pupil and also with themening of "maid" +
Greek, perke = perch (Ref. 45335). Prefers clear, slow currents of the middle reaches of rivers. Feeds on aquatic insects and small fishes. Lays eggs on water plants in May and June. Eggs and fry are guarded by the male. Life cycle and mating behavior Maturity | Reproduction | Spawning | Eggs | Fecundity | Larvae.