



Census 2022 Fall Parosphromenus-Project: Comments

This document describes the relevant aspects of the outcome of the fall census 2022.

It aims to highlight developments on a short-term basis and to supplement the reader of the general synopsis with an overview on the most important changes with respect to the spring census.

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Period of data collection: 01.10.2022 – 01.12.2022

Participation (including negative reports): 40 ↓

Institutions (Zoos or conservation institutions reporting to the census): 3 ↓

Despite extending the census period much longer than usual, we have seen a significant decrease in participation. In particular, some of the most prolific and important breeders with a large base of species and a number of institutional partners have not reported. This is unfortunate but has been observed in the past as well. For example, after initial strong numbers in the early 2010s, the participation in the census declined in the second half of the decade. We hope that the future years will bring back some of the growth we have seen since 2020.

Alongside the decline in participants, multiple species have come very close to extinction in our member tanks. Some of this is explained by the not reported populations. However, the dangerous developments have been ongoing in several species for quite some time. We need to have discussions and come up with ideas to try and reduce the occurrence of such trends.

Nevertheless, we have great news to report as well: Only one year after the scientific description of *P. juelinae* and *P. kishii*, both of these species are now kept by our members. Furthermore, the long-standing species of interest *P. deissneri* which was believed to be extinct continues to thrive in our network.

Pictograms used to assess the short-term trends:

↑: positive changes compared to past census

→: stable population and number of keepers

↓: negative developments, decreasing numbers of keepers and population

@: kept at institution/zoo

!: special situation/development

!! **HIGH RISK**: Species with high risk of getting lost in the near term

P. alfredi → **IUCN** @

Slight decrease in the number of keepers of some variants. Nevertheless, the species is kept by several experienced breeders.

P. allani → **!! LOST**

No more reports as in spring.

P. anjunganensis ↓

Significant decrease in total number of fish. This could become a problematic species. No report from PCBA, unclear situation.

P. barbarae → **!! HIGH RISK**

Further decrease in reported population size makes this a highly endangered species. If breeding does not succeed, the loss of this species is only a question of time.

P. bintan → @

Still one of the most secure species with several breeding populations. We are encouraged by new keepers reporting. Slight decrease in the only strain of known origin.

P. deissneri →

Progress is being made regarding the redistribution of offspring. No report from PCBA means that two local variants only kept by them were not reported.

P. filamentosus → @

Strong and persistent breeder base with successes in breeding. Again, Aquazoo Düsseldorf houses a large and hopefully prolific base of this species. Potential for redistribution i.e. in and around Switzerland (?)

P. gunawani → @

Relatively stable with breeding successes. Report from Schreinemakers very positive - (possible correct id)- and we encourage to pursue breeding further. No report from Zoo Worcklaw .

P. harveyi →

Slight reduction in the total number of reports. Otherwise rather stable. This is one of the species where no institution has started to work on.

P. juelinae ↑

Recently described species with positive trend. Unclear situation at PCBA and Wegerer, but large population with possibilities for redistribution by Hoensch. Let's try to stabilize this beautiful new species!

P. kishii ↑

Newly reported, recently described species. Two breeders with good population sizes should be hopeful for future breeding.

P. linkei →/↓ @

Very stable and secure species. No more report of "Sukamara" variant.

P. nagy →

Generally lower numbers of breeders and individual fish than in previous years. The large number of varieties however means generally different situations for each location.

P. opallios ↓ @

Dramatic decline in reports and individuals. After several years of strong numbers, this species is under threat of becoming much less stable. Perhaps, some of the breeders reporting in spring still have the fish. Attention needs to be paid to this since it used to be a very strong species.

P. ornaticauda ↓

Significant decrease in overall numbers and no report from PCBA. Potential for redistribution to Keil.

P. pahuensis ↓ !! HIGH RISK

Very difficult situation with declining numbers and only one report remaining. Imminent threat of loss from the project

P. paludicola → @

Very stable breeder base and reasonable population sizes.

P. parvulus ↓ !! HIGH RISK

Dramatic fall in reports, only one keeper left. Imminent threat of loss unless several breeders formerly reporting still have some population left.

P. phoenicurus →

Stable trend for all varieties although some are only kept by one breeder. Breeding success can allow for future redistribution.

P. quindecim → @

Breeding success by Reinecke provides route out of the risk zone. Hopefully, this will prove feasible in the next year.

P. rubrimontis ↑ !! HIGH RISK

Re-introduced after recent loss from the census by Perrin but with unknown numbers. The future should bring more clarity to the situation.

***P. sumatranus* ↓ !! HIGH RISK**

Dramatic decline to only one breeder is dangerous for the survival of this species in the project. Some breeding success by Lacherdinger is hopeful and might help resolve this problematic situation. High attention required!!!

***P. tweediei* ↓ IUCN HIGH RISK.**

Another species that used to be quite common is dangerously low in numbers.

***Other species* →**

Very variable situations. “Dietzenbach Batu Phahat 2020” is still among the more popularly kept species while numerous others are only kept by one keeper. Novel introduction of “Tangkit” and a new species from Sedili.