



Annotated check-list of the freshwater fishes of the Nilo-sudan river basins, in Africa

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SUMMARY

An up-to-date checklist of freshwater fishes from nilo-sudan river basins has been established, taking into account the material collected by the authors, and the collections stored in european Museums. Taxonomy was updated using the most recent revisions, and synonymies are mentionned. The present stage of knowledge on species distribution in the different river basins is summarized in a table where museums in which collections of a species are stored are mentionned. Until now, 38 families, 119 genera and 361 species were recorded in the river basins under study. There are about 91 species in the Gambia system, 59 in the Mono, 249 in the Niger, 129 in the Nile, 91 in le Ogun, 106 in the Oueme, 119 in the Senegal, 130 in the Tchad basin, 51 in the Turkana basin, 140 in the Volta.

KEY WORDS : Fish — Taxonomy — Fresh waters — Africa — Nilo-sudan area — Distribution — Faunal lists.

RÉSUMÉ

LISTE COMMENTÉE DES POISSONS D'EAU DOUCE DES BASSINS NILO-SOUDANIENS D'AFRIQUE

Une mise au point des connaissances sur la faune ichtyologique des bassins nilo-soudaniens est présentée, en tenant compte des diverses récoltes réalisées par les auteurs et des collections déposées dans les musées européens. La nomenclature a été actualisée en tenant compte des révisions taxinomiques récentes, et les synonymies ont été mentionnées. L'état actuel des connaissances sur la distribution des espèces dans les différents bassins hydrographiques est présenté sous forme d'un tableau dans lequel sont indiqués les principaux muséums où des collections d'une espèce sont déposées. Au total 38 familles, 119 genres et 361 espèces ont été inventoriées jusqu'ici dans les bassins étudiés. On compte environ 91 espèces dans la Gambie, 59 dans le Mono, 249 dans le Niger, 129 dans le Nil, 91 dans l'Ogun, 106 dans l'Ouémé, 119 dans le Sénégal, 130 dans le bassin tchadien, 51 dans le bassin du Turkana, 140 dans la Volta.

MOTS CLÉS : Poissons — Taxinomie — Eau douce — Afrique — Bassins nilo-soudaniens — Distribution — Inventaires faunistiques.

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Our knowledge on the taxonomy and distribution of fishes in Nilo-sudan river basins has improved considerably during the last few decades. This is a consequence of new collections made available, and of detailed revisions of genera and families which have revealed new species and synonymies. This paper provides an up-to-date checklist for Nilo-sudan basins, and hence a data-base for further ecological and zoogeographical studies. It follows other contributions to west African coastal basins : Côte-d'Ivoire (TEUGELS *et al.*, 1988), Guinée and Guinea Bissau (LÉVÈQUE *et al.*, 1989), Mono (PAUGY & BENECH, 1989), Sierra Leone and Liberia (PAUGY *et al.*, 1990).

REVIEW OF SYSTEMATIC LITERATURE AND COLLECTIONS OF FISHES FROM NILO-SUDAN RIVER BASINS

Senegal : STEINDACHNER (1870) published a comprehensive study on the Senegal river fish fauna. This basin was the first to be well investigated in western Africa. Since that time, there has been no general review, and only scattered taxonomic data were published for the lower basin : REIZER *et al.* (1972 a, 1972 b, 1973, 1980), MARQUET *et al.* (1979). The upper reaches in Mali and Guinea have been investigated by DAGET (1961 b, 1962, 1969 b) and large collections were recently registered in the Paris Museum. New species have recently been described : *B. fouteensis* Lévèque *et al.*, 1988 and *Labeo roseopunctatus* Paugy *et al.* 1989.

Gambia : Few major contributions have been published on the fishes of the Gambia river : SVENSSON (1933), JOHNELS (1954) and DAGET (1956, 1960 b, 1961 a).

Volta : The upper reaches of the Volta basin in Burkina Faso were investigated by DAGET (1957, 1960 a) and ROMAN (1966, 1974). For the lower Volta in Ghana, TREWAVAS & IRVINE (1947), ROBERTS (1967), and LOWE-McCONNELL (1972) provided general taxonomic lists. *Barbus* species were studied by HOPSON & HOPSON (1965). POLL (1971) described *Synodontis macrophthalmus*. The fish fauna of the Volta basin can be considered as well known, and large collections are available in Museums.

Niger : Three main divisions can be recognized : the upper and middle Niger to Kainji lake, the Benue river, and the lower Niger.

The upper and middle Niger fish fauna has been studied in details by DAGET (1954, 1959 a, 1962), and LEWIS (1974). Numerous collections are stored in museums. Since those works, new species have been

described from this area : *Brycinus carolinae* Paugy & Lévèque, 1981, *Tilapia dageti* Thys van den Aude-naerde, 1971, *Malapterurus minjiriya* Sagua, 1987, *Labeo roseopunctatus* Paugy *et al.*, 1989.

The Benue : the most recent contributions to its fish fauna are BLACHE *et al.* (1964) for the Mayo Kebi, DAGET & STAUCH (1963) and STAUCH (1966) for the upper Benue, and REID & SYDENHAM (1979) for the lower Benue.

The lower Niger : the fish fauna from this area is not well documented in the literature. BOULENGER (1901, 1902), BOESEMAN (1963) and KÄHSBAUER (1962) provided some information. Only recently, important collections were deposited in the Tervuren Museum. Their study led to the description of several new species : *Neolebias powelli* Teugels & Roberts, 1990, *Ctenopoma nebulosum* Norris & Teugels, 1990, and *Nannocharax latifasciatus* Coenen & Teugels, 1989.

Chad basin : Our knowledge of the fishes from the Chari river and Lake Chad, results from different collections made available since the beginning of the century. However, preserved material is not abundant and is sometimes in poor condition, with some questionable localities. That is the case for material deposited in the Muséum national d'histoire naturelle de Paris (M.N.H.N.) by J. THOMAS : it is quite obvious that collections from the Zaïre basin were mixed with material from the Chad basin. Although the middle and lower courses of the Chari and Logone rivers, as well as Lake Chad, are fairly well investigated, the fish fauna of the upper Chari in Central African Republic, is still poorly known. Species from the Zaïre basin might occur in the upper reaches of the Chari, but misidentification of such material is also possible. The work of Blache *et al.* (1964) is the most recent and extensive review of the fish fauna from the Chad basin and upper Benue. Few additional species have subsequently been reported : *Schilbe marmoratus* by MOK (1974) and *Clarias albopunctatus* by DAGET (1969 a). A number of taxonomic changes did occur (see below) and reports of some Nile or Zaïre basin species are questionable in the absence of any preserved specimens.

Mono, Oueme, and Ogun Rivers : situated between the Volta and lower Niger, these three rather small rivers are inhabited by a Nilo-sudan fish fauna. Some important contributions have been published on the Mono (PAUGY & BENECH, 1989), the Oueme (DAGET, 1950 ; GRAS, 1960, 1961) and the Ogun (SYDENHAM, 1977). A rather large collection of material from the Mono is stored in the M.N.H.N.

Lake Turkana was investigated for many years by HOPSON and HOPSON (1982), who provided an anno-

tated checklist and described a few species. PELLEGRIN (1935) gave a checklist of fishes from the Omo river and GREENWOOD (1974) reviewed the *Haplochromis* group.

Nile: the first extensive account of the Nile fish fauna was published by BOULENGER (1907). No general review has been published since, but some papers provided additional data : JOHNSEN (1926), RENDAHL (1935), SANDON (1950), ABU GIDEIRI (1967), MISHRIGI (1970). In this paper we only consider the Nile river and those lakes that are in direct relation with the Nile (e.g. lakes Mobutu (ex Albert) and Tana. Lakes Victoria and Kioga, isolated by the Murchisson Falls, and lakes Edward and George by the Semliki rapids which are seemingly impassable to fishes, harbour highly endemic and diversified fauna, and are not taken into account here).

METHODS

Table 1 summarizes the data collected for river systems considered in this paper. A number of symbols are used ; their explanation is as follows :

- a valid species which has been described from a river system under study, is indicated by a star ;
- specimens collected from a river system and currently preserved in museum collections, are indicated by the following capital letters :

B : British Museum (Natural History), London.
 P : Muséum national d'histoire naturelle, Paris.
 T : Musée royal de l'Afrique centrale, Tervuren.
 S : Naturhistoriska Riksmuseet, Stockholm.
 Z : Zoologisches Staatsinstitut und Zoologisches Museum, Hamburg ;

- when a species is mentioned in a paper, but when no material is available in the collections then a number referring to the paper is used ;
- when a species is not preserved or not mentioned in a paper, but observed by the authors, it is indicated by a cross ;
- in some cases, a question mark (?) means that the report is questionable or that it is difficult to identify the preserved specimens.

Subsequent to the publication of the papers mentioned under section 1, taxonomic revisions have introduced new species or new synonymies. In order to provide a useful data base for African ichthyologists, we briefly list the taxa for which taxonomic changes have been introduced to the species level. We restrict this list only to the species mentioned in the papers listed above. For more details, CLOFFA 1 & 2 (DAGET et al., 1984, 1986) provide a current list of African fish species with their type

localities, full synonymies and references to papers where the species are quoted. The following relevant taxonomic revisions were consulted for taxonomic changes introduced after the publication of CLOFFA : Clupeidae (Gourene, 1988), *Hippopomamyrus* (Lévéque & Bigorne, 1985 a), *Marcusenius* (Jégu & Lévéque, 1984 b), *Mormyrus* (Lévéque & Bigorne, 1985 b), *Mormyrops* (Bigorne, 1987), *Brienomyrus* (Bigorne, 1989), *Pollimyrus* (Bigorne, 1990 a), *Gnathonemus* (Bigorne, 1990 b), *Petrocephalus* (Bigorne & Paugy, 1991), *Phago* and *Ichthyborus* (Lévéque & Bigorne, 1987), *Alestes* and *Brycinus* (Paugy, 1986), *Hydrocynus* (Brewster, 1986 ; Paugy & Guégan, 1989), *Micralestes* and *Rhabdalestes* (Paugy, 1990), *Barbus* (Lévéque, 1989 a and b ; Lévéque et al., 1988 ; Lévéque & Guégan, 1990), *Raiamas* and *Leptocypris* (Lévéque & Bigorne, 1983 ; Howes & Teugels, 1989), neobolines (Howes, 1984), *Labeo* (Jégu & Lévéque, 1984 a ; Reid, 1985), *Chrysichthys* (Risch, 1986), *Claarias* (Teugels, 1986), *Heterobranchus* (Teugels et al., 1990), Schilbeidae (de Vos, 1984 ; de Vos & Lévéque, 1983), *Tilapia* (Thys van den Audenaerde, 1968 b, 1970), *Oreochromis* and *Sarotherodon* (Trewavas, 1983), *Haplochromis* (Greenwood, 1979), pelmatochromines (Greenwood, 1987), *Tylochromis* (Stiassny, 1989), *Parachanna* (Bonou & Teugels, 1985), Centropomidae (Greenwood, 1976), *Ctenopoma* (Norris & Teugels, 1990).

LIST OF SPECIES SUBJECTED TO TAXONOMIC CHANGES OR MISIDENTIFICATION

POLYPTERIDAE

Polypterus ansorgei Boulenger, 1910

Described from river Corubal in Guinea Bissau, the species was recorded from the upper Niger by DAGET (1954), but no specimens were preserved.

ANGUILLIDAE

Anguilla anguilla (Linnaeus, 1758)

Anguilla vulgaris Shaw, 1903 in BOULENGER (1907) and SANDON (1950).

Anguilla aegyptiaca Kaup, 1856.

DENTICIPITIDAE

Denticeps clupeoides Clausen, 1959

Acanthothrissa palimpta Gras, 1961.

CLUPEIDAE

Alosa fallax (Lacépède, 1803)

Clupea finta Cuvier, 1829.

Odaxothrissa ansorgii Boulenger, 1910

Cynothonissa ansorgii (Boulenger, 1910), (see GOURENE, 1988).

TABLE I

List of species present in the river basins studied

	Sen	Gam	U.Ni	Ben	L.Ni	Volt	Mon	Oue	Ogun	Chad	Nile	Turk
DASYATIDAE												
<i>Dasyatis garouaensis</i>			*	?								
PROTOPTERIDAE												
<i>Protopterus aethiopicus</i>											*	
<i>P. annectens</i>	PT	*	PT	T	B	BT		1	BPT	B		
POLYPTERIDAE												
<i>Erpetoichthys calabaricus</i>					BT			1	B			
<i>Polypterus ansorgii</i>			14?					3				
<i>P. bichir</i>	BPT	P	PT	BT	B	T			BPT	*	2	
<i>P. cndlicheri</i>			BP	P	B	BT		1-8	BPT	*		
<i>P. senegalus</i>	*	BPT	PT	BP	BT	PT	?	T	BPT	BT	BP	
ANGUILLIDAE												
<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>											9	
DENTICIPITIDAE												
<i>Denticeps clupeoides</i>					T			P				
CLUPEIDAE												
<i>Alosa fallax</i>											9	
<i>Leviscutella dekimpeii</i>					T			T				
<i>Odaxothrissa ansorgii</i>	PT				B	T	T					
<i>O. mento</i>												
<i>Pellonula leonensis</i>	PT	BP	BPT	BP	BT	BT		BP				
<i>P. vorax</i>					*			1				
<i>Sierrathrissa leonensis</i>	T	T	BPT	PT	T	BT						
OSTEOGLOSSIDAE												
<i>Heterotis niloticus</i>	BPT	BT	PT	BPT	B	T	int	BT	3	BT	*	B
PÁNTODONTIDAE												
<i>Pantodon buchholzi</i>			B	BT				1	3			
NOTOPTERIDAE												
<i>Papyrocranus afer</i>	T	BT	P	B	B			1	B			
<i>Xenomystus nigri</i>			P	*				T	B	BP	B	
MORMYRIDAE												
<i>Brienomyrus brachyistius</i>		P			BT		PT	PT	3			
<i>B. longianalis</i>					*							
<i>B. niger</i>	PT	*	BPT	BPT		PT		T	PT	BP		
<i>Campylomormyrus tamandua</i>			PT	BP	B	BT		3	BP			
<i>Gnathonemus petersii</i>				5	BT			3?	BP			
<i>Hippopotamyrus harringtoni</i>									*			
<i>H. pictus</i>			BP	BP		BPT			BP	*		
<i>H. psittacus</i>			PT	BP	B	BPT		PT	BT			
<i>Hyperopisus bebe</i>	BPT	B	BP	BP	BT	BT		T	3	BPT	*	2
<i>Isichthys henryi</i>					BT				3			
<i>Marcusenius abadii</i>					B	*	BT					
<i>M. brucii</i>							P	1?	*			
<i>M. cyprinoides</i>			B	BPT	B				BPT	*		
<i>M. mento</i>	P	BP	P	P			P					
<i>M. senegalensis</i>	*	PT	BPT	BPT		BPT	PT	PT	BT	BPT		

	Sen	Gam	U.Ni	Ben	L.Ni	Volt	Mon	Oue	Ogun	Chad	Nile	Turk
<i>Mormyrops anguilloides</i>	P	BPT	PT	BPT	B	BPT	PT	P	T	BPT	*	
<i>M. breviceps</i>									BT			
<i>M. caballus</i>								PT	BPT			
<i>M. oudoti</i>								*				
<i>Mormyrus caschive</i>												*
<i>M. hasselquistii</i>	P	12	BP	BP			BPT				BPT	*
<i>M. kannume</i>											*	2
<i>M. macrophthalmus</i>							BP	BP	B	BPT		
<i>M. niloticus</i>												*
<i>M. rume</i>	*	BT	BPT	BPT	B	BT	PT	T	BT	BPT		
<i>Petrocephalus ansorgii</i>					P	+						
<i>P. bane</i>	T		P	BPT	BT	PT				BPT	*	
<i>P. bovei</i>	BP	BPT	PT	BP	B	PT	P	PT	B	PT	*	
<i>P. keatingi</i>												
<i>P. pallidomaculatus</i>							*		P	P	P	
<i>P. pellegrini</i>							P					
<i>P. sauvagei</i>							T					
<i>P. soudanensis</i>	BP		*	BP	T	BP			B	BP		
<i>Pollimyrus adspersus</i>					BT		PT	T	B			
<i>P. isidori</i>	BPT	P	BPT	P	T	PT		T	B	BPT	*	
<i>P. petherici</i>							*					
<i>P. petricolus</i>												
GYMNARCHIDAE												
<i>Gymnarchus niloticus</i>	BPT	PT	BPT	BT	B	T		1	3	BPT	*	B
CROMERIDAE												
<i>Cromeria nilotica</i>			PT	P			PT				*	
PHRACTOLAEMIDAE												
<i>Phractolaemus ansorgii</i>							*				3	
HEPSETIDAE												
<i>Hepsetus odoe</i>	BT	BT	BP	BT	B	BPT	PT	PT	3	PT		
CHARACIDAE												
<i>Alestes baremoze</i>	PT	PT	PT	BPT	T	T				PT	*	P
<i>A. dentex</i>	PT	PT	PT	B			PT			PT	*	2
<i>Arnoldichthys spilopterus</i>							*				3	
<i>Brycinus brevis</i>							B	T			17	
<i>B. carolinae</i>							*					
<i>B. ferox</i>												*
<i>B. imberi</i>										PT		
<i>B. leuciscus</i>	BPT	PT	BPT	BP	*	BPT	T					
<i>B. longipinnis</i>	P	T			BT	PT	PT	P	T			
<i>B. luteus</i>							*					
<i>B. macrolepidotus</i>	*	PT	BP	BT	BPT	PT	P	B	BPT	BP	B	
<i>B. minutus</i>												*
<i>B. nurse</i>	PT	PT	BPT	BPT	BT	BPT	PT	T	BT	BPT	*	B
<i>Hydrocynus brevis</i>	BPT	T	BPT	PT			T			BPT	*	
<i>H. forsakali</i>	BPT	15	BPT	BPT	T	BPT	T	PT	BT	PT	*	BP
<i>H. vittatus</i>	T	PT	BPT				16	T	T	T	9	2
<i>Micralestes elongatus</i>	PT		BPT	PT	BT	BPT		1	3	BPT	BP	B
<i>M. humilis</i>										P		
<i>M. occidentalis</i>					P		T	BT				
<i>M. pabrensis</i>								*				
<i>Rhabdalestes brevidorsalis</i>											*	

	Sen	Gam	U.Ni	Ben	L.Ni	Volt	Mon	Oue	Ogun	Chad	Nile	Turk
R. septentrionalis	P	PT	P	P	T	BPT		P	P			
R. smylakai					*							
DISTICHODONTIDAE												
Distichodus brevipinnis	BPT	15	PT	BP	B	T			BPT	*		
D. engycephalus	P		PT	BPT	B	BPT			BT	PT	*	
D. niloticus										*	B	
D. rostratus	BPT	PT	BPT	BP	BT	BPT	P	T	3	BPT	*	
Ichthyborus besse				BP					BPT	*		
Nannocharax ansorgii	P	P	PT	P		BPT			BPT			
N. fasciatus	P	P	P		BPT			1	B	P		
N. latifasciatus				*								
N. lineomaculatus		?	P							*		
N. niloticus										P	*	
N. occidentalis		*	P		T							
Neolebias ansorgii				5	T				3			
N. powelli				*								
N. trewavasae										9		
N. unifasciatus	P	PT	BP	T	BPT		1		BPT			
Paradistichodus dimidiatus	?	P	PT	BP	T	BPT			P			
Phago loricatus			T	B	*		PT	B				
CITHARINIDAE												
Citharidium ansorgii		PT	P	*								
Citharinops distichodoides		PT	P	BT	BT				*			
Citharinus citharus	PT	BPT	BPT	BP	BT	BPT			BPT	*	P	
C. latus	BPT		PT	BPT	B	BT	1	BT	BPT	*		
CYPRINIDAE												
Barbus ablabes	P	?	PT	B		PT	PT					
B. aboinensis				BT	B							
B. anema		P	14						PT	*		
B. atakorensis			B		*	B	P	3?				
B. baudoni	S	P	P		BT					*		
B. bawkuensis			BT?		*							
B. bynni									*	B		
B. callipterus	T		PT	BP	BT		BP	PT	BT	P		
B. chlorotaenia				BP	BT	P	P	P	BT	PT		
B. dialonensis	*	P										
B. ditimensis	*											
B. fountensis	P	P	P									
B. guildi				*								
B. humilis									*			
B. hypsolepis		*		PT	BT							
B. intermedius									*	B		
B. kassiensis			*									
B. leonensis	PT	P	P	P	T	BPT		1	BPT			
B. macinensis	P		*	BT		BPT		P	P			
B. macrops	PT	PT	BPT	BPT	BT	BPT	P	PT	BPT			
B. mioletis								P				
B. neglectus									*			
B. neumayeri									*			
B. nigeriensis				B	*	TB		B	P	P		
B. niokoloensis	P	*										
B. occidentalis	P		P	BP		PT		P	*	P		
B. parablubes						*						
B. perince	P	P	BPT		B			PT	*			

	Sen	Gam	U.Ni	Ben	L.Ni	Volt	Mon	Oue	Ogun	Chad	Nile	Turk
B. pettjeani	*		P									
B. pleurogramma											*	
B. pleuropholis											BPT	
B. pobeguini	PT	PT	*						BPT			
B. pumilus	P		*	BPT					BPT		P?	*
B. punctitaeniatus	*	P									P	
B. raimbaulti	P	P										
B. salessci												
B. stigmatopygus		P	P		BPT			1		P	*	
B. sublineatus	P	P	*	BT	T	BPT	P	P	E?			
B. sylvaticus		P									T?	
B. tongaensis											*	
B. turkanae											*	
B. trispilopleura											*	
B. yetensis											*	
B. zalbiensis											T	
Chelaethiops bibie		BP	14	B	B						*	B
Garra allostoma												
G. dembeensis											10	*
G. quadrivirgata											P	B
G. trewavasae												
G. waterloti	P		BP	B								
Labeo coubie	BPT	BPT	PT	BPT	BT	BPT					BPT	*
L. djourae											*	
L. forskalii											*	
L. horie											*	BP
L. lukulae											P	
L. niloticus											*	B
L. parvus	P	P	BPT	B	B	BPT	PT	P	B	BP		
L. roseopunctatus	*		P									
L. senegalensis	*	BPT	PT	BP	BT	BPT	P	T	3	BPT		
Leptocyrinus niloticus	BP		PT	BPT	BT	BT				BP	*	B
Mesobola bredoi											*	
Neobola bottegoi											*	
N. stellae											*	
Raiamas nigeriensis					*	BT						
R. senegalensis	*	BPT	BPT	BT	BT	BPT		P	BT	BP	B	B
Varicorhinus beso											*	
COBITIDAE												
Nemacheilus abyssinicus											*	
BAGRIDAЕ												
Auchenoglanis biscutatus	PT	T	BP	P	B	T					BPT	*
A. occidentalis	*	BPT	BPT	B	BPT			1		BPT	BPT	2
Bagrus bajezi	PT		BPT	BPT	BT	BP				BPT	*	B
B. docmak	PT		BP	PT	B	BPT		P	3		*	B
B. filamentosus			*	P		P?						
Chrysichthys auratus	PT		BPT	BPT	BT	BPT	PT	PT	BT	BPT	*	B
C. johnelsi			*									
C. maurus	*	BPT										
C. nigrodigitatus	*	?	BPT	BT	T	BPT	PT	PT	B			
Clarotes laticeps	PT		PT	BPT		PT				PT	*	
Leptoglanis camerunensis			P	*								
Parauchenoglanis fasciatus						T			*	3		

	Sen	Gam	U.Ni	Ben	L.Ni	Volt	Mon	Oue	Ogun	Chad	Nile	Turk
SCHILBEIDAE												
<i>Eutropius buffei</i>				BT				*	3			
<i>Irvineia voltae</i>					*							
<i>Parailia pellucida</i>	T		BPT	BP	BT	BPT		T	B	BP	*	
<i>P. spiniserrata</i>		*										
<i>Schilbe micropogon</i>				*				1				
<i>S. mystus</i>	BPT	BP	BPT	BP	BT	BPT	PT	PT	B	BPT	*	
<i>S. niloticus</i>	PT		BPT	BP	BT	BPT	P	PT	B	BPT	*	
<i>S. uranoscopus</i>				B?						BPT	*	B
<i>Silurandon auritus</i>	BPT	BP	B	BPT					BPT	*		
AMPHILIIDAE												
<i>Amphilophus atesensis</i>					T	P						
<i>A. platyphir</i>	P	P	P									
<i>A. rheophilus</i>	P	*	P									
<i>Andersonia leptura</i>			P					BP	*	P		
<i>Paramphilius trichomycterooides</i>	*											
<i>Phractura clauseni</i>			P	T	BPT	P	1	3				
<i>P. ansorgii</i>				*	B							
CLARIIDAE												
<i>Clarias agboyiensis</i>				BT	BT	PT	PT	*				
<i>C. altopunctatus</i>				P					PT			
<i>C. anguillaris</i>	BPT	BPT	BPT	BP	B	BPT			BT	*		
<i>C. buettikoferi</i>		BP										
<i>C. buthupogon</i>				TZ		P	P	B				
<i>C. camerunensis</i>				TZ			1		P			
<i>C. ebiensis</i>				BT	T		P	B				
<i>C. engelseni</i>									*			
<i>C. gariepinus</i>	PT		BPT	BP	B	PT	PT	BT	BPT	BPT	BP	
<i>C. hilli</i>										*		
<i>C. iaensis</i>				BT								
<i>C. laeviceps</i>	PT		P									
<i>C. macromystax</i>			T	B	BT		T	B				
<i>C. pachynema</i>								P				
<i>C. werneri</i>									*			
<i>Gymnallabes typus</i>				T			1					
<i>Heterobranchus bidorsalis</i>	BPT	T	PT	BP	B	BT			BPT	*		
<i>H. isopterus</i>	PT				BT	BPT	PT	P	B			
<i>H. longifilis</i>	PT	PT	PT	BP	BT	BPT	T	1?	B	P	*	B
MALAPTERURIDAE												
<i>Malapterurus electricus</i>	T	BP	BPT	BP	BT	BPT	PT	PT	B	BPT	*	2
<i>M. minjirya</i>		*										
MOCHOKIDAE												
<i>Brachysynodontis batensoda</i>	T	B	PT	BT	B				BPT	*		
<i>Chioglanis benuenensis</i>				*								
<i>C. batensi</i>			PT		B				P			
<i>C. niger</i>			*									
<i>C. niloticus</i>									*			
<i>C. occidentalis</i>	PT		P	B	+							
<i>C. voltae</i>				P	*							
<i>Hemisynodontis membranaceus</i>	BPT	T	PT	B	B	BPT			BPT	*		
<i>Mochokus brevis</i>									P	*		
<i>M. niloticus</i>			BPT	P	T				BP	*	2	
<i>Synodontis annectens</i>	*											

	Sen	Gam	U.Ni	Ben	L.Ni	Volt	Mon	Oue	Ogun	Chad	Nile	Turk
<i>S. arnoulti</i>							T	*				
<i>S. budgetti</i>												*
<i>S. caudovittatus</i>												
<i>S. claritas</i>	PT	BT	BPT	BPT	B	BPT				BPT	BPT	
<i>S. courtei</i>			P	BT	B							*
<i>S. cupterus</i>			PT	BPT	BT	T						
<i>S. filamentosus</i>			PT	BPT	BT	PT						
<i>S. frontosus</i>												
<i>S. gobroni</i>							*					
<i>S. guttatus</i>							*					
<i>S. khartoumensis</i>												*
<i>S. melanopterus</i>							B	*		BPT	B	
<i>S. macrophthalmus</i>								*				
<i>S. nigrita</i>	*	BPT	BPT	P	BT	BPT				B	BPT	BP
<i>S. obesus</i>							T		PT			
<i>S. ocellifer</i>	PT	*	P	BP	BT	BPT						
<i>S. omias</i>							*					
<i>S. resupinatus</i>							BPT	*				
<i>S. robbianus</i>								B				
<i>S. schall</i>	BPT	PT	BPT	BPT	BT	BPT	P	PT	BT	BPT	*	B
<i>S. serratus</i>												*
<i>S. sorex</i>			BPT	BPT	B	BPT		P	3	BPT	*	
<i>S. tourei</i>	*											
<i>S. velifer</i>									*			
<i>S. vermiculatus</i>							*					
<i>S. violaceus</i>	P	P	P	B	PT							*
<i>S. xiphias</i>												
ARIIDAE												
<i>Arius gigas</i>				B	P	*	B		1			
<i>A. heudelotii</i>					B	B						
<i>A. latiscutatus</i>			B		B					?		
CYPRINODONTIDAE												
<i>Aphyosemion amoldi</i>							*					
<i>A. banforensis</i>	+											
<i>A. bitaeniatum</i>							*	x	+ x			
<i>A. bualanum</i>												
<i>A. calliurum</i>							T	x	x			
<i>A. filamentosum</i>							C	T	C	C		
<i>A. gardneri</i>							B	BP				
<i>A. geryi</i>			P	+								
<i>A. guineandi</i>	P?											
<i>A. guineense</i>			*									
<i>A. gulare</i>							*					
<i>A. sjostedti</i>							BT					
<i>Apocheilichthys bracheti</i>							*					
<i>A. htereau</i>											P	C
<i>A. jeannelli</i>											*	
<i>A. kingi</i>												
<i>A. lamberti</i>	P	*										
<i>A. loati</i>										P?	*	
<i>A. macrophthalmus</i>							T	x	PT	x		
<i>A. nimbaensis</i>							?					
<i>A. normani</i>	PT	PT	P	BP		PT	x	P	x	*	T	
<i>A. pfaffi</i>	P	P	*	PT		PT				PT		
<i>A. rudolfianus</i>												*

	Sen	Gam	U.Ni	Ben	L.Ni	Volt	Mon	Oue	Ogun	Chad	Nile	Turk
<i>A. schoetzi</i>						*						
<i>Epiplatys biafranrus</i>					T							
<i>E. bifasciatus</i>	P	PT	P	BP	BT	PT	C	1	3?	PT	*	
<i>E. grahami</i>					T		x	3				
<i>E. lamottei</i>			4									
<i>E. longiventralis</i>					T							
<i>E. sexfasciatus</i>					T		PT	T	x			
<i>E. spilargyreius</i>	P	PT	P	BP	C	PT	C	C	3	T	B	
<i>Foerschichthys flavipinnis</i>					T		x	x				
<i>Fundulosoma thierreyi</i>	C	C	P			*					*	
<i>Nothonbranchius rubroreticulatus</i>												
<i>Procatopus aberrans</i>					B	T						
<i>Pronothobranchius kiyawensis</i>	15	C	C						P			
CHANNIDAE												
<i>Parachanna africana</i>					BT		P?	PT	B			
<i>P. obscura</i>	?	B	P	BPT	BT	BPT	PT	PT	B	BPT	B	
CENTROPOMIDAE												
<i>Lates longispinis</i>											*	
<i>L. macrophthalmus</i>												
<i>L. niloticus</i>	BPT	PT	BPT	B	PT		PT	T	BPT	*	BP	
NANDIDAE												
<i>Afronandus shelzukhoi</i>												
<i>Polycentropsis abbreviata</i>			*				1	3				
CICHLIDAE												
<i>Astatotilapia bloyeti</i>	*	BP							P			
<i>Chromidotilapia guentheri</i>	PT	PT	BT	BPT	PT	PT	PT	BT				
<i>Gobiocichla wonderi</i>	*											
<i>Hemicromis bimaculatus</i>	PT	BPT	PT	P	BT	PT	T		BPT	B	2	
<i>H. fasciatus</i>	BPT	BPT	PT	BP	BT	BPT	PT	PT	BT	BPT		
<i>Nanochromis dimidiatus</i>											10	
<i>Oreochromis niloticus</i>	BPT	BPT	BP	B	BPT				BPT	BPT	BP	
<i>O. aureus</i>	BT	BP	14						BPT	BT		
<i>Pelvicachromis pulcher</i>			*									
<i>P. taeniatus</i>			T									
<i>Pterochromis congicus</i>									10			
<i>Sarotherodon galilaeus</i>	BPT	BPT	PT	BP	BT	BPT	PT	T	B	BPT	BPT	B
<i>S. melanotheron melanotheron</i>					B		T	T	B			
<i>S. melanotheron heudeleti</i>	BPT	B										
<i>Steatocranus irvinei</i>					*							
<i>Thoracocharomis albertianus</i>										*		
<i>T. avium</i>										*		
<i>T. loati</i>										*		
<i>T. macconnelli</i>										*		
<i>T. mahagiensis</i>										*		
<i>T. rudolfianus</i>										*		
<i>T. turkanae</i>										*		
<i>T. wingati</i>										*		
<i>Thysochromis ansorgii</i>				*			T	B				
<i>Tilapia dageti</i>	P	P	BPT	B		*	T		BP			
<i>T. guineensis</i>	BPT	BPT	BP		BT	BT	PT	PT	B			
<i>T. louka</i>	P											
<i>T. mariae</i>					BT				BT			
<i>T. zillii</i>	BPT	P	BPT	BP	B	BPT	PT	1	3	BP	B	BP

	Sen	Gam	U.Ni	Ben	L.Ni	Volt	Mon	Oue	Ogun	Chad	Nile	Turk
<i>Tylochromis intermedius</i>		B										
<i>T. jentinki</i>		PT										
<i>T. sudanensis</i>			*	BP								
GOBIIDAE												
<i>Chonophorus lateristriga</i>									T	PT	P	3
<i>Nematogobius maindroni</i>	*	+	+						P			
<i>Porogobius schlegelii</i>	P								T			
ELEOTRIDAE												
<i>Bostrychus africanus</i>									x			
<i>Dormitator lebretonis</i>							+	+	T		1	3
<i>Eleotris daganensis</i>									T			
<i>E. senegalensis</i>									T			
<i>E. viittata</i>	P	15							T		1	
<i>Kribia nana</i>	P		P	+					PT		1	PT
<i>Kribia kribensis</i>	+		P	+	T							
ANABANTIDAE												
<i>Ctenopoma congicum</i>										BP?	B?	
<i>C. kingsleyae</i>	PT	BPT	PT	B	BT	PT	P	PT	B	B		
<i>C. lineatum</i>										*		
<i>C. murci</i>							P				PT	*
<i>C. nebulosum</i>									*			
<i>C. petherici</i>	PT	T	P	BPT					P		BPT	*
MASTACEMBELIDAE												
<i>Aethiomastacembelus liberiensis</i>	P											
<i>A. nigromarginatus</i>		P							BPT	T	1	
<i>Caecomastacembelus cryptacanthus</i>	T								T	T		
<i>C. decorsei</i>		P	B								*	
CYNOGLOSSIDAE												
<i>Cynoglossus senegalensis</i>									5			
SOLEIDAE												
<i>Dagetichthys lakdoensis</i>							*	T				
TETRAODONTIDAE												
<i>Tetraodon lineatus</i>	BPT		BPT	P	B	T				BPT	*	B

Sen : Senegal ; Gam : Gambia ; U.Ni : upper Niger ; Ben : Benue ; L.Ni : lower Niger ; Volt. : Volta ; Mon. : Mono ; Oue : Oueme ; Ogun : Chad ; Nile : Turkana. B, P, T, S, Z mean that specimens are stored respectively in British, Paris, Tervuren, Stockholm and Hamburg Museums ; * : type specimens (see text). List of reference : 1-GRAS (1961); 2-HOPSON (1982); 3-SYDENHAM (1977); 4-DAGET (1954); 5-REID & SYDENHAM (1979); 6-BOESEMAN (1963); 7-BOULENGER (1901); 8-LOWE-McCONNELL (1972); 9-BOULENGER (1907); 10-BLACHE *et al.* (1964); 11-DAGET (1957); 12-DAGET (1961a); 13-DAGET (1961b); 14-DAGET & STAUCH (1963); 15-JOHNELS (1954); 16-ROBERTS (1967); 17-PAUGY (1986); C : CLOFFA.

Odaxothrissa mento (Regan, 1917)

Cynothrissa mento Regan, 1917, (see GOURENE, 1988).

Pellonula leonensis Boulenger, 1916

Microthrissa miri Daget, 1954, (see GOURENE, 1988).

Pellonula miri (Daget, 1954).

Pellonula afzeliusi Johnels, 1954, (see GOURENE, 1988).

Pellonula afzeliusi miri (Daget, 1954).

Microthrissa normanae Whitehead, 1986, (see GOURENE, 1988).

MORMYRIDAE

Brienomyrus (Brevimyrus) niger (Günther, 1866)

Mormyrus lhuyisi Steindachner, 1870.

Gnathonemus baudoni Pellegrin, 1919.

According to REIZER *et al.* (1973) and BIGORNE (1989), the type specimen of *M. lhuyisi* is a junior synonym of *B. niger*. The specimens identified *Pollimyrus lhuyisi* from Niger (see Daget, 1954) and Chad (Blache *et al.*, 1965) belong to *Pollimyrus isidori* (see BIGORNE, 1990 a).

Brienomyrus brachystius (Gill, 1863)

Mormyrus microcephalus Sauvage, 1880.

Mormyrus liberiensis Steindachner, 1894.

Brienomyrus adustus (Fowler, 1936), (see TREWAVAS, 1974).

According to TREWAVAS (1974), *B. longianalis* (Boulenger, 1901) is a junior synonym of *B. brachystius* but BIGORNE (1989) provided evidence that the two species are different and rehabilitated *B. longianalis*.

Gnathonemus petersii (Günther, 1862)

Gnathonemus brevicaudatus Pellegrin, 1919, (see BIGORNE, 1990 b).

Hippopotamyrus pictus (Marcusen, 1864)

Gnathonemus harringtoni (*non* Boulenger, 1905) in DAGET (1954), BLACHE *et al.* (1964), ROBERTS (1967), LOWE-McCONNELL (1972), DAGET & STAUCH (1963), (see LÉVÈQUE & BIGORNE, 1985 a).

Hippopotamyrus psittacus (Boulenger, 1897)

Marcusenius budgetti Boulenger, 1904.

Pollimyrus budgetti (Boulenger, 1904), (see BIGORNE, 1990 a).

Hyperopisus bebe (Lacépède, 1803)

Hyperopisus occidentalis Günther, 1866.

Hyperopisus tenuicauda Pellegrin, 1904.

Hyperopisus bebe bebe (Lacépède, 1803).

Hyperopisus bebe chariensis Blache *et al.*, 1964.

Hyperopisus bebe occidentalis Günther, 1866.

Hyperopisus occidentalis tenuicauda Pellegrin, 1904.

Marcusenius abadii (Boulenger, 1901)

Gnathonemus abadii Boulenger, 1901.

Gnathonemus gillii Boulenger, 1904, described from the Niger (see JÉGU & LÉVÈQUE, 1984 b).

Marcusenius deboensis (Daget, 1954)

A dubious species (see JÉGU & LÉVÈQUE, 1984 a), not included in the list.

Marcusenius senegalensis (Steindachner, 1870)

Gnathonemus senegalensis (Steindachner, 1870).

Gnathonemus gracilis Pellegrin, 1922.

Gnathonemus elongatus Pfaff, 1933.

Gnathonemus gambiensis Svensson, 1933.

Gnathonemus senegalensis gracilis (Pellegrin, 1922).

Gnathonemus senegalensis elongatus Daget, 1954.

Gnathonemus senegalensis pfaffi Fowler, 1958.

Mormyrops anguilloides (Linnaeus, 1758)

Mormyrops deliciosus (Leach, 1818), (see BIGORNE, 1987).

Mormyrops curviceps Roman, 1966, described from Volta basin (see BIGORNE, 1987).

Mormyrops anguilloides voltae Roman, 1966, described from Volta basin, (see BIGORNE, 1987).

Mormyrops breviceps Steindachner, 1895

Mormyrops elongatus Norman, 1935, (see BIGORNE, 1987).

Mormyrops bougouribaensis Roman, 1966, described from Volta basin (see BIGORNE, 1987).

Mormyrops caballus Boulenger, 1898

Mormyrops oudotii (*non* Daget, 1954) in LEWIS (1974), DAGET & STAUCH (1963), REID & SYDENHAM (1979), (see BIGORNE, 1987).

Mormyrops engystoma Boulenger, 1898

PELLEGRIN (1914) reported this species from middle Chari. A single juvenile specimen is preserved and BLACHE *et al.* (1964) confirmed the identification, but never collected any other specimen. Moreover, BIGORNE (1987) was not able to find PELLEGRIN's specimen in the Paris Museum. Its presence in the Chad basin must be regarded as dubious until further collections prove otherwise.

Mormyrus rume Valenciennes, 1846

? *Mormyrus caschive* (*non* Linnaeus, 1758) in BLACHE *et al.* (1964).

BLACHE *et al.* (1964), reported both *M. rume* and *M. caschive* from Chad basin, distinguishing the two species by the number of scales on the caudal peduncle : 20-24 for *M. rume*, 26 for *M. caschive*. No specimens were preserved. According to LÉVÈQUE & BIGORNE (1985 b), criteria used by BLACHE *et al.* (1964) are questionable, given the variability of characters observed for different populations of *M. rume*. Consequently, the presence of *M. caschive* in the Chad basin has to be confirmed.

Petrocephalus ansorgii (Boulenger, 1902)

Considered by DAGET (1954) as a subspecies of *P. bane*. Rehabilitated recently by BIGORNE & PAUGY (1991).

Petrocephalus pallidomaculatus Bigorne & Paugy, 1991

A recently described species from Niger.

Petrocephalus soudanensis Bigorne & Paugy, 1991

P. simus (non Sauvage, 1879), in DAGET (1954), BLACHE et al. (1964).

A recently described species.

Pollimyrus isidori (Valenciennes, 1970)

Marcusenius gaillardi Pellegrin, 1909.

Marcusenius rudebeckii Svensson, 1933.

Pollimyrus thuysi (non Steindachner, 1870) in DAGET (1954), BLACHE et al. (1964), DAGET & ILTIS (1965), (see BIGORNE, 1990 a).

? *Pollimyrus kingsleyae* (Günther, 1896)

Reported by HOLLY (1928) from the middle Chari, but according to BLACHE et al. (1964) the identification is doubtful, and the species was never recorded again. Not included in the list.

CHARACIDAE

Alestes baremoze (de Joannis, 1835)

Alestes baremoze tchadense Blache et al., 1964.

Paugy (1986) distinguished three subspecies : *A. baremoze baremoze* from the Chad, Niger, Volta, Senegal and Gambia basins; *A. baremoze niloticus* from the Nile and Omo basins; *A. baremoze eburneensis* from river basins in Côte-d'Ivoire.

Alestes dentex (Linnaeus, 1758)

Alestes sethente Valenciennes, 1849.

Alestes dentex dentex (Linnaeus, 1758).

Alestes dentex sethente Valenciennes, 1849.

Brycinus carolinae (Paugy & Lévéque, 1981)

Alestes carolinae Paugy & Lévéque, 1981, described from upper Niger.

? *Alestes imberi* (non Peters, 1852) in DAGET (1954).

Brycinus leuciscus (Günther, 1867)

Alestes nigrilineatus Svensson, 1933.

Brycinus longipinnis (Günther, 1864)

Alestes longipinnis Günther, 1864.

Alestes chaperi Sauvage, 1882, (see Paugy, 1982 a).

Brycinus macrolepidotus (Valenciennes, 1849)

Alestes macrolepidotus (Valenciennes, 1849).

Alestes rutilus Boulenger, 1916, (see PAUGY, 1982 b).

Brycinus nurse (Rüppell, 1832)

Alestes dageti Blache & Miton, 1960.

Alestes bouboni Roman, 1973 described from the Niger (see PAUGY, 1986).

PAUGY (1986) distinguished two further subspecies : *Brycinus nurse dageti* (BLACHE & MITON, 1960) described from lake Chad as *Alestes dageti*, and *Brycinus nurse nana* (PELLEGRIN, 1935) described as *Alestes nurse* var. *nana* from lake Turkana.

Hydrocynus brevis Günther, 1864

? *Hydrocynus somonorum* (Daget, 1954) described from Niger (see BREWSTER, 1986). According to PAUGY & GUÉGAN (1989), *H. somonorum* could be an hybrid between *H. brevis* and *H. forskahii*.

Hydrocynus vittatus (Castelnau, 1861)

Hydrocynus lineatus Bleeker, 1863.

According to BREWSTER (1986), *H. vittatus* and *H. lineatus* are junior synonyms of *H. forskalii* Cuvier, 1819. PAUGY & GUÉGAN (1989) however, confirmed the existence of three distinct species in west Africa, one of them referred to *H. vittatus* which was rehabilitated.

Micralestes elongatus Daget, 1957

Micralestes brevianalis Blache & Miton, 1960, (see DAGET, 1966).

Micralestes acutidens (non Peters, 1852) in DAGET (1954, 1957), BLACHE et al. (1964), (see PAUGY, 1990).

Micralestes acutidens elongatus Daget, 1957.

Virilia elongatus (Daget, 1957).

Micralestes humilis Boulenger, 1899

Micralestes stormsi (non Boulenger, 1902). For POLL (1967), *M. stormsi* is a Zairean species, specimens identified from Chad basin by DAGET (1966) being *M. humilis*.

Micralestes occidentalis (Günther, 1899)

Micralestes voltae Roman, 1966, (see PAUGY, 1990).

Micralestes pabrensis (Roman, 1966)

Phenacogrammus pabrensis Roman, 1966.

Virilia pabrensis (Roman, 1966).

Rhabdalestes brevidorsalis (Pellegrin, 1921)

Petersius brevidorsalis Pellegrin, 1921.

Hemigrammopetersius brevidorsalis (Pellegrin, 1921).

Rhabdalestes septentrionalis (Boulenger, 1911)

Petersius loennbergi Svensson, 1933, (see PAUGY, 1990).

Rhabdalestes loennbergi (Svensson, 1933).

Petersius intermedius Blache & Miton, 1960, (see PAUGY, 1990).

Hemigrammopetersius intermedius (Blache & Miton, 1960).

Rhabdalestes smykalai (Poll, 1967)

Alestopelersius smykalai Poll, 1967.

DISTICHODONTIDAE

? *Distichodus altus* Boulenger, 1899

Reported by PELLEGRIN (1914) in the middle

Chari from a single specimen of 165 mm SL. This Zairean species has never been observed subsequently (BLACHE *et al.*, 1964) and its presence must be confirmed. Not included in the list.

Distichodus rostratus Günther, 1864

? *Distichodus niloticus* (*non* Linnaeus, 1762) in BLACHE *et al.* (1964).

D. niloticus was reported from the Chad basin on the basis of a few juveniles collected by HOLLY (1928). BLACHE *et al.* (1964) confirmed this record but no specimens were preserved. Given that *D. niloticus* is similar to *D. rostratus*, its presence in the Chad basin needs to be confirmed.

Nannocharax ansorgii Boulenger, 1911

Hemigrammocharax polli Roman, 1966, (see COENEN & TEUGELS, 1989).

Nannocharax fasciatus Günther, 1867

Nannocharax gobiooides Roman, 1966, (COENEN, *in prep.*).

Nannocharax latifasciatus Coenen & Teugels, 1989

Recently described from the Niger delta, Nigeria.

Nannocharax occidentalis Daget, 1959

Nannocharax niloticus gracilis Daget, 1954.

Neolebias powelli Teugels & Roberts, 1990

A recently described species from the Niger delta.

Neolebias trewavasae Poll & Gosse, 1963

Nannaethiops unitaeniatus (*non* Günther, 1871) in BOULENGER (1907), SANDON (1950).

Neolebias unifasciatus Steindachner, 1891

Nannaethiops unitaeniatus (*non* Günther) in BLACHE *et al.* (1964), DAGET (1954, 1957), DAGET & STAUCH (1963), GRAS (1961), JOHNELS (1954), LOWE-McCONNELL (1972), ROBERTS (1967), ROMAN (1966), TREWAVAS & IRVINE (1947).

Paradistichodus dimidiatus (Pellegrin, 1904)

Distichodus ansorgei Boulenger, 1911.

Paradistichodus elegans Pellegrin, 1922.

Paradistichodus dimidiatus elegans Pellegrin, 1922.

Paradistichodus dimidiatus dimidiatus (Pellegrin, 1904).

Phago loricatus Günther, 1865

Phago maculatus Ahl, 1922, described from the Niger delta (see LÉVÈQUE & BIGORNE, 1987).

CYPRINIDAE

Barbus ablades (Bleeker, 1863)

Barbus spurelli Boulenger, 1913, (see LÉVÈQUE, 1983).

Barbus baudoni Boulenger, 1918

Barbus svenssoni Johnels, 1954, (see TREWAVAS, 1974).

Barbus voltae Hopson, 1965, (see TREWAVAS, 1974).

Barbus nigeriensis (*non* Boulenger, 1902) in DAGET (1957), (see HOPSON & HOPSON, 1965).

Barbus fouteensis Lévéque, Teugels & Thys van den Audenaerde, 1988

Barbus spurelli (*non* Boulenger, 1913) in DAGET (1960 b, 1962).

For further details concerning this species, see LÉVÈQUE *et al.* (1988).

Barbus intermedius intermedius Rüppell, 1836

For a full list of synonyms, see BANISTER (1973) and CLOFFA 1.

? **Barbus kissiensis** Daget, 1954

Described from the Niger, may be a juvenile form (see LÉVÈQUE, 1989 a).

Barbus macrops Boulenger, 1911

Barbus francisci Boulenger, 1916, (see LÉVÈQUE, 1989).

Barbus gambiensis Svensson, 1933, (see DAGET, 1954).

Barbus ablubes (*non* Bleeker, 1863) in DAGET (1957, 1962), ROMAN (1966), BLACHE *et al.* (1964).

Barbus deserti (*non* Pellegrin, 1909) in DAGET (1954).

Barbus ablubes var. *deserti* in BLACHE *et al.* (1964).

Barbus miolepis Boulenger, 1902

Barbus holotaenia (*non* Boulenger) in BLACHE *et al.* (1964).

Barbus neglectus Boulenger, 1903

According to BANISTER (1987), *B. neglectus* is a junior synonym of *B. perince*. This synonymy is doubtful, and we maintain the validity of *B. neglectus* as closest to *B. baudoni*, until further information is available (LÉVÈQUE, 1989 b).

Barbus neumayeri Fisher, 1884

Barbus carpio Pfeffer, 1896.

Barbus nigeriensis Boulenger, 1902

Barbus chlorotaenia (*non* Boulenger) in BLACHE *et al.* (1964) : specimens from Logone, (see LÉVÈQUE, 1989).

Barbus werneri (*non* Boulenger) in ROMAN (1966), (see LÉVÈQUE, 1989).

Barbus bynni occidentalis Boulenger, 1911

Barbus occidentalis Boulenger, 1911.

Barbus foureaui Pellegrin, 1919, (see LÉVÈQUE & GUÉGAN, 1990).

Barbus occidentalis foureaui Pellegrin, 1919.

Barbus lancrenonensis Blache & Miton, 1960, (see TREWAVAS, 1974).

Barbus balesi (*non* Boulenger, 1903) in DAGET (1959 b), BLACHE *et al.* (1964), (see LÉVÈQUE & GUÉGAN, 1990).

Barbus perince Rüppell, 1835

Barbus wernerii (non Boulenger) : *parlim* in BLACHE et al. (1964).

Barbus lepidus Pfaff, 1933.

Barbus donaldsonsmithi Fowler, 1958, (see LÉVÈQUE, 1989 b).

Barbus lawrae Hopson, 1965, (see LÉVÈQUE, 1989 b).

Barbus pumilus Boulenger, 1901

The Chad record (BLACHE et al., 1964) needs to be confirmed, (see LÉVÈQUE, 1989 a).

Barbus punctitaeniatus Daget, 1954

Barbus yeiensis (non Johnsen) in BLACHE et al. (1964), (see LÉVÈQUE, 1989 b).

Barbus salessei Pellegrin, 1908

Barbus apogonostomatus Pellegrin, 1913, (see LÉVÈQUE, 1989 a).

Barbus stigmatopygus Boulenger, 1903

Barbus wernerii Boulenger, 1905.

Barbus gourmansis Pellegrin, 1934, (see LÉVÈQUE, 1989 a).

Barbus karoualensis Blache & Miton, 1960, (see LÉVÈQUE, 1989 a).

? *Barbus trispilopleura* (non Boulenger) in BLACHE et al. (1964), (see LÉVÈQUE, 1989 a).

Barilius shariensis Fowler, 1949

Described from the Chari river. Could be a Zaïrean form whose presence in the middle Chari would be exceptional according to BLACHE et al. (1964).

Chelaethiops bibie (Joannis, 1835)

Chelaethiops elongatus brevianalis Daget, 1954, (see HOWES, 1984).

Chelaethiops brevianalis lerei Blache & Miton, 1961, (see HOWES, 1984).

Chelaethiops brevianalis brevianalis Blache & Miton, 1961, (see HOWES, 1984).

Chelaethiops elongatus (non Boulenger) in ROMAN (1966), DAGET (1957), ROBERTS (1967), LOWE McCONNELL (1972).

Garra allostoma Roberts, 1989

A newly described species from the tributaries of the Niger basin in Cameroun.

Garra dembeensis (Rüppell, 1836)

Discognathus dembeensis (Rüppell, 1836).

Discognathus vinciguerra Boulenger, 1901.

Discognathus johnstonii Boulenger, 1901.

Garra cf. quadrimaculata (Rüppell, 1836)

Gobio quadrimaculatus Rüppell, 1836.

Discognathus quadrimaculatus (Rüppell, 1836).

Garra lancrenonensis Blache & Miton, 1960.

ROBERTS (1990) tentatively concluded that, pending additional material and examination of the synatypes of *G. quadrimaculata*, all *Garra* from Ethiopia

and the Chad basin which have reduced mental discs, may be referred to as *G. cf. quadrimaculata*.

Garra waterloti (Pellegrin, 1935)

Discognathus waterloti Pellegrin, 1935

MENON (1964) considered *Garra waterloti* as a junior synonym of *G. ornata* (NICHOLS & GRISCOM, 1917). ROBERTS (1990) discussed this synonymy and proposed that *G. waterloti* should be regarded as valid, until further investigations are possible.

Labeo coubie Rüppell, 1832

Labeo pseudocoubie Blache & Miton, 1960, (see REID, 1985).

Labeo uhamensis Pellegrin, 1920 described from Shari river, (see REID, 1985).

Labeo longaensis Rendahl, 1935 described from Sudan, (see REID, 1985).

Labeo lereensis Blache & Miton, 1960 described from upper Benue, (see REID, 1985).

Labeo forskali group

This group includes different species which, in the area considered, are morphologically very similar (REID, 1985) :

— *L. forskali* Rüppell, 1835 restricted to Nile basin.

— *L. ogunensis* Boulenger, 1910.

L. tibestii Pellegrin, 1919.

L. toboensis Svensson, 1933.

Occurs in Chad, Niger-Benue, Volta, Ogun, Oueme, Mono, Senegal, Gambia. But JÉGU & LÉVÈQUE (1984 a) consider *L. ogunensis* as a junior synonym of *L. parvus* (see below) and this species is not included in table I.

— *L. djourae* Blache & Miton, 1960 from Benue river. Close to *L. ogunensis*.

— *L. lukulae* Boulenger, 1902.

L. chariensis Pellegrin, 1904.

Occurs in Zaire and Chad basins and could be according to REID (1985) «simply an adult or a large ecotype of *L. parvus*».

— *L. parvus* Boulenger, 1902. According to REID (1985), this species restricted to Zaire, belongs also to this group. JÉGU & LÉVÈQUE (1984 a) consider *L. ogunensis* (and synonyms) as well as *L. chariensis*, as junior synonyms of *L. parvus*.

The taxonomy of this group is not clear at present, and all species are very close. In such a case, we prefer to consider West African species as a group (*L. parvus* group in table I) until further investigation.

Labeo niloticus group

— *L. niloticus* (Forsskall, 1775).

Occurs in the Nile basin and Lake Turkana. According to REID (1985), this species «most closely resembles *L. horie* with which it has often been confused».

— *L. horie* Heckel, 1846.

« Most closely resembles *L. senegalensis* from West Africa but also shares similarities with *L. niloticus*. Occurs sympatrically in the Nile and Lake Turkana with *L. niloticus* » (REID, 1985).

— *L. senegalensis* Valenciennes, 1842.

L. niloticus brevicauda Holly, 1928 from the Chari river.

? *L. niloticus* (non Forsskall, 1775) in DAGET (1959 b, 1968) & BLACHE et al. (1964). According to REID (1985), some dubious records of *L. niloticus* from West Africa (Chad basin, Lake Kainji) require validation. It may well be that these West African records are in fact *L. senegalensis*.

***Leptocypris niloticus* (de Joannis, 1835)**

Barilius niloticus (de Joannis, 1835).

Barilius niloticus niloticus (de Joannis, 1835), (see LÉVÈQUE & BIGORNE, 1983).

Barilius niloticus occidentalis Blache & Miton, 1960, (see LÉVÈQUE & BIGORNE, 1983).

Barilius niloticus voltae Roman, 1966, (see LÉVÈQUE & BIGORNE, 1983).

***Mesobola bredoi* (Poll, 1945)**

Engraulicypris bredoi Poll, 1945.

Neobola bredoi (Poll, 1945), (see HOWES, 1984).

Endemic to Lake Mobutu.

***Raiamas nigeriensis* (Daget, 1959)**

? *Barilius ubangensis* (non Pellegrin, 1901) in DAGET & STAUCH (1963), BLACHE et al. (1964), (see LÉVÈQUE & BIGORNE, 1983).

***Raiamas senegalensis* (Steidachner, 1870)**

Barilius macrostoma Boulenger, 1913 described from western Ghana, (see LÉVÈQUE & BIGORNE, 1983).

Barilius loatti Boulenger, 1901 described from Nile, (see LÉVÈQUE & BIGORNE, 1983).

Barilius senegalensis orientalis Blache et al., 1964, (see LÉVÈQUE & BIGORNE, 1983).

? *Barilius steindachneri* (non Pellegrin, 1908) in TREWAVAS & IRVINE (1947), (see LÉVÈQUE & BIGORNE, 1983).

? *Varicorhinus capoetoides* Pellegrin, 1938

The type comes from material of doubtful origin, collected by J. THOMAS in the Chad and Congo basins. The type locality was assumed to be the Chad basin. Not included in the list.

BAGRIDAE***Bagrus bajad* (Forsskall, 1775)**

Porcus bajad (Forsskall, 1775).

Bagrus bajad Rüppell, 1829.

Bagrus bajad macropterus Pfaff, 1933.

***Bagrus docmak* (Forsskall, 1775)**

Porcus docmac (Forsskall, 1775).

***Bagrus docmac* (Forsskall, 1775).**

Bagrus docmac niger Daget, 1954.

Bagrus docmac docmac Blache et al., 1964.

***Clarotes laticeps* (Rüppell, 1829)**

? *Clarotes macrocephalus* (RISCH, pers. comm.).

***Chrysichthys auratus* (Geoffroy Saint Hilaire, 1809)**

Chrysichthys rueppelli Boulenger, 1907, (see RISCH, 1986).

Chrysichthys auratus tilhoi (Pellegrin, 1909), (see RISCH, 1986).

Chrysichthys filamentosus Boulenger, 1912, (see RISCH, 1986).

Chrysichthys auratus longifilis Pfaff, 1933, (see RISCH, 1986).

Chrysichthys walkeri (non Günther, 1899) partim : most of the specimens referred to as *C. walkeri* are *C. auratus* or *C. maurus*. *C. walkeri* is only known from type specimens collected in the Pra system (Ghana).

***Chrysichthys maurus* (Valenciennes, 1839)**

Chrysichthys walkeri (non Günther) in DAGET (1961 a), (see RISCH, 1981, 1986).

***Chrysichthys nigrodigitatus* (Lacépède, 1803)**

Chrysichthys furcatus Günther, 1864, (see RISCH, 1986).

***Chrysichthys johnelsi* Daget, 1959**

Chrysichthys sp. in Johnels (1954), (see Risch, 1986).

Described from the Gambia river, the species was later collected in different Guinean coastal basins (RISCH & THYS VAN DEN AUDENAERDE, 1985).

***Parauchenoglanis fasciatus* (Gras, 1960)**

Auchenoglanis fasciatus Gras, 1960, (see TEUGELS et al., 1990).

SCHILBEIDAE**? *Schilbe marmoratus* Boulenger, 1911**

Reported from the upper Chari by PELLEGRIN (1922), from a single juvenile specimen in poor condition. BLACHE et al. (1964) were not able to identify this specimen and the species was never caught again. DE VOS (1983) noted « erroneous locality » for PELLEGRIN's (1922) report. Not included in the list.

***Schilbe mystus* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

Schilbe palmeri Svensson, 1933.

***Schilbe niloticus* (Rüppell, 1829)**

Eutropius niloticus (Rüppell, 1829).

? *Eutropius mentalis* (non Boulenger) in GRAS (1961), and ROBERTS (1967) (or dubious origin).

AMPHILIIDAE***Amphilius platychir* (Günther, 1864)**

Amphilius grammalophorus Pellegrin, 1913, (see SKELTON, 1984).

Phractura clauseni Daget & Stauch, 1963

Phractura intermedia (non Boulenger) in DAGET (1957, 1960), ROBERTS (1967).

CLARIIDAE

Clarias agboyiensis Sydenham, 1980

Clarias isheriensis Sydenham, 1980, (see TEUGELS, 1982 a).

Clarias angolensis (non Steindachner, 1866) in TREWAVAS & IRVINE (1947) and LOWE-McCONNELL (1972), (see TEUGELS, 1982 a).

Clarias liberensis (non Steindachner, 1894) in LOWE-McCONNELL (1972), (see TEUGELS, 1982 a).

Clarias albopunctatus Nichols & Lamonte, 1954

Clarias cf. angolensis in DAGET & STAUCH (1963).

Clarias walkeri (non Günther, 1896) in BLACHE et al., 1964, (see TEUGELS, 1982 a).

Clarias anguillaris (Linnaeus, 1758)

Clarias senegalensis Valenciennes, 1840, (see TEUGELS, 1982 b).

Clarias budgetti Boulenger, 1900, (see TEUGELS, 1982 a).

Clarias anguillaris nigeriensis Pellegrin, 1923, (see TEUGELS, 1982 a).

Clarias buettikoferi Steindachner, 1895

Clarias macromystax (non Günther, 1864) in DAGET (1960 b, 1961 a).

Clarias cameronensis Lönnberg, 1895

Clarias walkeri Günther, 1896, (see TEUGELS, 1982 a).

Clarias ebriensis Pellegrin, 1920

Clarias dahomeyensis Güntert, 1938, (see TEUGELS & THYS VAN DEN AUDENAERDE, 1981).

Clarias liberensis (non Steindachner, 1894) in TREWAVAS & IRVINE (1947).

Clarias engelseni (Johnsen, 1926)

Allabenchelys engelseni Johnsen, 1926.

Clarias gariepinus (Burchell, 1822)

Clarias lazera Valenciennes, 1840, (see TEUGELS, 1982 b).

Clarias macracanthus Günther, 1864, (see TEUGELS, 1982 a).

Clarias tsanensis Boulenger, 1902, (see TEUGELS, 1982 a).

Clarias jaensis Boulenger, 1909

Clarias sp. in REID & SYDENHAM (1979).

Clarias aboinensis Sydenham, 1981, (see TEUGELS, 1982 a).

Clarias laeviceps dialonensis Daget, 1962

Clarias dialonensis Daget, 1962

Clarias laeviceps laeviceps Gill, 1863

Clarias submarginalis (non Peters, 1882) in DAGET (1954), LOWE-McCONNELL (1972).

Clarias dumerilii (non Steindachner) in GRAS (1961).

Clarias pachynema (Boulenger, 1903)

Clarias amplexicauda (non Boulenger, 1902) in BLACHE et al. (1964), (see TEUGELS, 1982 a).

MOCHOKIDAE

Chiloglanis batesii Boulenger, 1904

Chiloglanis micropogon Poll, 1952, (see ROBERTS, 1989).

Chiloglanis niger Roberts, 1989

Recently described from the Niger basin in Cameroon.

Chiloglanis occidentalis Pellegrin, 1933

Chiloglanis niloticus waterloti Daget, 1954.

Close to *Chiloglanis niloticus* from the Nile, and could be the same species. *C. niloticus* was mentioned as probably occurring in the Chad basin by BLACHE et al. (1964), but was apparently never collected.

Chiloglanis volcae Daget & Stauch, 1968

Chiloglanis sp. in DAGET (1957, 1960 a).

? ***Synodontis frontosus*** Vaillant, 1895

Recorded from the Chad by BLACHE et al. (1964) but no specimen was retained. As a result, it is not possible to confirm the identification, which is doubtful according to POLL (1971). Not included in the list.

Synodontis guttatus Günther, 1865

Describing *S. gobroni* from the upper Niger, DAGET (1954) pointed out that it is close to *S. guttatus* known from the lower Niger. The observed differences could result from size differences between the types.

Synodontis melanopterus Boulenger, 1902

Synodontis budgetti (non Boulenger, 1911) in POLL (1971), specimens from Oueme river.

Synodontis membranaceus (Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, 1809)

The type specimen of *Pimelodus membranaceus* (MNHN n° 4197) is in fact a *Brachysynodontis batensoda*, as already mentioned by POLL (1971).

Synodontis omias Günther, 1864

Only known by the skeleton of the holotype and a preserved specimen (BMNH 1900.3.26 : 7). The only difference between *S. omias* and *S. budgetti*, both described from lower Niger, is the more or less developed «basilar membrane» of the maxillary barbels. For POLL (1971) this difference could be regarded as a sexual dimorphism (male : *S. omias*; female : *S. budgetti*) and the two species should then be considered as synonyms. More material is necessary to solve the problem.

Synodontis schall (Bloch & Schneider, 1801)*Synodontis ghamiensis* Günther, 1864.*Synodontis ghamiensis latifrons* Blache et al., 1964.***Synodontis sorex*** Günther, 1864*Synodontis voltae* Roman, 1975.***Synodontis xiphias*** Günther, 1866.

According to DAGET (1954) and POLL (1971), it is possible that *S. courtei* Pellegrin, 1906 is a junior synonym of *S. xiphias*, but this has not been confirmed yet.

CYPRINODONTIDAE

Aphyosemion banforense (Seeger, 1982)

Aphyosemion nigrifluvi Romand, 1982, (see ETZEL & VANDERMISSSEN, 1985).

Aphyosemion bualanum (Ahl, 1924)

Epiplatys tessmani (Ahl, 1924) in BLACHE et al. (1964).

A. tessmani is described from the upper Chari River in Central Africa Republic.

? ***Aphyosemion cameronense*** (Boulenger, 1903)

Known from southern Cameroon and reported from the Chad basin by BLACHE et al. (1964). Doubtful identification according to CLOFFA 2 (DAGET et al., 1986). Not included in the list.

Aphyosemion gardneri (Boulenger, 1911)

Aphyosemion clauseni Scheel, 1975, (see HUBER, 1977).

Aphyosemion biafranum Kottelat, 1976, (see RADDA & WILDEKAMP, 1978).

Aphyosemion nigerianum meridionale Kottelat, 1976, (see RADDA & WILDEKAMP, 1978).

Aphyosemion geryi Lambert, 1958

Aphyosemion roloffi (non Roloff, 1936) in DAGET (1960 b, 1961 a, 1962 part.).

Aphyosemion libericense (non Boulenger, 1908) in DAGET (1961 b).

Roloffia etzeli Berkenkamp, 1979.***Aphyosemion guignardi*** (Romand, 1981)

Aphyosemion libericense (non Boulenger, 1908) in DAGET (1962).

Aphyosemion petersii (Sauvage, 1882)

Epiplatys petersii (Sauvage, 1882) in GRAS (1961) and TREWAVAS & IRVINE (1947).

Known from shallow brooks and shallow pools in the coastal rainforest of southern Ivory Coast and southwestern Nigeria. Not recorded until now from river basins and therefore not included in table I.

Aplocheilichthys hutereai Boulenger, 1913

Aplocheilichthys baudoni (Myers, 1924) in BLACHE et al. (1964).

Aplocheilichthys loati (Boulenger, 1901)*Haplochilus schoelleri* Boulenger, 1904.***Aplocheilichthys schoelleri*** (Boulenger, 1904).***Aplocheilichthys macrophthalmus*** Meinken, 1932

Aplocheilichthys dispar Gras, 1960, (see CLAUSEN, 1967).

Aplocheilichthys keilacki Ahl, 1928, (see WILDEKAMP et al., 1986).

Aplocheilichthys nimbaensis (Daget, 1948)

Aplocheilichthys macrurus (non Boulenger, 1904) in DAGET (1954).

Aplocheilichthys normani Ahl, 1928

Aplocheilichthys ghamiensis Svensson, 1933, in BLACHE et al. (1964), DAGET (1954, 1960, 1961 b, 1962), DAGET & STAUCH (1963), GRAS (1961), JOHNELS (1954), ROMAN (1966).

Micropanchax macrurus manni Schultz, 1942, (see CLAUSEN, 1967).

Aplocheilichthys schioetzi Scheel, 1968

Aplocheilichthys macrurus (non Boulenger, 1904) in DAGET (1957).

Aplocheilichthys terofali (Berkenkamp & Etzel, 1981)

Aplocheilichthys pfaffi Daget, 1954

Aplocheilichthys longicauda Blache & Miton, 1960 in BLACHE et al. (1964).

Aplocheilichthys schoelleri (non Boulenger, 1904) in BLACHE et al. (1964).

Aplocheilichthys kingi (non Boulenger, 1901) in BLACHE et al. (1964).

Epiplatys bifasciatus (Steindachner, 1881)

Pancharax steindachneri Svensson (1933).

Epiplatys bifasciatus taeniatus (Pfaff, 1933) in DAGET (1954, 1957, 1961 a, b), GRAS (1961), LAMBERT (1958), ROMAN (1966), BLACHE et al. (1964).

Epiplatys steindachneri (Svensson, 1933) in JOHNELS (1954).

Epiplatys grahami (Boulenger, 1911)

Epiplatys nigromarginatus Schultz, 1937, (see SCHEEL, 1968).

Epiplatys nadelensis Fowler, 1949, (see BLACHE et al., 1964).

Epiplatys lamottei Daget, 1954

Epiplatys fasciolatus lamottei Daget, 1954.

Epiplatys spilargyreius (Duméril, 1861)

Pancharax senegalensis (Steindachner, 1870) in SVENSSON (1933).

Epiplatys senegalensis (Steindachner, 1870) in DAGET (1954, 1957, 1961 a), DAGET & STAUCH (1963), JOHNELS (1954), ROBERTS (1967), ROMAN (1966), TREWAVAS & IRVINE (1947).

Haplochilus marnoi Steindachner, 1881

Fundulosoma thierryi Ahl, 1924

Aphyosemion walkeri (non Boulenger, 1911) in DAGET (1954, 1957, 1960 a).

Nothobranchius walkeri (non Boulenger, 1911) in LOWE-McCONNELL (1972), ROMAN (1966), ROBERTS (1967).

Procatopus aberrans Ahl, 1927

Procatopus gracilis Clausen, 1959, in REID & SYDENHAM (1979).

Pronothobranchius kiyawensis (Ahl, 1928)

Nothobranchius kiyawensis Ahl, 1928

Fundulus gambiaensis Svensson, 1933

Nothobranchius gambiaensis (Svensson, 1933) in BLACHE et al. (1964), JOHNELS (1954).

CHANNIDAE

Parachanna obscura (Günther, 1861)

Ophiocephalus obscurus Günther, 1861.

Parophiocephalus obscurus (Günther, 1861).

CICHLIDAE

Astatotilapia bloyeti (Sauvage, 1883)

Hemichromis bloyeti Sauvage, 1883.

Haplochromis wingatii (non Boulenger, 1902) in BLACHE et al., (1964), DAGET (1954?) (see GREENWOOD, 1971, 1979).

Chromidotilapia guntheri (Sauvage, 1882)

Pelmatochromis guentheri (Sauvage, 1882).

Gobiocichla wonderi Kanazawa, 1951

Labrochromis pollti Daget, 1952, (see DAGET, 1954).

Oreochromis aureus (Steindachner, 1864)

Tilapia monodi Daget, 1954, (see TREWAVAS, 1983).

Tilapia lemassoni Blache & Miton, 1960, (see TREWAVAS, 1983).

Oreochromis niloticus (Linnaeus, 1758)

Tilapia nilotica (Linnaeus, 1758).

Pelvicachromis pulcher (Boulenger, 1901)

Pelmatochromis pulcher Boulenger, 1901.

Pelmatochromis aureocephalus Meinken, 1960, (see UFERMAN et al., 1987).

Pelmatochromis cameronensis Paulo, 1968, (see THYS VAN DEN AUDENAERDE, 1968 a).

Pelvicachromis taeniatus (Boulenger, 1901)

Pelmatochromis taeniatus Boulenger, 1901.

Pelmatochromis klugei Meinken, 1960 (see THYS VAN DEN AUDENAERDE, 1968 a).

? **Pterochromis congicus** (Boulenger, 1897)

Pelmatochromis congicus Boulenger, 1897.

A Zairean species recorded from the Chari river by PELLEGRIN (1922). never reported since.

Sarotherodon galilaeus (Linnaeus, 1758)

Sparus galilaeus, Linnaeus, 1758.

Tilapia galilaea (Linnaeus, 1758).

Sarotherodon melanotheron heudeloti (Duméril, 1859)

Tilapia heudeloti Duméril, 1859, (see TREWAVAS, 1983) in DAGET (1962, 1969 b).

Tilapia multifasciata macrostoma Pellegrin, 1941, (see TREWAVAS, 1983).

Sarotherodon melanotheron melanotheron Rüppell, 1852

Tilapia heudeloti (non Duméril, 1859) in GRAS (1961), TREWAVAS & IRVINE (1947), (see TREWAVAS, 1983).

Steatocranus irvinei (Trewavas, 1943)

Gobiocichla irvinei Trewavas, 1943.

Leptotilapia irvinei (Trewavas, 1943) in TREWAVAS & IRVINE (1947).

Thoracocharomis albertianus (Regan, 1929)

Haplochromis albertianus Regan, 1929.

Thoracocharomis avium (Regan, 1929)

Haplochromis avium Regan, 1929.

Haplochromis lanceolatus David & Poll, 1937, (see GREENWOOD, 1979).

Thoracocharomis loati (Greenwood, 1971)

Haplochromis loati Greenwood, 1971.

Thoracocharomis macconnelli (Greenwood, 1974)

Haplochromis macconneli Greenwood, 1974.

Thoracocharomis mahagiensis (David & Poll, 1937)

Haplochromis mahagiensis David & Poll, 1937.

Thoracocharomis rudolfianus (Trewavas, 1933)

Haplochromis rudolfianus Trewavas, 1933.

Thoracocharomis turkanae (Greenwood, 1974).

Haplochromis turkanae Greenwood, 1974.

Thoracocharomis wingatii (Boulenger, 1902)

Haplochromis wingatii Boulenger, 1902.

Paratilapia wingatii (Boulenger, 1902).

According to GREENWOOD (1971, 1979), the species is restricted to the upper Nile and probably also, lake Mobutu.

Thysochromis ansorgii (Boulenger, 1901)

Pelmatochromis ansorgii Boulenger, 1901.

Thysia ansorgii (Boulenger, 1901).

Pelmatochromis arnoldi Boulenger, 1912, (see LOISELLE & WELCOMME, 1972).

Thysia arnoldi (Boulenger, 1912).

Pelmatochromis annectens Boulenger, 1913, (see THYS VAN DEN AUDENAERDE, 1968 a).

Thysia annectens (Boulenger, 1913).

Tilapia dageri Thys van den Audenaerde, 1971

Tilapia melanopleura (non Duméril, 1859) in DAGET (1954, Niger specimens), DAGET (1957, 1959 a, 1961 b), DAGET & STAUCH (1963), partim in BLACHE et al. (1964), ROMAN (1966), (see THYS VAN DEN AUDENAERDE, 1971).

Tilapia guineensis (Bleeker, 1862)

Chromis guineensis Bleeker, 1862.

Tilapia melanopleura (non Duméril, 1859) in JOHNSON (1954), SVENSSON (1933), TREWAVAS & IRVINE (1947, Wenchi specimens), DAGET (1961 b, Senegal specimens), BOESEMAN (1963), (see THYS VAN DEN AUDENAERDE, 1968 b).

Tilapia zillii (non Gervais, 1853) in TREWAVAS & IRVINE (1947), (see THYS VAN DEN AUDENAERDE, 1968 b).

Tilapia mariae Boulenger, 1899

Tilapia meeki Pellegrin, 1911.

Tilapia zilli (Gervais, 1848)

Acerina zilli Gervais, 1848.

Tilapia melanopleura Duméril, 1859, (see Thys van den Audenaerde, 1968 b).

Tilapia sparrmani subsp. *multiradiata* Holly, 1928.

Tilapia multiradiata Holly, 1928 in BLACHE et al. (1964), (see THYS VAN DEN AUDENAERDE, 1968 b).

Tilapia shariensis Fowler, 1949.

Tylochromis jentinki (Steindachner, 1894)

Paratilapia (Pelmatochromis) jentinkii Steindachner, 1894.

Tilapia jentinki jentinki : partim in DAGET (1954), (see STIASSNY, 1989).

Tylochromis sudanensis Daget, 1954

Tylochromis jentinki sudanensis Daget, 1954.

Tylochromis lateralis (non Boulenger) in BLACHE et al. (1964), (see STIASSNY, 1989). A specimen mentioned from Logone but not preserved. BLACHE et al. (1964) were not able to collect any specimen.

Tylochromis jentinki (non Steindachner) in REID & SYDENHAM (1979), (see STIASSNY, 1989).

Gobiidae

Typically brackish water species are not included here.

Chonophorus lateristriga (Duméril, 1856)

Gobius lateristriga Duméril, 1856.

Gobius guineensis Peters, 1877.

Awaous guineensis (Peters, 1877).

Chonophorus guineensis (Peters, 1877).

Eleotridae

Bostrychus africanus (Steindachner, 1880)

Eleotris africana Steindachner, 1880.

Hanno africanus (Steindachner, 1880).

Hannoichthys africana (Steindachner, 1880).

Eleotris camerunensis Lönnberg, 1895.

Reported from Niger-Benue confluence according to REID & SYDENHAM (1979).

Dormitator lebretonis (Steindachner, 1870)

Batanga lebretonis (Steindachner, 1870).

Eleotris lebretonis (Steindachner, 1870).

Kribia nana (Boulenger, 1901)

Eleotris nana chevalieri Pellegrin, 1923.

Kribia nana chevalieri (Pellegrin, 1923).

Kribia nana elongata Blache & Miton, 1960.

Anabantidae

? **Ctenopoma congicum** Boulenger, 1887

Reported by PELLEGRIN (1919, 1922) from the upper Chari. BLACHE et al. (1964) confirmed the identification but never caught the species.

Ctenopoma kingsleyae Günther, 1896

Anabas argentoventer Ahl, 1922, (see NORRIS & TEUGELS, 1990).

Ctenopoma lineatum (Nichols, 1923)

Described from the Gribingui river (upper Chari basin), the species was considered as a synonym of *C. nanum* by MATTHES (1964) and rehabilitated by NORRIS et al. (1988).

Ctenopoma muriei (Boulenger, 1904)

Anabas ctenotis Boulenger, 1919, (see NORRIS et al., 1988).

Anabas houyi Ahl, 1926 (see BLACHE et al., 1964).

Ctenopoma nebulosum Norris & Teugels, 1990

Recently described from the Niger delta.

Ctenopoma petherici Günther, 1844

Anabas caudomaculatus Ahl, 1927, (see BLACHE et al., 1964).

Anabas petherici chadensis Fowler, 1936 (see BLACHE et al., 1964).

Mastacembelidae

Aethiomastacembelus liberiensis (Boulenger, 1898)

Mastacembelus liberiensis Boulenger, 1898.

Caecomastacembelus liberiensis (Boulenger, 1898).

Mastacembelus reticulatus Boulenger, 1911.

Aethiomastacembelus nigromarginatus (Boulenger, 1898)

Mastacembelus nigromarginatus Boulenger, 1898.

Caecomastacembelus cryptacanthus (Günther, 1867)

Mastacembelus cryptacanthus Günther, 1867.

Mastacembelus longicauda Boulenger, 1907, (TRIVERS, pers. comm.).

Caecomastacembelus decorsei (Pellegrin, 1919)

Mastacembelus decorsei Pellegrin, 1919.

Mastacembelus loennbergi (non Boulenger, 1916), partim according to TRIVERS (pers. comm.). In BLACHE et al. (1964), Lewis (1974).

Mastacembelus sp. in DAGET (1954).

Tetraodontidae

Tetraodon lineatus Linnaeus, 1758

Tetraodon fahaka Rüppell, 1829.

Tetraodon fahaka strigosus Bennett, 1834.

BRIEF COMMENTS ON FISH COMPOSITION AND DISTRIBUTION IN THE DIFFERENT BASINS

Sénégal

From the data available, the fish fauna seems very similar in the Senegal and the upper Niger, except for the upper Bafing tributary where a number of cyprinids endemic to the Fouta Djalon area are commonly collected : *Barbus salessei*, *B. dialonensis*, *B. ditinensis*, *B. fouteensis*, *B. niokoloensis*, *B. raimbaulti*, *B. petitjeani*. Other Guinean species also present in the Bafing but not recorded in other parts of the Senegal basin are : *Heterobranchus isopterus*, *Clarias laeviceps*, *Amphilinus platychir*, *Amphilinus rheophilus*, *Paramphilinus trichomycterooides*, *Synodontis tourei*, *Tilapia louka*, *Aphyosemion nigrifluvi*, *Aphyosemion guignardi*, *Aplocheilichthys lamberti*.

According to DAGET (1962), a series of falls and rapids along the Bafing River present an ecological barrier which prevents the Sudanese species inhabiting the lower reaches of the river, from colonizing the upper reaches. The upper Bafing could then be considered as a refuge zone, in so far that Guinean species are able to maintain relict populations. Indeed, DAGET (1962) has stressed the scarcity of predators which are only represented by *Raiamas senegalensis* and a few catfish. Only two endemic species are known from Senegal river (*Barbus ditinensis*, *Synodontis tourei*).

Gambia

According to DAGET (1960 b), the upper Gambia (about 220 km length), running on the northern slope of the Fouta Djalon, is mainly colonized by Guinean species e.g. *Brienomyrus brachystius*, *Barbus niokoloensis*, *Barbus salessei*, *Chrysichthys maurus*, *Amphilinus platychir*, *Amphilinus rheophilus*, *Aphyosemion geryi*, *Aplocheilichthys lamberti*, *Kribia nana*, *Clarias buettikoferi*. This guinean fauna, is partly similar to the fish fauna occurring in the Bafing River (Senegal basin), and is isolated by large waterfalls which prevent the ascent of that Nilo-sudan fish fauna already colonizing the middle Gambia.

The fauna of the middle Gambia itself is Sudanese, but impoverished when compared to adjacent Senegal and Niger basins. It should be noted that widespread species such as *Lates niloticus*, *Chrysichthys auratus*, *Brycinus macrolepidotus* and *Schilbe niloticus* also occurring in the upper guinean zone, were never reported from the Gambia. That is similarly the case for other species common in Nilo-Sudan rivers i.e. : *Micralestes aculidens*, *Distichodus engycephalus*, *Nan-*

nocharax fasciatus, *Citharinus latus*, *Barbus occidentalis*, *Leptocyparis niloticus*, *Auchenoglanis biscutatus*, *Clariotes laticeps*, *Bagrus bajad*, *Bagrus docmak*, *Clarias gariepinus*, *Oreochromis niloticus*, *Tetraodon lineatus*. The only endemic recognized at present is *Parailia spiniserrata* (replacing *Parailia pellucida*).

Niger

The Niger exhibits the most diverse fish fauna of all Nilo-sudan rivers. Some Guinean species were recorded in the headwaters, such as *Barbus petitjeani*, *Barbus fouteensis*, *Amphilinus platychir*, *Amphilinus rheophilus*, *Chiloglanis occidentalis*. The lower Niger is also colonized by a number of species belonging to the lower Guinean zone : i.e. *Erpetoichthys calabaricus*, *Brienomyrus longianalis*, *Isichthys henryi*, *Pollimyrus budgetti*, *Phractolaemus ansorgii*, *Arnoldichthys spilopterus*, *Clarias agboyiensis*, *Clarias buthupogon*, *Clarias camerunensis*, *Gymnallabes typus*, *Phractura ansorgii*, *Eutropiellus buffei*, *Synodontis guttatus*, *Sarotherodon melanotheron melanotheron*, *Parachanna africana*, *Polycentropsis abbreviata*.

In the Benue River, the fish fauna is fairly similar to that of the middle Niger. However, one should note the occurrence of two species, (*Phractura clauseni* and *Chiloglanis volvae*) which, until now, have never been collected from the upper and middle Niger, and were previously known from the Volta basin. Furthermore, a freshwater fish fauna known from coastal and lower Niger, ascends into the lower Benue and probably also in part of the middle Niger : i.e., *Pantodon buchholzi*, *Gnathonemus petersii*, *Marcusenius abadii*, *Pollimyrus adspersus*, *Barbus aboinensis*, *Barbus chlorotaenia*, *Phago loricatus* (abundant also in Kainji lake according to LEWIS, 1974), *Clarias macromystax*, *Clarias jaensis*, *Synodontis melanopterus*, *Arius gigas*, *Procatopus aberrans*. A distinctive feature of the Benue, is the presence of species of marine origin which are otherwise not found as far inland i.e. *Arius heudeloti*, *Arius gigas* (known from Mayo Kebi), *Polydactylus quadrifilis*, *Trachynotus goreensis*.

Two species, *Dasyatys garouaensis* and *Dagetichthys lakdoensis*, have been described from the Benue, and REID & SYDENHAM (1979) discussed the zoogeographic significance of their presence. *D. garouaensis* has also been collected in the Cross river, Sanaga and Lagos lagoon, and DAGET & STAUCH's (1963) hypothesis that this species was isolated during the last prequaternary marine transgression, is doubtful. Although *D. lakdoensis* is presently known only from the Benue, REID & SYDENHAM (1979) believe that «specimens of this species should be compared with representatives of the numerous genera and species of Soleinae found on the West African coast».

There are few endemic species. *Labeo djourae* belong to the *Labeo forskalii* group (REID, 1985) and is closest to *L. ogunensis*-*L. parvus* (it could be an ecophenotype). *Chiloglanis benuensis* has only been recorded in the Benue but, «in view of the present state of knowledge of these groups, it would be unwise to place much emphasis on particular specific determinations» (REID & SYDENHAM, 1979).

Compared with Chad and Senegal, there are many more endemic species in the Niger : i.e., *Mormyrops oudoti*, *Pollimyrus petricolus*, *Brycinus carolinae*, *Barbus zalbiensis*, *Bagrus filamentosus*, *Garra trewavasae*, *Garra allostoma*, *Labeo djourae*, *Synodontis gobroni*, *Synodontis budgetti*, *Synodontis guttatus*, *Synodontis omias*, *Synodontis vermiculatus*, *Synodontis xiphias*, *Synodontis resupinatus*, *Chiloglanis niger*, *Chiloglanis benuensis*, *Aphyosemion arnoldi*, *Gobiocichla wonderi*, *Leptoglanis camerunensis*.

Volta

The fish fauna is very similar to that of the Niger, with which exchanges probably occurred during the Holocene. Eleven species are known to be endemics : *Irvineia volvae*, *Leptotilapia irvinei*, *Synodontis arnoulti*, *Synodontis macropthalmus*, *Synodontis velifer*, *Brycinus luteus*, *Phenacogrammus pabrensis*, *Barbus bawkuensis*, *Barbus guildi*, *Barbus parablales*. Some of these species are of doubtful status.

Mono, Oueme, Ogun

The fish fauna is an impoverished Nilo-sudan one, with some typical species lacking, e.g. *Polypterus bichir*, *Alestes baremoze*, *Alestes dentex*, *Hydrocynus brevis*, *Labeo coubie*, *Distichodus engycephalus*, *Distichodus brevipinnis*, etc. Conversely, some species occurring in the so-called Guinean zone (ROBERTS, 1975), including the lower Niger, are present : i.e. *Erpetoichthys calabaricus*, *Polypterus ansorgii*, *Pantodon buchholzi*, *Isichthys henryi*, *Pollimyrus adspersus*, *Clarias ebriensis*, *Clarias macromystax*, *Synodontis melanopterus*, *Aphyosemion filamentosum*, *Foerschlichthys flavipinnis*, *Thysochromis ansorgii*, *Parachanna africana*, *Polycentropsis abbreviata*.

Chad

The faunal similarity between the Chad, Nile and Niger is well-known. However the number of species recorded, based on recent taxonomic works, is somewhat lower than that expected by BLACHE *et al.* (1964). Synonymies were proposed for number of species, but some further species, reported from the Chari river should also be considered as doubtful

until further information become available. This should not imply that their presence is not possible, but rather that the previous records require confirmation with new material. In fact, many of these dubious species are known only from single, sometimes juvenile, specimens. Furthermore, the material is sometimes in poor condition, its origin possibly uncertain, or its identification requiring further validation. These species were discussed above, but we should list the nilotic species *Distichodus niloticus*, *Synodontis frontosus*, *Labeo niloticus* as well as the Zairean species *Mormyrops engystoma*, *Pollimyrus kingsleyae*, *Distichodus altus*, *Ctenopoma conicum*, *Pelmatochromis congicus*, *Nannochromis dimidiatus*. Most of the supposed Zairean species were caught in the upper Chari tributaries, which have not been very well investigated and where either the above species, or new records, could be expected. More collections are therefore necessary in order to clarify the possible Zairean affinities of the fish fauna of the upper reaches of the Chari. A possible river capture between te Chad basin and the Ubangi can be illustrated by the distribution pattern of certain species : e.g. *Clarias albopunctatus*, *Tilapia zillii*, *Sarotherodon galilaeus*.

Omo River and Lake Turkana

The Nilo-sudan affinity of the Lake Turkana fish fauna has already been emphasized. Thirty of its species are spread all over the Nilo-sudan region, eight are found in the Nile only, and ten species are endemics, i.e. *Alestes ferox*, *Alestes minutus*, *Barbus turkanae*, *Neobola bottegoi*, *Neobola stellae*, *Aplocheilichthys jeanneli*, *Aplocheilichthys rudolfianus*, *Haplochromis macconelli*, *Haplochromis rudolfianus*, *Haplochromis turkanae*, *Lates longispinis*.

The paucity of Mormyridae in Lake Turkana has generally been attributed to the relatively high salinity (over 3000 μS), which is expected to have important effects on the proper functioning of these fishes' electric organs. BEADLE (1981) stated that this hypothesis is not demonstrated but there is much field evidence indicating that mormyrids tend to disappear from fresh waters when the salinity increases.

Nile

The list, given in table I, includes lake Mobutu and lake Tana. Contrary to other major nilotic lakes, such as Victoria, Kioga, Edward and George which harbour highly endemic faunas (GREENWOOD, 1976 b), Lakes Mobutu and Tana are not isolated from the Nile by barriers which are impassable to fishes.

Lake Mobutu shares most of its fish fauna with the Nile, although a few riverine species apparently do not colonize the lake (GREENWOOD, 1976 b). Conversely, a few endemic species are known from Lake Mobutu : i.e. *Lates macrophthalmus*, *Mesobola bredoi*, *Thoracochromis albertianus*, *Thoracochromis maha-giensis*, *Thoracochromis avium*. *Clarias hilli* recorded in lake Mobutu (TEUGELS, 1986) is a Zairean species.

The fish fauna of lake Tana, which is not well studied, is a truncated Nile type fauna with a few endemic species. The cobitid *Nemacheilus abyssinicus* is the only representative of this Euro-asiatic genus to occur in Africa. *Barbus humilis* and *B. pleurogramma* are restricted to Lake Tana. Other species, although not endemic to Lake Tana, do not occur in the main Nile. That is the case for *Varicorhinus beso*, *Barbus intermedius*, *Barbus trispilopleura*, *Garra quadrimaculata*.

In the Nile itself, there are some endemics or at least reputed endemics. Some of these species are very similar to western species and it remains to be proven if they are indeed close relatives (vicariant species) or in fact synonyms. That is the case for : *Mormyrus caschive*, close to *M. rume*; *Hippopotamus harringtoni* possibly related to *H. pictus* according to LÉVÈQUE & BIGORNE (1985 a); *Labeo horie* and perhaps *L. niloticus* which belong to the same group as *L. senegalensis*; the former «most closely resembles *L. senegalensis*» according to REID (1985); *Barbus neglectus*, close to *B. baudoni* (see LÉVÈQUE, 1989); *B. yeiensis*, close to *B. punctilaeiatius* (see

LÉVÈQUE, 1989); *Synodontis khartoumensis*, close to *S. schall* and/or *S. frontosus* (POLL, 1971); *Chiloglanis niloticus* closely related to *C. occidentalis*. *Clarias engelseni*, known from only a few specimens and possibly a subspecies of *Clarias liocephalus* according to TEUGELS (1986), is present in the upper reaches of the Nile basin and part of the Zaïre system.

The remaining species are only known from the Nile : *Mormyrus niloticus*, *Petrocephalus keatingi*, *Pollimyrus petherici*, *Barbus tangaensis*, *Synodontis caudovillalus*, *S. serratus*, *Apocheilichthys kingi*, *Thoracochromis loati* and *T. wingatii*. *Protopterus aethiopicus* (subspecies *P. aethiopicus aethiopicus*) and *Neolebias trewavasae* occur in the Nile and Zaïre systems and have been recorded westwards. A few other species occur in the Nile and lake Turkana : i.e. *Mormyrus kannume*, *Labeo horie*, *Labeo niloticus* and *Barbus hynni* which could be considered as closely related to the western *B. occidentalis* (LÉVÈQUE & GUÉGAN, 1989).

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