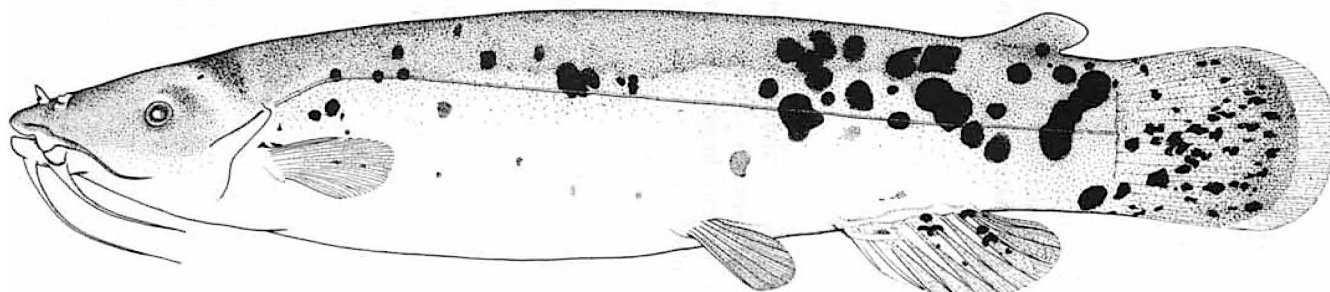


Order SILURIFORMES

Electric Catfishes

Family MALAPTERURIDAE

Bleeker 1858



Malapterurus minjiriya. From: Sagua, V. O. 1987. On a new species of electric catfish from Kainji, Nigeria, with some observations on its biology. *Journal of Fish Biology* 30 (1): 75–89.

Malapterurus

Lacepède 1803

mala- from *kos*, soft, *pteron*, fin; *ouros*, tail; presumably referring to adipose fin, which appears all the more prominent in the absence of a rayed dorsal fin [subsequent authors have attempted to emend Lacepède's clumsy spelling of the name (*Malapterus*, *Malopterurus*, *Malacopterurus*) but the original spelling prevails]

***Malapterurus barbatus* Norris 2002** Latin for bearded, referring to dusky underside of head [possibly a synonym of *M. leonensis*]

***Malapterurus beninensis* Murray 1855 -ensis**, Latin suffix denoting place: Bight of Benin, Nigeria, in which the Calabar River near Creek Town (type locality) empties into

***Malapterurus cavalliensis* Roberts 2000 -ensis**, Latin suffix denoting place: Cavally River, Ivory Coast, type locality

***Malapterurus electricus* (Gmelin 1789)** Neo-Latin for “of amber,” referring to amber’s attractive properties, later applied to objects capable of attracting “light bodies” (e.g., bits of paper) when excited by friction, and then applied even later to the cause (electricity) rather than the property of the attraction, referring to this fish’s ability to produce an electric shock

***Malapterurus leonensis* Roberts 2000 -ensis**, Latin suffix denoting place: Sierra Leone, where type locality (Moyamba) is situated

***Malapterurus melanochir* Norris 2002** *melanos*, genitive of *mélas* (Gr., μέλας), black; *chir*, from *cheir* (Gr. χεῖρ), hand, homologous to the pectoral fin, referring to its dusky pectoral fins

***Malapterurus microstoma* Poll & Gosse 1969** *micro-*, from *mikrós* (Gr. μικρός), small; *stóma* (Gr. στόμα), mouth, referring to its narrow mouth and snout

***Malapterurus minjiriya* Sagua 1987** Hausa word for this species, which fishers along the Niger River can easily distinguish from *M. electricus*

***Malapterurus monsembeensis* Roberts 2000 -ensis**, Latin suffix denoting place: upper Congo River at Monsembe, Democratic Republic of the Congo, type locality

***Malapterurus occidentalis* Norris 2002** Latin or western, referring to its far west African distribution

***Malapterurus oguensis* Sauvage 1879 -ensis**, Latin suffix denoting place: Ogôoué River at Duomé, Congo, type locality

***Malapterurus punctatus* Norris 2002** Latin for spotted, referring to its

finely spotted dorsum and flank

***Malapterurus shirensis* Roberts 2000 -ensis**, Latin suffix denoting place: lower Shire River, Malawi, type locality

***Malapterurus tanganyikaensis* Roberts 2000 -ensis**, Latin suffix denoting place: Lake Tanganyika basin, eastern Africa, where it is endemic

***Malapterurus tanoensis* Roberts 2000 -ensis**, Latin Tano River basin, southwestern Ghana, type locality

***Malapterurus teugelsi* Norris 2002** in honor of Belgian ichthyologist Guy Teugels (1954–2003), curator of fishes, Musée Royale de l’Afrique Centrale, who collected type and made “important” contributions to our knowledge of west and central African fishes

Paradoxoglanis

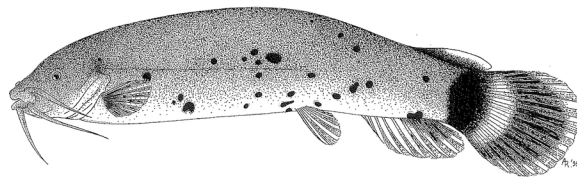
Norris 2002

parádoxos (Gr. παράδοξος), strange or contrary to expectation, representing an “extraordinary and unexpected assemblage” of electric catfishes showing a number of unique features (three-chambered swim bladder, small body size, incomplete lateral line, and elongate adipose fin); *glanis*, ancient name for a silurid catfish (probably *Silurus aristotelis*) dating to Aristotle, often used as a general term for catfish

***Paradoxoglanis caudivittatus* Norris 2002** *cauda* (L.), tail; *vittatus* (L.), striped, referring to “strongly developed” saddle-and-bar pattern on tail

***Paradoxoglanis cryptus* Norris 2002** from *kryptós* (Gr. κρυπτός), hidden or secret, referring to its close superficial resemblance to *P. parvus*

***Paradoxoglanis parvus* Norris 2002** Latin for small, referring to the “diminutive size of this and other *Paradoxoglanis*”



Paradoxoglanis caudivittatus, holotype, male, 83.4 mm SL. Illustration by Alain Reygel. From: Norris, S. M. 2002. A revision of the African electric catfishes, family Malapteruridae (Teleostei, Siluriformes), with erection of a new genus and descriptions of fourteen new species, and an annotated bibliography. *Annales, Musée Royal de l’Afrique Centrale, Tervuren, Série in 80, Sciences Zoologiques* 289: 1–155.