

The ETYFish Project

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COMMENTS: 

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Order SILURIFORMES (part 8 of 11)

Family MALAPTERURIDAE Electric Catfishes

2 genera · 19 species

Malapterurus Lacepède 1803

malakos, 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

bearded, referring to dusky underside of head

Malapterurus beninensis Murray 1855

-*ensis*, suffix denoting place: Benin, presumably, Benin City, Nigeria, type locality

Malapterurus cavalliensis Roberts 2000

-*ensis*, suffix denoting place: Cavally River, Ivory Coast, type locality

Malapterurus electricus (Gmelin 1789)

referring to its ability to produce an electric shock

Malapterurus leonensis Roberts 2000

-*ensis*, suffix denoting place: Sierra Leone, type locality (also occurs in Guinea and Nigeria)

Malapterurus melanocheir Norris 2002

melanos, black; *cheir*, hand, referring to dusky pectoral fins

Malapterurus microstoma Poll & Gosse 1969

micro-, small; *stoma*, mouth, referring to 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*, suffix denoting place: Monsembe, Democratic Republic of the Congo, type locality

Malapterurus occidentalis Norris 2002

western, referring to its far west African distribution

Malapterurus uguensis Sauvage 1879

-*ensis*, suffix denoting place: Ogôoué River at Duomé, Congo, type locality

Malapterurus punctatus Norris 2002

spotted, referring to finely spotted dorsum and flank

Malapterurus shirensis Roberts 2000

-*ensis*, suffix denoting place: lower Shire River, Malawi, type locality

Malapterurus tanganyikaensis Roberts 2000

-*ensis*, suffix denoting place: Lake Tanganyika basin, eastern Africa, where it is endemic

Malapterurus tanoensis Roberts 2000

-*ensis*, Tano River basin, southwestern Ghana, type locality (also occurs in Ofin River basin)

Malapterurus teugelsi Norris 2002

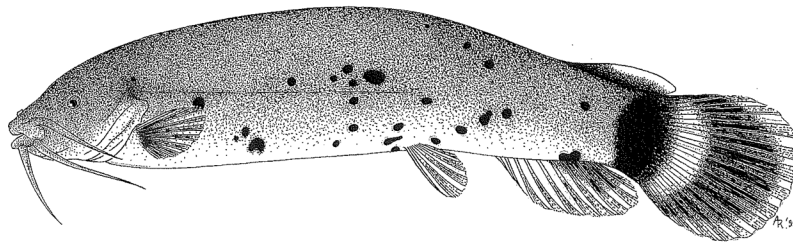
in honor of Belgian ichthyologist Guy Teugels (1954–2003), curator of fishes, Musée Royale de l'Afrique Centrale, who collected type and made "important" contributions to our knowledge of west and central African fishes

Paradoxoglanis Norris 2002

paradoxos, 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*, sheatfish (*Silurus glanis*), now used as a general term for catfish

Paradoxoglanis caudivittatus Norris 2002

cauda-, tail; *vittatus*, striped, referring to "strongly developed" saddle-and-bar pattern on tail



Paradoxoglanis caudivittatus. 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 8o, Sciences Zoologiques v. 289: 1-155.

***Paradoxoglanis cryptus* Norris 2002**

hidden or secret, referring to close superficial resemblance to *P. parvus*

***Paradoxoglanis parvus* Norris 2002**

small, referring to “diminutive size of this and other *Paradoxoglanis*”

Family MOCHOKIDAE Squeakers or Upside-down Catfishes

9 genera · 228 species

Subfamily Chiloglanidinae

***Atopochilus* Sauvage 1879**

atopos, strange; *cheilos*, lip, referring to unusual oral morphology (thick lips that form a large sucking disc)

***Atopochilus chabanaudi* Pellegrin 1938**

in honor of ichthyologist-herpetologist Paul Chabanaud (1876-1959), Preparator of Fishes, Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle (Paris)

***Atopochilus christyi* Boulenger 1920**

in honor of Cuthbert Christy (1863-1932), physician (specializing in sleeping sickness), zoologist, explorer, and Director of the Congo Museum (Tervuren, Belgium), who collected type

***Atopochilus macrocephalus* Boulenger 1906**

macro-, long; *cephalus*, referring to longer head compared to *A. savorgnani*

***Atopochilus mandevillei* Poll 1959**

in honor of J. Th. Mandeville, fisheries agent, government of Leopoldville (now Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo), who collected some of the paratypes

***Atopochilus pachychilus* Pellegrin 1924**

pachys, thick; *cheilos*, lips, referring to thick lips, which form an oral disc

***Atopochilus savorgnani* Sauvage 1879**

in honor of Italian explorer Pietro Paolo Savorgnan di Brazzà (1852-1905), who explored the Ogooué River of Gabon (type locality); under French colonial rule, the capital of the Republic of the Congo was named Brazzaville after him and retained by post-colonial rulers

***Atopochilus vogti* Pellegrin 1922**

in honor of monsignor Franz Xaver Vogt (1870-1943), German Catholic Missionary, Bagamoyo, German East Africa (now Tanzania), who sent type to the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle (Paris)

***Atopodontus* Friel & Vigliotta 2008**

atopos, strange, anomalous or out of place; *odontos*, tooth, referring to unusual mandibular dentition (mandibular teeth arranged in three or more straight transverse rows)

***Atopodontus adriaensi* Friel & Vigliotta 2008**

in honor of biologist Dominique Adriaens (b. 1970), University of Ghent, who brought the existence of this species to the authors' attention

***Chiloglanis* Peters 1868**

cheilos, lip, referring to sucking disc formed by the lips, an adaptation to life in strong currents; *glanis*, sheatfish (*Silurus glanis*), now used as a general term for catfish

***Chiloglanis angolensis* Poll 1967**

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Angola, where it is endemic

***Chiloglanis anoterus* Crass 1960**

higher, occurring at higher altitudes than other Natal species of *Chiloglanis*

***Chiloglanis asymetricaudalis* De Vos 1993**

referring to its forked asymmetrical caudal fin, the upper lobe longer than the lower

***Chiloglanis batesii* Boulenger 1904**

in honor of George Latimer Bates (1863-1940), Cameroon farmer and ornithologist who collected specimens for the Natural History Museum (London), including type of this species

***Chiloglanis benuensis* Daget & Stauch 1963**

-*ensis*, suffix denoting place: Bénoué at Lakdo, Cameroon, type locality

***Chiloglanis bifurcus* Jubb & Le Roux 1969**

bifurcated or forked, referring to shape of caudal fin, “forked with large lobes”

***Chiloglanis brevibarbis* Boulenger 1902**

brevis, short; *barbis*, barbel, referring to shorter barbels compared to *C. deckenii* and *C. niloticus*

***Chiloglanis camarabounyi* Schmidt & Bart 2017**

named for Camara-Bounyi, Guinean village adjacent to type locality; residents generously allowed access to the river, assisted with collecting, and the children provided the common name “Fanye Makonyi,” i.e., “the fish that bites people,” likely referring to its sharp pectoral- and dorsal-fin spines and associated venom

***Chiloglanis cameronensis* Boulenger 1904**

-*ensis*, suffix denoting place: Cameroon, type locality (also occurs in Gabon and Republic of the Congo)

***Chiloglanis carnosus* Roberts & Stewart 1976**

fleshy, presumably referring to general appearance of body

***Chiloglanis congicus* Boulenger 1920**

-*icus*, belonging to: the Congo Basin (Stanley Falls), type locality

***Chiloglanis deckenii* Peters 1868**

in honor of Karl Klaus von der Decken (1833-1865), German explorer who collected type

***Chiloglanis devosi* Schmidt, Bart & Nyingi 2015**

in honor of the late Luc DeVos (1957-2003), director of the Ichthyology Section at the National Museums of Kenya, who was instrumental in establishing its collection and building it into a regional and internationally invaluable collection, and who was partly responsible for discovering and recognizing this species and *C. kerioensis* as distinct

***Chiloglanis dialloi* Schmidt & Pezold 2017**

in honor of Guinean fisheries biologist Samba Diallo, who provided logistical support and assisted in the field during the 2003 and 2013 expeditions; his efforts are largely responsible for the success of the expeditions and the subsequent descriptions of nine new species of *Chiloglanis*, including this one

***Chiloglanis disneyi* Trewavas 1974**

in honor of medical entomologist Ronald Henry Lambert Disney (b. 1938), who collected type

***Chiloglanis elisabethianus* Boulenger 1915**

-*anus*, belonging to: Élisabethville (now Lubumbashi), Democratic Republic of the Congo, type locality

***Chiloglanis emarginatus* Jubb & Le Roux 1969**

referring to emarginate (having a notched tip or edge) caudal fin, compared to deeply forked caudal fin of *C. bifurcus*

***Chiloglanis fasciatus* Pellegrin 1936**

banded, referring to “traces” of five blackish bands on body

***Chiloglanis fortuitus* Schmidt, Bragança & Tweddle 2023**

Latin for happening by chance, referring to the “fortuitous aspect” of collecting the only known specimen, and its “discovery” in a lot of specimens borrowed by the lead author to aid with the description of *C. tweddlei* in 2017

***Chiloglanis frodobagginsi* Schmidt, Friel, Bart & Pezold 2023**

named after another “diminutive traveler,” Frodo Baggins, a character from Tolkien’s “Lord of the Rings” series, who journeyed ~2897 km in 185 days, referring to how this species (Congo River basin) may have descended from *C. micropogon* (Niger River drainage), a distance of ~4,800 km, an “incredible journey for such a small and seemingly non-vagile” group of fishes

***Chiloglanis harbinger* Roberts 1989**

Middle English word meaning omen or precursor, referring to large number of teeth *Atopochilus* and *Euchilichthys*, a condition presaged or foreshadowed in this species of *Chiloglanis*

***Chiloglanis igamba* Friel & Vigliotta 2011**

named for Igamba Falls, Lower Malagarasi River, Tanzania, type locality

***Chiloglanis kabaensis* Schmidt & Friel 2017**

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Kaba River drainage, Guinea, where it is endemic

***Chiloglanis kalambo* Seegers 1996**

referring to the Kalambo River drainage, western Tanzania, where it is endemic

***Chiloglanis kazumbei* Friel & Vigliotta 2011**

in honor of George Kazumbe, an “expert fisherman and friend” from Kigoma, Tanzania, who assisted the authors and several of their colleagues during fieldwork in Tanzania

***Chiloglanis kerioensis* Schmidt, Bart & Nyingi 2015**

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Kerio River, Lake Turkana basin, Kenya, where it is believed to be endemic

***Chiloglanis kolente* Schmidt & Bart 2017**

named for the Kolenté River drainage, Guinea, where it is endemic

***Chiloglanis lamottei* Daget 1948**

in honor of French biologist Maxime Lamotte (1920–2007), who collected type

***Chiloglanis loffabrevum* Schmidt & Pezold 2017**

loffa, referring to Loffa River, Guinea, where it is endemic; *brevum*, short, referring to its short pectoral-fin spines

***Chiloglanis longibarbis* Schmidt & Friel 2017**

longus, long; *barbis*, barbel, referring to its long maxillary and mandibular barbels

***Chiloglanis lufirae* Poll 1976**

of the Lufirae River system, Democratic Republic of the Congo, where it is endemic

***Chiloglanis lukugae* Poll 1944**

of Lukuga, mistakenly referring to the Lukuga River drainage, the only outlet of Lake Tanganyika (type locality is Luvua River drainage, which Poll corrected in a later publication)

***Chiloglanis macropterus* Poll & Stewart 1975**

macro-, large; *pterus*, fin, referring to its very large fins (“très grandes nageoires”)

***Chiloglanis marlieri* Poll 1952**

in honor of Belgian zoologist Georges Marlier, director of IRSAC (Institut pour la Recherche Scientifique en Afrique Centrale) at Lake Tanganyika, who collected type

***Chiloglanis mbozi* Seegers 1996**

referring to a stream draining the Mbozi block between Mbozi and Tunduma, Tanzania, type locality

***Chiloglanis micropogon* Poll 1952**

micro-, small; *pogon*, beard, referring to short maxillary barbels, about as long as diameter of eye

***Chiloglanis microps* Matthes 1965**

micro-, small, *ops*, eye, referring to its “miniscule” eyes

***Chiloglanis modjensis* Boulenger 1904**

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Modjo River, Ethiopia, type locality

***Chiloglanis mongoensis* Schmidt & Barrientos 2019**

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Rio Mongo, a tributary to the Rio Wele, Equatorial Guinea, where it appears to be endemic

***Chiloglanis msirii* Kashindye, Manda, Friel, Chakona & Vreven 2021**

in honor of King Mwenda Msiri Ngelengwa (1830–1891), who founded and ruled the Yeke Kingdom of South-East Katanga, now Democratic Republic of the Congo (where this catfish occurs), from about 1856 to 1891 and was murdered for resisting Belgian colonial rule in his area; name is dedicated “in acknowledgment and in honour of his service and defence of the integrity of his people”

***Chiloglanis neumanni* Boulenger 1911**

in honor of German ornithologist Oskar Neumann (1867–1946), who collected type

***Chiloglanis niger* Roberts 1989**

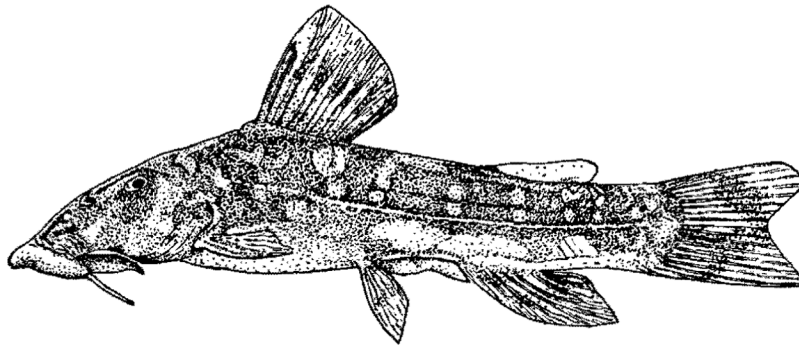
referring to both the Niger River basin of Cameroon, where it is endemic, and to the Latin word for black, referring to “uniformly dark, almost black” coloration in life

***Chiloglanis niloticus* Boulenger 1900**

-icus, belonging to: Nile River, referring to Arko Island, Sudan (type locality), an island on the Nile

***Chiloglanis normani* Pellegrin 1933**

in honor of ichthyologist J. R. (John Roxborough) Norman (1898–1944), British Museum (Natural History), who



Chiloglanis pretoriae. From: van der Horst, C. J. 1931. Some South African siluroid fishes. *Annals of the Transvaal Museum* v. 14 (pt 3): 246-250.

described the similar *C. polyodon* in 1932

***Chiloglanis nzerekore* Schmidt & Pezold 2017**

named for the Nzérékoré prefecture in southeastern Guinea, where it occurs

***Chiloglanis occidentalis* Pellegrin 1933**

western, referring to its westernly distribution compared to congeners known at the time

***Chiloglanis orthodontus* Friel & Vigliotta 2011**

orthos, straight or erect; *odontos*, tooth, referring to its mandibular dentition, which is relatively straight and evenly spread across dentary as compared to most congeners

***Chiloglanis paratus* Crass 1960**

Latin for prepared or equipped, apparently a key word in the family motto of T. G. Fraser (Natal Parks, Game and Fish Preservation Board), “whose enthusiastic efforts have brought in much useful material”

***Chiloglanis pezoldi* Schmidt & Bart 2017**

in honor of Frank Pezold, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, who led 2003 Guinea expeditions that collected this species and others; he initiated Schmidt’s research on fishes from the area and continues to work in the region

***Chiloglanis pojeri* Poll 1944**

in honor of Dr. G. Pojer (a Belgian scientist, no other information available), who collected type

***Chiloglanis polyodon* Norman 1932**

poly, many; *odon*, tooth, presumably referring to number of teeth (85-90) in the lower jaw

***Chiloglanis polypogon* Roberts 1989**

poly, many; *pogon*, beard, referring to its 3-5 auxiliary mental barbels on one or both sides of lower lip

***Chiloglanis pretoriae* van der Horst 1931**

of Pretoria District, Transvaal (now Gauteng), South Africa, type locality

***Chiloglanis productus* Ng & Bailey 2006**

lengthened or prolonged, referring to longer caudal fin in males

***Chiloglanis reticulatus* Roberts 1989**

net-like or netted, referring to “reticulum or network” of well-developed tuberculated epidermal ridges on head and body of larger specimens

***Chiloglanis rukwaensis* Seegers 1996**

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Lake Rukwa drainage, Tanzania, where it is endemic

***Chiloglanis ruziensis* De Vos 1993**

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Ruzizi River Basin, Rwanda, where it is endemic

***Chiloglanis sanagaensis* Roberts 1989**

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Sanaga River basin, Cameroon, type locality

***Chiloglanis sardinhai* Ladiges & Voelker 1961**

in honor of the authors’ sponsor and companion, forestry engineer Augusto Manuel Sardinha

***Chiloglanis somereni* Whitehead 1958**

in honor of Dr. V. D. von Someren, M.B.E., Senior Research Officer, Ministry of Forest Development, Game and Fisheries, Nairobi, Kenya, where Whitehead was affiliated at the time

***Chiloglanis swierstrai* van der Horst 1931**

patronym not identified, probably in honor of Cornelis Jacobus Swierstra (1874-1952), a Dutch-born South African entomologist, who, according to Jubb, *Freshwater Fishes of Southern Africa* (1967), collected type

***Chiloglanis trilobatus* Seegers 1996**

tri-, three; *lobatus*, lobed, referring to three lobes on caudal fin

***Chiloglanis tweddlei* Schmidt & Friel 2017**

in honor of Denis Tweddle (b. 1949), Honorary Research Associate at South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity, who collected most of the type material, for his ongoing contributions to ichthyological research in Africa

***Chiloglanis voltae* Daget & Stauch 1963**

of the Volta River system (Burkina Faso, Ghana), where it occurs (also occurs the upper Bénoué River system in Nigeria and Cameroon)

***Chiloglanis waterloti* Daget 1954**

in honor of Georges Waterlot (1877-1939), who collected specimens for the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle (Paris) in French West Africa and Madagascar, including type of this catfish

***Euchilichthys* Boulenger 1900**

eu-, very and *cheilos*, lip, referring to their papillate, well-developed lips; *ichthys*, fish

***Euchilichthys astatodon* (Pellegrin 1928)**

astatos, unstable; *odon*, tooth, referring to the variability of its teeth (a combination of uni- and bicuspid teeth)

***Euchilichthys boulengeri* Nichols & La Monte 1934**

patronym not identified but clearly in honor of ichthyologist-herpetologist George A. Boulenger (1858-1937), who proposed the genus in 1900

***Euchilichthys dybowskii* (Vaillant 1892)**

in honor of Jean Dybowski (1856-1928), French-Polish agronomist, naturalist and explorer, who collected type

***Euchilichthys guentheri* (Schilthuis 1891)**

patronym not identified but clearly in honor of ichthyologist-herpetologist Albert Günther (1830-1914), British Museum (Natural History)

***Euchilichthys royauxi* Boulenger 1902**

in honor of Capt. Louis-Joseph Royaux (1866-1936), who led expedition that collected type and supplied indigenous names of the species collected

Subfamily Mochokinae

***Acanthocleithron* Nichols & Griscom 1917**

acanthus, thorn; *cleithrum*, large bone that extends from base of pectoral fin and forms posterior edge of gill chamber, referring to spinous projection above base of pectoral spine

***Acanthocleithron chapini* Nichols & Griscom 1917**

in honor of ornithologist James Paul Chapin (1889-1964), joint leader of the Lang-Chapin expedition to the Congo that collected type

***Microsynodontis* Boulenger 1903**

micro-, small, referring to small size of *M. batesii* (10 cm TL), i.e., a small *Synodontis* (all other species are small, too)

***Microsynodontis armatus* Ng 2004**

armed with a weapon, referring to antrorse (distally directed) and retrorse (proximally directed) serrations on anterior edge of pectoral spine, unique to this species

***Microsynodontis batesii* Boulenger 1903**

in honor of George Latimer Bates (1863-1940), Cameroon farmer and ornithologist who collected specimens for the Natural History Museum (London), including type of this species

***Microsynodontis christyi* Boulenger 1920**

in honor of Cuthbert Christy (1863-1932), physician (specializing in sleeping sickness), zoologist, explorer, and Director of the Congo Museum (Tervuren, Belgium), who collected type

***Microsynodontis emarginata* Ng 2004**

notched at the apex, referring to distinctive emarginate shape of caudal fin

***Microsynodontis hirsuta* Ng 2004**

hairy, referring to long tubercles on dorsal and lateral surfaces of head, giving it a “somewhat hairy appearance”

***Microsynodontis laevigata* Ng 2004**

smooth, referring to smooth anterior edge of pectoral spine

***Microsynodontis lamberti* Poll & Gosse 1963**

in honor of Poll's frequent collaborator, ichthyologist Jacques G. Lambert (1923-2013), "well-versed in many genera of African fishes" (translation)

***Microsynodontis nannoculus* Ng 2004**

nanus, small; *oculus*, eye, referring to its relatively small eye, the smallest in the genus

***Microsynodontis nasutus* Ng 2004**

large-nosed, referring to its snout, the longest in the genus

***Microsynodontis notata* Ng 2004**

marked, referring to dark-brown elongate spots frequently present on body

***Microsynodontis polli* Lambert 1958**

in honor of ichthyologist Max Poll (1908-1991), Curator, Musée de Congo Belge (Tervuren), whose help and advice guided the author in his early ichthyological work

***Microsynodontis vigilis* Ng 2004**

watchful, referring to its relatively large eyes

***Mochokiella* Howes 1980**

-iella, a diminutive, referring to dwarf size of *M. paynei*, i.e., a small mochokid

***Mochokiella paynei* Howes 1980**

in honor of fisheries biologist A. Ian Payne, University of Sierra Leone, who collected type

***Mochokus* Joannis 1835**

latinization of *Mouchchouéké*, Arabic name for *M. niloticus*, roughly translating as "don't get stung or jabbed by it," referring to its dangerously sharp spines, which local fishermen try to avoid

***Mochokus brevis* Boulenger 1906**

short, referring to shorter caudal part of body compared to *M. niloticus*

***Mochokus niloticus* Joannis 1835**

-icus, belonging to: Nile River near Thebes, Egypt, type locality

***Synodontis* Cuvier 1816**

according to Cuvier, an "ancient name for an undetermined fish from the Nile" (apparently not derived, as often reported, from *syn-*, together and *odous*, tooth, presumed etymology of the lizardfish genus *Synodus*)

***Synodontis abditus* De Weirldt, Huyghe & Vreven 2021**

Latin form hidden, refers to the hitherto "hidden" existence of this species, being both similar to and misidentified as *S. haugi* in the past, and hence "hidden in collections" for over 20 years

***Synodontis acanthomias* Boulenger 1899**

acanthus, thorn; *omias*, perhaps from the Greek *omos*, shoulder or humerus, referring to humeral process armed with spines (name may also refer to *S. omias*, to which this species had incorrectly been identified)

***Synodontis acanthoperca* Friel & Vigliotta 2006**

acantha, thorn; *opercul*, cover or lid, referring to distinctive opercular spines developed by mature males

***Synodontis afrofisheri* Hilgendorf 1888**

afro-, presumably referring to distribution in east Africa (type locality in Tanzania); *fischeri*, in honor of Gustav Adolf Fischer (1848-1888), medical officer and natural history collector, who collected type

***Synodontis alberti* Schilthuis 1891**

patronym not identified, presumably in honor of King Albert I of Belgium (1875-1934); described from the Congo, which was a Belgian colony at the time

***Synodontis albolineatus* Pellegrin 1924**

albus, white; *lineatus*, striped, referring to white midlateral stripe

***Synodontis angelicus* Schilthuis 1891**

angelic, allusion not explained, presumably referring to its attractive color pattern (dark brown in spirits, with yellow spots over entire body, fins banded with yellow)

***Synodontis annectens* Boulenger 1911**

linking or joining, believed to be intermediate in form between *S. sorex* and *S. clarias*

***Synodontis ansorgii* Boulenger 1911**

in honor of explorer William John Ansorge (1850-1913), who collected type

***Synodontis arnoulti* Roman 1966**

in honor of ichthyologist-herpetologist Jacques Arnoult (1914-1995), Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle (Paris), for help and encouragement in the exploration of wildlife in the Republic of Upper Volta

***Synodontis aterrimus* Poll & Roberts 1968**

very black, referring to “noir profond” coloration on lower part of body, an example of inverse pigmentation in which ventral surface is darker than dorsal surface (a countershading adaptation to swimming upside-down at the water’s surface)

***Synodontis bastiani* Daget 1948**

in honor of M. (probably Monsieur) Bastian (no other information available), who collected type

***Synodontis batensoda* Rüppell 1832**

from *Schal baten soda*, local name for this catfish in Cairo, Egypt, meaning “the Schal [Arabic vernacular in Egypt for squeaker catfishes in general] with the black belly”

***Synodontis batesii* Boulenger 1907**

in honor of George Latimer Bates (1863–1940), Cameroon farmer and ornithologist who collected specimens for the Natural History Museum (London), including type of this species

***Synodontis brichardi* Poll 1959**

in honor of aquarium fish exporter Pierre Brichard (1921–1990), who discovered this catfish in the rapids near Kinshasa (Democratic Republic of the Congo)

***Synodontis budgetti* Boulenger 1911**

in honor of British zoologist John Samuel Budgett (1872–1904), who collected type

***Synodontis camelopardalis* Poll 1971**

referring to its coloration, which resembles that of a giraffe, *Giraffa camelopardalis*

***Synodontis carineae* Vreven & Ibala Zamba 2011**

in honor of anthropologist Carine Plancke, who worked with the Punu people in the Nyanga area of the Congo Republic (where this species occurs), and who especially likes the color yellow (referring to the vivid yellow shine of this species in life)

***Synodontis caudalis* Boulenger 1899**

of the tail, referring to deeply notched caudal fin, both lobes produced into a long filament

***Synodontis caudovittatus* Boulenger 1901**

caudo-, tail; *vittatus*, banded, referring to black stripe along outer margin of caudal-fin lobes

***Synodontis centralis* Poll 1971**

referring to its distribution in the central Congo basin

***Synodontis clarias* (Linnaeus 1758)**

meaning uncertain; name dates to Hasselquist (1757, edited by Linnaeus), who, according to Valenciennes (1840), may have selected *clarias* as the name for this Nile catfish because Belon (1553) used a similar name “*Claria nilotica*” for a different catfish from the Nile, now known as the clariid *Clarias anguillaris* (see entry for *Clarias* for more information on this etymologically puzzling name) [an alternative explanation is that *clarias* is derived from *clarus*, which usually means bright or clear but can also mean loud or clangorous, referring to the ability of this “squeaker” catfish to make stridulatory sounds through its pectoral fins when handled or disturbed; we doubt this explanation because Hasselquist did not mention this seemingly noteworthy attribute in his description]

***Synodontis comoensis* Daget & Lévêque 1981**

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Comoé River, National Park of Comoé, Ivory Coast, where it is endemic

***Synodontis congicus* Poll 1971**

referring to its occurrence in the Congo River basin south to Katanga, Democratic Republic of the Congo

***Synodontis contractus* Vinciguerra 1928**

compressed, referring to its elevated profile, which creates the appearance that its body has been compressed from both ends towards the middle

***Synodontis courteti* Pellegrin 1906**

in honor of Henri Courtet (1858–1912), member of French 1902–1903 mission to study the region between Ubangi River and Lake Chad, during which type was collected

***Synodontis cuangoanus* Poll 1971**

-anus, belonging to: Cuango, Cafunfo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, type locality

***Synodontis decorus* Boulenger 1899**

beautiful, referring to its attractive spotted color pattern

***Synodontis dekimpei* Paugy 1987**

in honor of Paul De Kimpe (b. 1927), Musée royal de l’Afrique centrale (Tervuren), who collected type

***Synodontis denticulatus* Kasongo Ilunga, Abwe, Decru, Chocha Manda & Vreven 2019**

denticulate or with small teeth, referring to well-marked and quite numerous denticles on posterior margin of

dorsal-fin spine

***Synodontis depauwi* Boulenger 1899**

in honor of Louis De Pauw, curator of collections, l'Université libre de Bruxelles, who installed an exhibition of Congo fishes there in 1897

***Synodontis dhonti* Boulenger 1917**

in honor of G. Dhont-De Bie, Belgian East African Expeditionary Force, member of Louis Stappers' expedition to Lakes Tanganyika, where he collected type

***Synodontis dorsomaculatus* Poll 1971**

dorso-, back; *maculatus*, spotted, referring to dark round spots on dorsal surface (which grow diffuse with age)

***Synodontis eupterus* Boulenger 1901**

eu-, well or very; *pterus*, fin, referring to “extraordinary development” of dorsal fin, “remarkable for its great depth”

***Synodontis fascipinna* Nichols & La Monte 1953**

fascia, band; *pinna*, fin, referring to caudal and anal fins, “conspicuously banded with blackish”

***Synodontis filamentosus* Boulenger 1901**

referring to “filamentous prolongation” of dorsal fin

***Synodontis flavitaeniatus* Boulenger 1919**

flavus, yellow; *taeniatus*, banded, referring to two yellow stripes on each side of head and body

***Synodontis frontosus* Vaillant 1895**

with a broad head, presumably referring length of cephalo-nuchal shield being nearly equal to its width [may be a junior synonym of *S. schall*]

***Synodontis fueleborni* Hilgendorf & Pappenheim 1903**

in honor of Friedrich Fülleborn (1866–1933), who collected type during his travels as a parasitologist and military physician

***Synodontis gambiensis* Günther 1864**

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Gambia, type locality [treated as a junior synonym of *S. schall* by some workers]

***Synodontis geledensis* Günther 1896**

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Geledi (also spelled Gualidi and Jilledy), Somalia, type locality

***Synodontis gobroni* Daget 1954**

in honor of M. (probably Monsieur) Gobron, a volunteer at Laboratoire de Diafarabé (Mail), who collected type

***Synodontis grandiope* Wright & Page 2006**

grandis, large or big; *ops*, eye, referring to increased size of eye, particularly in relation to snout length

***Synodontis granulatus* Boulenger 1900**

referring to body covered with granular papillae

***Synodontis greshoffi* Schilthuis 1891**

in honor of Anton Greshoff (1856–1905), Dutch trader and collector, who presented several species from the Congo to the Zoological Museum of Utrecht University, including type of this species

***Synodontis guttatus* Günther 1865**

spotted, referring to numerous brown spots on body, small and rounded on adipose fin and “hinder parts” of tail

***Synodontis haugi* Pellegrin 1906**

in honor of Protestant missionary Ernest Haug (1817–1915), a correspondent of Musée national d'Histoire naturelle (Paris); he collected fishes from the Ôgowe River of Gabon, including this one, recording their local names in three different languages

***Synodontis ilebrevis* Wright & Page 2006**

ile, intestine; *brevis*, short, referring to its relatively short gut

***Synodontis irsacae* Matthes 1959**

of I.R.S.A.C. (Institut pour la Recherche Scientifique en Afrique Centrale), Matthes' employer

***Synodontis iturii* Steindachner 1911**

of the Ituri River, Democratic Republic of the Congo, type locality

***Synodontis katangae* Poll 1971**

of Katanga, a province in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, type locality

***Synodontis khartoumensis* Abu Gideiri 1967**

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Khartoum, Sudan, near type locality in the Blue Nile

***Synodontis koensis* Pellegrin 1933**

-*ensis*, suffix denoting place: Ko River, Man, Ivory Coast, type locality

***Synodontis kogonensis* Musschoot & Lalèyè 2008**

-*ensis*, suffix denoting place: Kogon River, Guinea, type locality (also occurs in Fatala River)

***Synodontis laessoei* Norman 1923**

in honor of Maj. Harold Henry Alexander de Laessoe (d. 1948), British soldier, explorer and administrator in Africa, who helped collect type

***Synodontis leopardinus* Pellegrin 1914**

leopard-like, referring to small black spots on a yellowish body

***Synodontis leopardus* Pfeffer 1896**

leopard, referring to dark-brown spots on brown body

***Synodontis levequei* Paugy 1987**

in honor of ichthyologist-hydrobiologist Christian Lévêque, ORSTOM (Office de la Recherche Scientifique et Technique d'Outre-Mer), who collected type

***Synodontis longirostris* Boulenger 1902**

longus, long; *rostris*, snout, referring to obtusely pointed snout, twice as long as postocular part of head

***Synodontis longispinis* Pellegrin 1930**

longus, long; *spinis*, spine, described as a variety of *S. batesii* with a longer dorsal-fin spine

***Synodontis lucipinnis* Wright & Page 2006**

luci-, bright or clear; *pinnis*, fin, referring to light patches at base of black triangles on rayed fins

***Synodontis lufirae* Poll 1971**

of the Lufira River, Congo River basin, Democratic Republic of the Congo, where it is endemic

***Synodontis macrophthalmus* Poll 1971**

macro-, large; *ophthalmus*, eye, referring to its very large eyes compared to congeners in the Congo

***Synodontis macrops* Greenwood 1963**

macro-, large; *ops*, eye, referring to larger eye compared to the similar *S. schall*

***Synodontis macropunctatus* Wright & Page 2008**

macro-, large; *punctatus*, spotted, referring to large, discrete, widely spaced dark spots on skin

***Synodontis macrostigma* Boulenger 1911**

macro-, large; *stigma*, spot or mark, referring to large round or oval blackish spots on back and sides

***Synodontis macrostoma* Skelton & White 1990**

macro-, large; *stoma*, mouth, referring to its distinctive large mouth

***Synodontis manni* De Vos 2001**

in honor of Michael ("Mike") J. Mann, former FAO Fisheries Officer, who first reported the presence of this species in the Tana River (Kenya) in 1968

***Synodontis marmoratus* Lönnberg 1895**

marbled, referring to blackish-brown coloration, marbled with white, and white fins, marbled with black

***Synodontis matthesi* Poll 1971**

in honor of Dutch ichthyologist Hubert Matthes, Musée Royal de l'Afrique Centrale (Tervuren, Belgium), who collected type

***Synodontis melanopterus* Boulenger 1903**

melano-, black; *pterus*, fin, referring to black fins, "with some light cross-bands in the young"

***Synodontis melanostictus* Boulenger 1906**

melano-, black; *stictus*, spot, referring to small black-brown spots on body

***Synodontis membranaceus* (Geoffroy St. Hilaire 1809)**

referring to membranes on maxillary and mandibular barbels

***Synodontis multimaculatus* Boulenger 1902**

multi-, many; *maculatus*, spotted, referring to dark round spots on body, larger spots on dorsal fin, and smaller spots on ventral, anal and caudal fins

***Synodontis multipunctatus* Boulenger 1898**

multi-, many; *punctatus*, spotted, referring to roundish dark-brown spots on body

***Synodontis nebulosus* Peters 1852**

dark or cloudy, referring to black spots on body and fins, merging together on upper part of body

***Synodontis ngouniensis* De Weirdt, Vreven & Fermon 2008**

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Ngounié River basin, Gabon, type locality (also occurs in the Republic of Congo)

***Synodontis nigrita* Valenciennes 1840**

Latin name for Niger, referring to type locality in Senegal, which in ancient times was called Niger

***Synodontis nigriventris* David 1936**

nigra-, black; *ventris*, belly, referring to dark belly (instead of the usual lighter belly), a countershading adaptation to swimming upside-down at the water's surface

***Synodontis nigromaculatus* Boulenger 1905**

nigro-, black; *maculatus*, spotted, “covered all over with round black spots, some of which, on the posterior part of the body, are confluent”

***Synodontis njassae* Keilhack 1908**

of Lake Nyasa (called Njassasee by European colonial rulers), Tanzanian name (meaning “great water”) for Lake Malawi, where it is endemic

***Synodontis notatus* Vaillant 1893**

marked, referring to 1-4 blackish spots on sides

***Synodontis nummifer* Boulenger 1899**

nummus, coin; *fero*, to bear, referring to 1-2 rounded (i.e., coin-like) black spots on the sides

***Synodontis obesus* Boulenger 1898**

fat, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to less-elongate body shape compared to *S. serratus*, with which it had been misidentified

***Synodontis ocellifer* Boulenger 1900**

ocellus, eye-spot; *fero*, to bear, referring to “large black-and-white ocellar spots disposed with greater or less regularity at considerable intervals”

***Synodontis omias* Günther 1864**

etymology not explained, perhaps from the Greek *omos*, shoulder or humerus, referring to humeral process “armed with a series of three or four compressed, triangular spinous processes [*sic*], running along the lower margin of the bone, the last being placed at its extremity”

***Synodontis orientalis* Seegers 2008**

eastern, referring to its distribution in eastern Africa

***Synodontis ornatipinnis* Boulenger 1899**

ornatus, decorated; *pinnis*, fin, referring to yellow rayed fins (except pectoral), with black spots confluent into transverse bands; on the tail, these bands form crescents inverse to the shape of the fin

***Synodontis ornatissimus* Gosse 1882**

very ornate or decorated, referring to its “striking” coloration (translation), with many black spots on body and dorsal fin and black bands on tail [replacement name for *S. ornatus* Boulenger 1920, preoccupied by *S. ornatus* Pappenheim 1914]

***Synodontis ouemeensis* Musschoot & Lalèyè 2008**

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Oueme River, Benin, type locality (also occurs in Nigeria and Togo)

***Synodontis pardalis* Boulenger 1908**

like a leopard, referring to large, leopard-like dark-brown spots on body

***Synodontis petricola* Matthes 1959**

petra, rock; *-cola*, living among, referring to its habitat over the rocks and boulders of Lake Tanganyika

***Synodontis pleurops* Boulenger 1897**

pleuro-, side; *ops*, referring to laterally placed eyes, “visible from above as well as from below”

***Synodontis polli* Gosse 1882**

in honor of Belgian ichthyologist Max Poll (1908-1991), for his revision of the genus [replacement name for *S. eurystomus* Matthes 1959, preoccupied by *S. eurystomus* Pfeffer 1889]

***Synodontis polyodon* Vaillant 1895**

poly, many; *odon*, tooth, referring to greater number of mandibular teeth (~75) compared to *S. schall* (~25)

***Synodontis polystigma* Boulenger 1915**

poly-, many; *stigma*, mark or spot, referring to numerous black spots on body and fins

***Synodontis pulcher* Poll 1971**

beautiful, described as a pretty species (“une jolie espèce”)

***Synodontis punctifer* Daget 1965**

punctum, spot; *fero-*, to carry or bear, referring to black spots irregularly scattered on sides and belly

***Synodontis punctulatus* Günther 1889**

diminutive of *punctum*, spot, referring to numerous, very small brown dots on head, body and adipose fin

***Synodontis punu* Vreven & Milondo 2009**

named for the Punu people living in the areas of Gabon and the Republic of the Congo where this catfish occurs, for their help during collecting and their “spontaneous” hospitality

***Synodontis rebeli* Holly 1926**

patronym not identified but almost certainly in honor of Austrian entomologist Hans Rebel (1861-1940), first director of the Naturhistorisches Museum Wien, where types are deposited

***Synodontis resupinata* Boulenger 1904**

inverted or reversed, probably referring to reversed countershading, the lower half darker than the upper, an adaptation to swimming upside-down at the water's surface

***Synodontis ricardae* Seegers 1996**

in honor of Cicely Kate Ricardo (later Ricardo-Bertram, 1912-1999), who, together with Ms. R. J. Owen, collected in the Lake Rukwa drainage (where this species occurs) and co-authored several important papers on the fishes of East and Central Africa

***Synodontis robbianus* Smith 1875**

-anus, belonging to: Rev. Alexander Robb (1824-1901), Scottish Presbyterian missionary, who provided specimens from the “Old Calavar district of tropical Africa,” including type of this one

***Synodontis robertsi* Poll 1974**

in honor of ichthyologist Tyson R. Roberts (b. 1940), who helped collect type during a National Geographic Society expedition to Zaire (now Democratic Republic of the Congo) in 1973

***Synodontis ruandae* Matthes 1959**

of Rwanda, where type locality (Kagera at Rusumu) is situated

***Synodontis rufigiensis* Bailey 1968**

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Rufiji River, Tanzania, type locality

***Synodontis rukwaensis* Hilgendorf & Pappenheim 1903**

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Lake Rukwa, Tanzania, type locality

***Synodontis schall* (Bloch & Schneider 1801)**

Schal, Arabic vernacular for squeaker catfishes in Egypt

***Synodontis schoutedeni* David 1936**

in honor of zoologist Henri Schouteden (1881-1972), who collected many new species in the Belgian Congo, including this one

***Synodontis serpentis* Whitehead 1962**

snake, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to marbled pattern on caudal peduncle of juveniles (E. Schraml, pers. comm.), which resembles the marbled pattern seen on many constrictors

***Synodontis serratus* Rüppell 1829**

serrate, referring to anteriorly serrated dorsal-fin spine

***Synodontis smiti* Boulenger 1902**

in honor of Pierre Jacques Smit (1863-1960), who illustrated the plates in Boulenger's work

***Synodontis soloni* Boulenger 1899**

in memory of Alexandre Solon, a young traveler who died in Congo after helping Capt. Capra (no other information available) collect fish

***Synodontis sorex* Günther 1864**

Latin for shrew or shrew-mouse, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to pointed snout and/or long, slender teeth

***Synodontis steindachneri* Boulenger 1913**

in honor of Austrian ichthyologist Franz Steindachner (1834-1919), for contributions to our knowledge of the fishes of Cameroon (where this species is endemic)

***Synodontis tanganyicae* Borodin 1936**

of Lake Tanganyika, where it is endemic (also spelled *tanganaicae*)

***Synodontis tessmanni* Pappenheim 1911**

in honor of German explorer, ethnographer and plant collector Günter Tessmann (1884-1969), who collected holotype

***Synodontis thamalakaneensis* Fowler 1935**

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Thamalakane River at Maun, Botswana, type locality

***Synodontis thysi* Poll 1971**

in honor of Poll's Musée de l'Afrique Centrale colleague, Dirk Thys van den Audenaerde (b. 1934), who collected holotype

***Synodontis tourei* Daget 1962**

in honor of Moussa Touré, forestry inspector in Mamou, a city in the Fouta Djallon area of Guinea, where it occurs

***Synodontis unicolor* Boulenger 1915**

uni-, one, referring to uniform dark-brown coloration on body and fins

***Synodontis vanderwaali* Skelton & White 1990**

in honor of zoologist Ben Van der Waal, University of Venda (South Africa), who collected type, for his donations of fishes from northern Namibian rivers to the J. L. B. Smith Institute of Ichthyology and the Albany Museum

***Synodontis velifer* Norman 1935**

velum, sail; fero, to bear, referring to prolonged first and second soft rays of dorsal fin

***Synodontis vermiculatus* Daget 1954**

referring to small black vermiculations on a completely yellow body

***Synodontis victoriae* Boulenger 1906**

of Lake Victoria in Uganda, type locality

***Synodontis violaceus* Pellegrin 1919**

violet-colored, referring to its general violet body coloration

***Synodontis voltae* Roman 1975**

of the upper Volta River basin, western Africa, where it is endemic

***Synodontis waterloti* Daget 1962**

in honor of Georges Waterlot (1877-1939), who collected specimens for the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle (Paris) in French West Africa and Madagascar, including type of this catfish

***Synodontis woleuensis* Friel & Sullivan 2008**

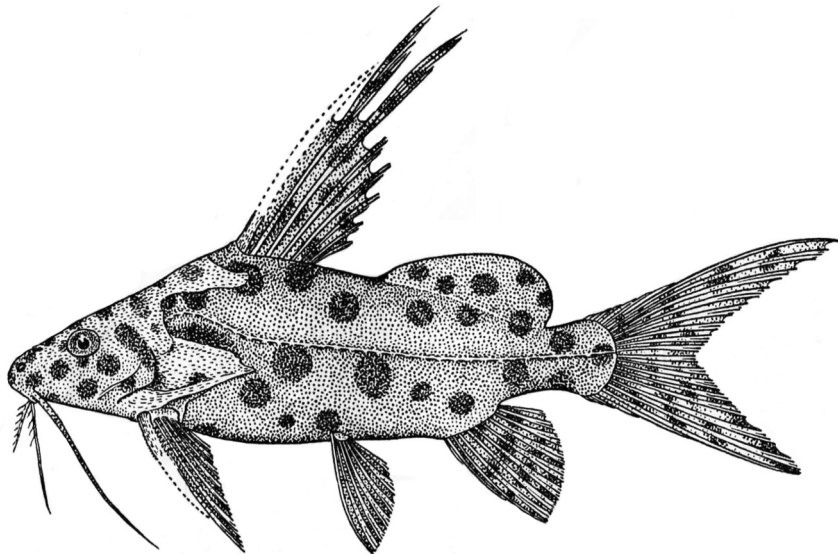
-ensis, suffix denoting place: Woleu River, Gabon, type locality

***Synodontis woosnami* Boulenger 1911**

in honor of Richard Bowen Woosnam (1880-1915), British soldier, traveler, naturalist, and Game Warden of the British East African Protectorate, who collected type

***Synodontis xiphias* Günther 1864**

sword, referring to remarkably prolonged snout of stuffed and mounted type specimen (later discovered through X-ray photography to be skin stretched over a protruding wire)



Synodontis velifer. From: Norman, J. R. 1935. A collection of fishes from the Ashanti Forest, Gold Coast. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History* (Series 10) v. 15 (no. 86): 215-221.

***Synodontis zambezensis* Peters 1852**

-*ensis*, suffix denoting place: Zambezi River, Mozambique, type locality

***Synodontis zanzibaricus* Peters 1868**

-*icus*, belonging to: Zanzibar, a possible misnomer since the catfish does not occur there; perhaps name refers to general vicinity of type locality (Mombassa, Kenya) to the Zanzibar Archipelago

Family SCHILBEIDAE African Butter Catfishes

5 genera · 35 species

***Irvineia* Trewavas 1943**

-*ia*, belonging to: Frederick Robert Irvine (1898-1962), former biology master at Achimota College, Gold Coast (now Ghana), who presented local fishes to the British Museum, including type of *I. voltae*

***Irvineia orientalis* Trewavas 1964**

eastern, referring to its East African distribution compared to the West African *I. voltae*

***Irvineia voltae* Trewavas 1943**

of the Volta River, Ghana, type locality

***Parailia* Boulenger 1899**

para-, near, referring to similarity to *Ailia* (now in Ailiidae), from which it differs in the absence of vomerine teeth and adipose fin

***Parailia congica* Boulenger 1899**

-*ica*, belonging to: Congo River basin, central Africa, type locality

***Parailia occidentalis* (Pellegrin 1901)**

western, referring to Cap Lopez, Gabon, west coast of Africa (type locality)

***Parailia pellucida* (Boulenger 1901)**

translucent, referring to colorless, almost translucent body in life

***Parailia somalensis* (Vinciguerra 1897)**

-*ensis*, suffix denoting place: Somalia, where type locality (Ganana River) is situated

***Parailia spiniserrata* Svensson 1933**

spinus, spine; *serrata*, toothed like a saw, referring to pectoral fin “rather strongly serrated in its inner side”

***Pareutropius* Regan 1920**

para-, near, similar to *Eutropius* but with smaller dorsal fin consisting of a slender spine and three branched rays

***Pareutropius buffei* (Gras 1961)**

in honor of J. Buffe, Director, Eaux et Forêts (Waters and Forests) Service, Dahomey (now Benin), “who witnessed the discovery” of this species (translation)

***Pareutropius debauwi* (Boulenger 1900)**

in honor of Lieut. Guillaume De Bauw (1865-1914), Belgian Army officer, who collected type

***Pareutropius longifilis* (Steindachner 1914)**

longus, long; *filum*, filament, referring to thin but long barbels

***Pareutropius mandevillei* Poll 1959**

in honor of J. Th. Mandeville, fisheries agent, government of Leopoldville (now Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo), who collected type

***Schilbe* Oken 1817**

latinization of “Les Schilbé” used by Cuvier in 1816, based on a local name for *S. mystus* along the Nile River

***Schilbe angolensis* (De Vos 1984)**

-*ensis*, suffix denoting place: Angola, where it is endemic

***Schilbe ansorgii* (Boulenger 1910)**

in honor of English explorer and collector William John Ansorge (1850-1913), who collected type, who provided the British Museum a collection of over 1100 “excellently preserved” fishes from Angola, including holotype of this species, and who “deserves the highest praise for this new achievement”

***Schilbe bangwelensis* (Boulenger 1911)**

-*ensis*, suffix denoting place: Lake Bangweulu, Zambia, type locality

***Schilbe bocagii* (Guimarães 1884)**

in honor of José Vicente Barbosa du Bocage (1823-1907), curator of zoology, Museum of Natural History (Lisbon, Portugal), as a “public testimony of our esteem and recognition” (translation)

Schilbe brevianalis (Pellegrin 1929)

brevis, short; *anal*is, anal, referring to short anal fin and low number of anal-fin rays

Schilbe congensis (Leach 1818)

-*ensis*, suffix denoting place: Congo River, central Africa, type locality (also endemic to Congo River system)

Schilbe depressirostris (Peters 1852)

depressus, pressed down; *rostris*, snout, referring to its depressed snout (“rostro depresso”)

Schilbe djeremi (Thys van den Audenaerde & De Vos 1982)

of the Djerem River, Sanaga River basin, Cameroon, type locality

Schilbe durinii (Gianferrari 1932)

patronym not identified, probably in honor of Count Hercules Luchino Durini di Monza (1876-1968), co-leader of the 1930 Beragiola-Durini expedition, driving across Africa in motorcars looking for land to colonize; Gianferrari credits the Countess Maria Teresa Camozzi Durini di Monza (1892-1943) with collecting type, so maybe the name (with incorrect use of masculine genitive) honors both of them or just her

Schilbe grenfelli (Boulenger 1900)

in honor of Protestant missionary and explorer George Grenfell (1849-1906), who collected type

Schilbe intermedius Rüppell 1832

intermediate in certain characters between *S. uranoscopus* and *Siluranodon auritus* (then placed in *Schilbe*)

Schilbe laticeps (Boulenger 1899)

latus, broad; *ceps*, head, referring to its large and broad head, wider than head of *S. congensis*

Schilbe mandibularis (Günther 1867)

etymology not explained, possibly referring to rather well-developed outer mandibular barbels, “not extending to the base of the pectoral, but beyond the orbit”

Schilbe marmoratus Boulenger 1911

marbled, referring to irregularly marbled color pattern

Schilbe micropogon (Trewavas 1943)

micro-, small; *pogon*, beard, referring to short (sometimes rudimentary) barbels

Schilbe moebiusii (Pfeffer 1896)

in honor of German zoologist Karl August Möbius (1825-1908), who edited publication in which description appeared

Schilbe multitaeniatus (Pellegrin 1913)

multi-, many; *taeniatus*, banded, referring to lateral stripes on sides and along anal fin

Schilbe mystus (Linnaeus 1758)

latinization of Greek *mystax*, whiskered, dating back to at least Belon's *De Aquatilibus* (1553) to describe all fishes with whiskers, presumably used here in reference to its four pairs of barbels

Schilbe nyongensis (De Vos 1981)

-*ensis*, suffix denoting place: Nyong River, Cameroon, where it is endemic

Schilbe tumbanus (Pellegrin 1926)

-*anus*, belonging to: Tumba Lake, Tondou, Democratic Republic of the Congo, type locality

Schilbe uranoscopus Rüppell 1832

urano, sky; *scopus*, watcher, referring to supero-lateral position of the eyes

Schilbe yangambianus (Poll 1954)

-*anus*, belonging to: Yangambi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, type locality

Schilbe zairensis De Vos 1995

-*ensis*, suffix denoting place: Zaire (now Democratic Republic of the Congo), type locality

Siluranodon Bleeker 1858

Silurus, referring to previous placement of *S. auritus* in that genus; *ano-*, without and *odon*, tooth, referring to what Bleeker mistakenly believed was a lack of teeth (teeth are very reduced; those on upper jaw tend to be lost due to damage, while those on lower jaw are overgrown by surrounding bone)

Siluranodon auritus (Geoffroy St. Hilaire 1809)

eared, from the local Arabic name *Wadi Denne* (“provided with ears”), referring to large, rounded pectoral fins just behind head, which resemble two big ears

Family AUCHENOGLANIDIDAE Giraffe Catfishes

3 genera · 21 species · Taxonomic note: treated as a subfamily of Claroteidae by some workers.

***Auchenoglanis* Günther 1865**

replacement name for *Auchenaspis* Bleeker 1858 (preoccupied in fossil fishes), *auchenos*, neck and *aspis*, shield, referring to broad nuchal shield; *glanis*, sheatfish (*Silurus glanis*), now used as a general term for catfish

***Auchenoglanis biscutatus* (Geoffroy St. Hilaire 1809)**

bi-, two; *scutatus*, shielded, referring to nuchal shield divided into two parts

***Auchenoglanis occidentalis* (Valenciennes 1840)**

western, referring to its distribution (described from Senegal) compared to the similar *A. biscutatus* of Egypt

***Notoglanidium* Günther 1903**

notos, back, presumably referring to “rather long” dorsal fin of *N. walkeri*; *glanidium*, diminutive of *glanis*, sheatfish (*Silurus glanis*), now used as a general term for catfish

***Notoglanidium akiri* (Risch 1987)**

in honor of Mrs. P. J. Akiri (Rivers State University of Science and Technology, Port Harcourt, Nigeria), ichthyologist, who collected type [presumably a noun in apposition, without the matronymic “*ae*”]

***Notoglanidium boutchangai* (Thys van den Audenaerde 1965)**

in honor of Honoré Boutchanga, technical assistant, Eaux et Forêts (Waters and Forests), Gabon, who collected holotype

***Notoglanidium depierrei* (Daget 1980)**

in honor of Daniel Depierre, National Superior School of Agronomy (Yaoundé, Cameroon), who collected type

***Notoglanidium macrostoma* (Pellegrin 1909)**

macro-, long; *stoma*, mouth, its width $\frac{2}{3}$ that of head

***Notoglanidium maculatum* (Boulenger 1916)**

spotted, referring to numerous dark-brown rounded spots on body and fins

***Notoglanidium pallidum* Roberts & Stewart 1976**

pallid, referring to its coloration

***Notoglanidium pambetadi* Vreven, Zamba, Mamonekene & Geerinckx 2013**

local Kunyi name for this catfish, from *tadi*, stone, referring to rock-and-pebble habitat, and *pembe*, meaning unclear; authors selected name to “acknowledge that many of the new species discovered are already well known by the local inhabitants, and to express gratitude to the many children and fishermen who helped to collect the type series”

***Notoglanidium thomasi* Boulenger 1916**

in honor of anthropologist Northcote W. Thomas (1868–1936), who collected type

***Notoglanidium walkeri* Günther 1903**

in honor of Robert Bruce Napoleon Walker (1832–1901), trader and explorer, Royal Geographical Society, who collected type (but who “did not long survive the fatigues of this, his last, voyage”)

***Parauchenoglanis* Boulenger 1911**

para-, near, referring to similarity and/or close relationship with *Auchenoglanis*

***Parauchenoglanis ahli* (Holly 1930)**

in honor of German ichthyologist-herpetologist Ernst Ahl (1898–1945), who helped Holly study cyprinodontiform fishes collected in Cameroon

***Parauchenoglanis altipinnis* (Boulenger 1911)**

altus, high; *pinnis*, fin, referring to elevated dorsal fin

***Parauchenoglanis balayi* (Sauvage 1879)**

in honor of French explorer and colonial administrator Noël Eugene Balay (1847–1902), who collected type

***Parauchenoglanis buettikoferi* (Popta 1913)**

in honor of Swiss zoologist Johann Büttikofer (1850–1927), Director, Zoological Garden in Rotterdam, who presented type to the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie (Leiden, Netherlands)

***Parauchenoglanis longiceps* (Boulenger 1913)**

longus, long; *ceps*, head, referring to longer, narrower head compared to *P. balayi*

***Parauchenoglanis monkei* (Keilhack 1910)**

in honor of Dr. H. Monke (no other information available), who collected type

***Parauchenoglanis ngamensis* (Boulenger 1911)**

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Lake Ngami district (i.e., area), Botswana, type locality

***Parauchenoglanis pantherinus* (Pellegrin 1929)**

panther-like, referring to spotted body and fins (often dark spots on a white, pink or yellow body)

***Parauchenoglanis punctatus* (Boulenger 1902)**

spotted, referring to vertical series of black dots that accompany seven indistinct darker bars on body and/or transverse series of dark spots on dorsal and caudal fins

***Parauchenoglanis zebratus* Sithole, Musschoot, Huyghe, Chakona & Vreven 2023**

scientific Neo-Latin for zebra-like, referring to broad, dark-brown to black, vertical bands of larger specimens

Family CLAROTEIDAE Grunter Catfishes

12 genera/subgenera · 65 species

***Amarginops* Nichols & Griscom 1917**

a-, without; *marginis*, edge or border; *ops*, eye, referring to lack of free orbital margin

***Amarginops hildae* (Bell-Cross 1973)**

in honor of Hilda Jubb, Albany Museum, Grahamstown, South Africa (wife of ichthyologist Rex A. Jubb), “whose excellent fish illustrations of Southern African freshwater fishes [including type of this species] have been admired by all”

***Amarginops platus* Nichols & Griscom 1917**

flat, referring to “depressed, almost flat” head

***Bathylagus* Bailey & Stewart 1984**

bathys, deep, referring to “profundal habitat” of *B. tetranema*; *bagrus*, a bagrid catfish (originally placed in Bagridae)

***Bathylagus tetranema* Bailey & Stewart 1984**

tetra, four; *nema*, thread, referring to barbels, which are reduced to four slender filaments

***Chrysichthys* Bleeker 1858**

chrysos, gold, referring to golden-yellow head and/or specific name of *C. auratus* (=golden); *ichthys*, fish

Subgenus *Chrysichthys****Chrysichthys acsiorum* Hardman 2008**

-orum, commemorative suffix, plural: honoring those engaged in achieving the goals of the All Catfish Species Inventory (ACSI)

***Chrysichthys ansorgii* Boulenger 1910**

in honor of explorer William John Ansorge (1850-1913), who collected type

***Chrysichthys auratus* (Geoffroy St. Hilaire 1809)**

golden, referring to golden-yellow head (at least on the specimens that Geoffroy St. Hilaire examined)

***Chrysichthys bocagii* Boulenger 1910**

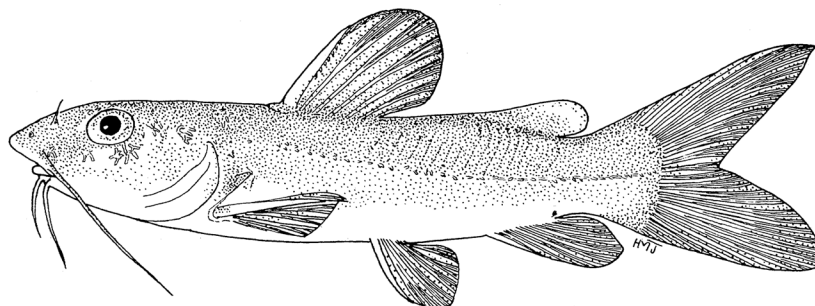
in memory of the late José Vicente Barbosa du Bocage (1823-1907), curator of zoology at the Museum of Natural History in Lisbon, “who so largely contributed to our knowledge” of the zoology of Angola (where this species is endemic)

***Chrysichthys brachynema* Boulenger 1900**

brachys, short; *nema*, thread, referring to “nasal barbel not or but scarcely longer than diameter of eye”

***Chrysichthys cranchii* (Leach 1818)**

in honor of English naturalist and explorer John Cranch (1785-1816), who collected holotype



Amarginops hildae. From: Bell-Cross, G. 1973. The fish fauna of the Buzi River system in Rhodesia and Moçambique. *Arnoldia* v. 6 (no. 8): 1-14.

***Chrysichthys delhezi* Boulenger 1899**

in honor of the late Paul Delhez (1870-1900), Belgian artist and naturalist who collected type (and whose collections and field observations were useful in the preparation of Boulenger's book on Congo fishes)

***Chrysichthys duttoni* Boulenger 1905**

in honor of the "regretted" Joseph Everett Dutton (1874-1905), British parasitologist, co-leader of the Dutton-Todd expedition to the Congo that collected type [he died there after contracting tick fever from performing autopsies while investigating that disease]

***Chrysichthys furcatus* Günther 1864**

forked, referring to large, "deeply forked" caudal fin

***Chrysichthys grandis* Boulenger 1917**

large, referring to its size (described at 57 cm TL, one of the larger members of the genus, known to reach 63 cm and 4 kg)

***Chrysichthys graueri* Steindachner 1911**

in honor of Austrian explorer and zoologist Rudolf Grauer (1870-1927), who collected type

***Chrysichthys habereri* Steindachner 1912**

in honor of German physician, anthropologist and natural history collector Karl Albert Haberer (1864-1941), who collected type

***Chrysichthys helicophagus* Roberts & Stewart 1976**

helix, snail; *phago*, eating or devouring, referring to its diet

***Chrysichthys johnelsi* Daget 1959**

in honor of zoologist Alf G. Johnels (1916-2010), Swedish Museum of Natural History, who observed and reported the first specimens in 1954

***Chrysichthys laticeps* Pellegrin 1932**

latus, wide; *ceps*, head, "remarkable for the size and breadth of its head" (translation)

***Chrysichthys levequei* Risch 1988**

in honor of ichthyologist-hydrobiologist Christian Lévêque, ORSTOM (Office de la Recherche Scientifique et Technique d'Outre-Mer), who collected type

***Chrysichthys mabusi* Boulenger 1905**

local name for this catfish at Lake Bangwelo, Zambia, type locality

***Chrysichthys macropterus* Boulenger 1920**

macro-, long or large; *pterus*, fin, referring to elevated dorsal fin

***Chrysichthys maurus* (Valenciennes 1840)**

dark, referring to dark-brown to blackish coloration and/or almost black-brown fins

***Chrysichthys okae* Fowler 1949**

of Oka, 18 miles north of Eovo, Congo system, French Equatorial Africa, type locality

***Chrysichthys ornatus* Boulenger 1902**

decorated, referring to blackish spots and bands on body (more pronounced on juveniles, fainter on adults) and mottled blackish fins

***Chrysichthys persimilis* Günther 1899**

per-, very; *similis*, similar, described as "extremely similar" to the type of *C. furcatus*

***Chrysichthys platycephalus* Worthington & Ricardo 1937**

platy, flat; *cephalus*, head, referring to broader, more flattened head compared to the similar *C. graueri*

***Chrysichthys polli* Risch 1987**

in honor of ichthyologist Max Poll (1908-1991), former head of the Vertebrate section of the Tervuren Museum

***Chrysichthys praecox* Hardman & Stiassny 2008**

early ripening or precocious, referring to small size at maturity (31.7-62.5 mm SL)

***Chrysichthys punctatus* Boulenger 1899**

spotted, referring to a few black spots on the sides

***Chrysichthys rueppelli* Boulenger 1907**

in honor of explorer-naturalist Eduard Rüppell (1794-1884), whose collection of Nile fishes provided some of the type material

***Chrysichthys sharpii* Boulenger 1901**

in honor of British planter, hunter and colonial administrator in central Africa, Alfred Sharpe (1853-1935), who presented type to the British Museum (Natural History)

***Chrysichthys sianenna* Boulenger 1906**

local name for this catfish at Lake Tanganyika, where it is endemic

***Chrysichthys stappersii* Boulenger 1917**

in honor of the late Louis Stappers (1883–1916), physician, biologist, and head of the Belgian colony in the Congo

***Chrysichthys teugelsi* Risch 1987**

in honor of ichthyologist Guy G. Teugels (1954–2003), Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle (Paris), who helped collect type

***Chrysichthys thonneri* Steindachner 1912**

in honor of Austrian botanist Franz Thonner (1863–1928), who collected type

***Chrysichthys turkana* Hardman 2008**

-ana, belonging to: Lake Turkana, Kenya, type locality, and the Turkana people, the predominant tribe in that area

***Chrysichthys uniformis* Pellegrin 1922**

referring to uniformly dark gray color above and yellowish below

***Chrysichthys wagenaari* Boulenger 1899**

in honor of Lieut. Wagenaar (no other information available, probably a Dutch army officer), who collected Upper Congo fishes for Boulenger, including presumably the type of this one

***Chrysichthys walkeri* Günther 1899**

in honor of Robert Bruce Napoleon Walker (1832–1901), trader and explorer, Royal Geographical Society, who collected type

Subgenus ***Chrysobagrus* Boulenger 1899**

chryso-, referring to close similarity with *Chrysichthys*; *bagrus*, a bagrid catfish (originally placed in Bagridae)

***Chrysichthys brevibarbis* (Boulenger 1899)**

brevis, short; *barbis*, barbel, referring to short nasal (<½ diameter of eye), maxillary (slightly longer than head) and outer mandibular (1½ times as long as inner mandibular) barbels

***Chrysichthys longibarbis* (Boulenger 1899)**

longus, long; *barbis*, barbel, referring to outer pair of maxillary barbels, which measure more than three times length of head and extend well past origin of anal fin

***Chrysichthys longidorsalis* Risch & Thys van den Audenaerde 1981**

longus, long; *dorsalis*, dorsal, referring to long dorsal fin, reaching to at least adipose fin when folded [replacement name for *Gephyroglanis velifer* Thys van den Audenaerde 1965, preoccupied in *Chrysichthys* by *C. velifer* (=maurus) Norman 1923]

***Chrysichthys longipinnis* (Boulenger 1899)**

longus, long; *pinnis*, fin, probably referring to long anal fin (with 13–14 rays)

***Chrysichthys nyongensis* Risch & Thys van den Audenaerde 1985**

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Nyong River, Cameroon, where it is endemic

Subgenus ***Melanodactylus* Bleeker 1858**

melano-, black; *daktylos*, finger, referring to dark-edged fins of type species, *Arius acutivelis* (=C. nigrodigitatus)

***Chrysichthys dageti* Risch 1992**

in honor of Jacques Daget (1919–2009), Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle (Paris), for his contributions to African ichthyology

***Chrysichthys nigrodigitatus* (Lacepède 1803)**

nigro-, black; *digitatus*, having fingers, referring to dark-edged fins

***Chrysichthys ogoensis* (Pellegrin 1900)**

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Ogooué River at Adouma, Gabon, type locality

Subgenus ***Rheoglanis* Poll 1966**

rheos, current or stream, referring to *C. dendrophorus*, which is adapted to life under stones of rocky bottoms of rapids; *glanis*, sheatfish (*Silurus glanis*), now used as a general term for catfish

***Chrysichthys aluuensis* Risch 1985**

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Omeuhuechi-Aluu, Ribers State, Nigeria, type locality

***Chrysichthys dendrophorus* (Poll 1966)**

dendro-, tree or branch; *phorus*, to bear, referring to branched or tree-like arrangement of sensory channels on head

***Chrysichthys thysi* Risch 1985**

in honor of ichthyologist Dirk Thys van den Audenaerde (b. 1934), who collected type

***Clarotes* Kner 1855**

named after the ancient Greek *Klaroten*, a term for slaves (i.e., “people with bent necks” [translation], according to Kner), referring to sharp downward-sloping angle of head

***Clarotes bidorsalis* Pellegrin 1938**

bi-, two; *dorsalis*, dorsal, referring to spine in adipose fin of adults (apparently bigger or more pronounced than adipose fin on *C. laticeps*), giving the impression that it has two dorsal fins

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

latus, wide; *ceps*, head, referring to wide, depressed head

***Clarotes macrocephalus* Daget 1954**

macro-, large; *cephalus*, head, referring to larger head compared to *C. laticeps*

***Gephyroglanis* Boulenger 1899**

gephyra, bridge, presumably reflecting Boulenger’s belief that it is a transitional or intermediate genus between *Chrysobagrus* (now a subgenus of *Chrysichthys*) and *Pimelodus*; *glanis*, sheatfish (*Silurus glanis*), now used as a general term for catfish

***Gephyroglanis congicus* Boulenger 1899**

-icus, belonging to: upper Congo River at Upoto, Democratic Republic of the Congo

***Gephyroglanis gymnorhynchus* Pappenheim 1914**

gymnos, bare or naked; *rhynchus*, snout, referring to lack of nasal barbels

***Gephyroglanis habereri* Steindachner 1912**

in honor of German physician, anthropologist and natural history collector Karl Albert Haberer (1864–1941), who collected type

***Gnathobagrus* Nichols & Griscom 1917**

gnathus, jaw; referring to strongly projecting lower jaw; *bagrus*, a bagrid catfish (originally placed in Bagridae)

***Gnathobagrus depressus* Nichols & Griscom 1917**

referring to “remarkably” and “strongly” depressed head

***Lophiobagrus* Poll 1942**

lophio, similar in appearance to the Monkfish, *Lophius piscatorius* (Lophiiformes: Lophiidae); *bagrus*, a bagrid catfish (originally placed in Bagridae)

***Lophiobagrus aquilus* Bailey & Stewart 1984**

blackish, referring to dark-colored body

***Lophiobagrus asperispinis* Bailey & Stewart 1984**

asper, rough or pungent; *spinis*, thorn, referring to stronger serrae on pectoral spine compared to congeners

***Lophiobagrus brevispinis* Bailey & Stewart 1984**

brevis, short; *spinis*, thorn, referring to “short and weakly armed” dorsal and pectoral spines

***Lophiobagrus cyclurus* (Worthington & Ricardo 1937)**

cyclo-, circle; *ouros*, tail, referring to rounded caudal fin

***Pardiglanis* Poll, Lanza & Romoli Sassi 1972**

Pardi, named for ethologist Leo Pardi (1915–1990), director, Center for the Study of Tropical Wildlife and Ecology, University of Florence, which sponsored expedition to Somalia that collected type; *glanis*, sheatfish (*Silurus glanis*), now used as a general term for catfish

***Pardiglanis tarabinii* Poll, Lanza & Romoli Sassi 1972**

in honor of Giovanni Tarabini Castellani (1910–1992), director of the leprosarium at Gelib, Somalia, who provided type specimen, which was caught by a local fisherman

***Phyllonemus* Boulenger 1906**

phyllon, leaf; *nemus*, thread, referring to leaf-like membrane at tips of maxillary barbels of *P. typus*

***Phyllonemus brichardi* Risch 1987**

in honor of aquarium-fish exporter Pierre Brichard (1921–1990), who collected type

***Phyllonemus filinemus* Worthington & Ricardo 1937**

etymology not explained, presumably *fili-*, filamentous and *nemus*, thread, both referring to long maxillary barbels, flattened and flanged at the tips

***Phyllonemus typus* Boulenger 1906**

serving as type of genus

Family LACANTUNIIDAE Chiapas Catfish

***Lacantunia* Rodiles-Hernández, Hendrickson & Lundberg 2005**

-ia, belonging to: Río Lacantún, Chiapas, México, type locality

***Lacantunia enigmatica* Rodiles-Hernández, Hendrickson & Lundberg 2005**

baffling or inexplicable, referring to its unexpected discovery and obscure relationships and origin



Lacantunia enigmatica. From: Rodiles-Hernández, R., D. A. Hendrickson, J. G. Lundberg and J. M. Humphries. 2005. *Lacantunia enigmatica* (Teleostei: Siluriformes) a new and phylogenetically puzzling freshwater fish from Mesoamerica. *Zootaxa* No. 1000: 1-24.