

## Lagwan fish names

Information from Marouf Ibrahim

17-2-09

Lagwan Birni

Collected by Roger Blench and Aaron Shryock, transcriptions by AS. Marouf Ibrahim was assistant to Blache, who studied the fisheries of this region in the 1950s. Requires further work on the English names.

SC = size class

Scientific Name	Lagwan	SC	English	Français	Arabic	Fulfulde	Comments
1. <i>Protopterus annectens</i>	kàlám		West African lungfish	protopère, en français local, anguille	amkur amkuru (V 114) amkur, amkuru (B 349)	mboynaawu	1 !! HR 7 ; TD 304 long account of how to catch; also T article
2. <i>Polypterus bichir</i>	húlmí		Bichir fish	polyptère, en français local, poisson-caïman	amkorkor amkorkor (B 349)	mboodiiwu, tous les Polypterus, Channidae aussi ; Parietti, P. bichir	2 !! HR 8 ; Blache 388 gives name as general term for all P. in Lagwan
3. <i>Polypterus bichir</i>	tákwál	juv				mboodiiwu	3 !! HR 8 ; Blache 384 general terms for P. in Lagwan
4. <i>Polypterus endlicheri</i>	dàgá bòdō				amkorkor	mboodiiwu	4 !! HR 8, possibly three subspecies of P. endlicheri; said to have a small mouth compared to other two
5. <i>Polypterus endlicheri</i>	dàgá mùkré			polyptère, en français local, poisson-caïman	amkorkor	mboodiiwu	5 !! HR 8; said to have soft meat ; Blache 355 gives this name for general term for P. in Lagwan
6. <i>Polypterus endlicheri</i>	dàgá nguré				amkorkor	mboodiiwu	6 !! HR 8
7. <i>Polypterus senegalus</i>	bábílí			polyptère, en français	amkorkor	mboodiiwu	7 !! HR 8 ; Blache 350 gives this name for this specie in Kotoko of

Scientific Name	Lagwan	SC	English	Français	Arabic	Fulfulde	Comments
				local, poisson- caïman kanga			Mouloué, Lagwan?
8. <i>Heterotis niloticus</i>	ságó				kafka TD golô V 116 ngwala	lareewu, “poisson a carapace”, kafkaf, TD say borrow from Musgum kafka	8 !! HR 9; TD have note on how to prepare it, 263
9. <i>Heterotis niloticus</i>	bírádõ	juv					9 !! HR 9
10. <i>Hyperopisus bebe</i>	màkùyá				wud wudu V 118	sudda-mukkoo-manngu, tous les Hyperopisus (Mormyridea)	10 !! HR 10 ; V 118 Ko bola, mbel ; when viewed in HR, called makuya, but photo in V was called takalkala
11. <i>Mormyrus rume</i>	mìlsìni		elephant- snout fish		wud wudu V 120	avurwu, ndoolaawu	11 !! HR 10 ; V 120, Ko dola, melseni, takalkala ; Blache 373, 374 M. rume et caschive in Lagwan
12. <i>Mormyrus hasselquistii</i>	màkùyá				wudwudu V 119		12 !! HR 11; V says M. macrophthalmus not present in region, changed to M. hasselquistii
13. <i>Mormyrops anguilloides</i>	mínán				mran V 119	avurwu, silkoowu	13 !! HR 11 , Ko mbal, mran; Mous mânang; previously M. deliciosus ; Blache 371, M. deliciosus for Lagwan
14. <i>Mormyrops anguilloides</i>	máslùngwáďá	juv					14 !! HR 11 ; check lateral fricative
15. <i>Petrocephalus bane</i>	ngwádán					sudda-mukkoo-menjed’e	15 !! HR 11; V says P. bane, also P. bovei 120; Blache 376 ngodon (Monod) tous les Petrocephalus et Marcusenius, Lagwan
16. <i>Petrocephalus bovei</i>	brèbrè					sudda-mukkoo-menjed’e	16 !! HR 12, previously M. psittacus ; Blache 354 has brebre tous les Petrocephalus et Marcusenius for Makari; brebu Gnathonemus senegalensis et

Scientific Name	Lagwan	SC	English	Français	Arabic	Fulfulde	Comments
1' <i>Marcusenius senegalensis</i>	tákálkálá					sudda-mukkoo-menjed'e	cyprinoides in Lagwan HR 12, previously M. ihuysi ; takalkala covers two separate species, this and <i>Hyperopisus bebe</i> ?
1' <i>Marcusenius cyprinoides</i>	zívín					sudda-mukkoo-pamari	HR 13 ; Blache 391 has z'vön', Gnathonemus harringtoni for Lagwan (fishbase, <i>Hippopotamyrus harringtoni</i> ) HR 12; possibly M. mento, but not reported in area
1' <i>Marcusenius sp.</i>	gwèdègwèdè, gwèdègwèdè						HR 13; L 142 ; according to L, not present in region
2' <i>Marcusenius sp.</i>	zívín gé						HR 13; L, not present as such, not valid s name
2' <i>Marcusenius sp.</i>	zívín níví					sudda-mukkoo-pamari	?? HR 13; L, not present as such, not valid s name
2' <i>Campylomormyrus tamandua</i>	tákálkálá, tákálkálá níví					sudda-mukkoo-pamari ndolaawu, Campylomormyrus tamandua, Parietti	HR 13 ; V 118, #41 Blache 384 has term for G. senegalensis et cyprinoïdes, Mormyrus rume et caschive for Kotoko of Kousseri; L has term Gnathonemus tamandua renamed as Campylomormyrus tamandua HR 14 ; L, not commun in region, but in upper Chari, strong resemblance with C. tamandua
2' <i>Gnathonemus petersii</i>	tákálkálá níví					sudda-mukkoo-pamari	!! HR 14 ; Blache 374, same in Lagwan; Musgum munhu, munwi, munuhu, Bornu mu !! HR 14
2' <i>Gymnarchus niloticus</i>	mùlwi					d'ang-sarkiiwu, Hausa d'an sarki, 'fils du chef'; laamd'o- lid'd'i 'chef des poissons'	!! HR 14 ; Blache 374, same in Lagwan; Musgum munhu, munwi, munuhu, Bornu mu !! HR 14
2' <i>Gymnarchus niloticus</i>	másímériyá	juv					!! HR 14; subadult; large enough to eat
2' <i>Gymnarchus niloticus</i>	zlàfi	sub					!! HR 14; subadult; large enough to eat
2' <i>Hydrocynus vittatus, H. brevis, H. forskalii</i>	mátl'ó		tigerfish	en français local, binga	abu sunun 'father of teeth', am sunun,	nyii'eewu '(poisson) dentu'; Parietti has Hydrocynus forscalii, H. brevis	HR 15 ; Blench thinks this may be H. forskalii; V notes four species, H. brevis, H. forskalii, H.

Scientific Name	Lagwan	SC	English	Français	Arabic	Fulfulde	Comments
					samak A V 124		somonorum, H. vittatus , V 124; Ko mâso, sala ;; L has three, H. vittatus, brevis, and forskali (one i)
2' <i>Hydrocynus vittatus, H. brevis, H. forskali</i>	májirà	juv	tigerfish				HR 15; Blench thinks the life cycle names correspond to three distinct species; majira may be H. vittatus
2' <i>Hydrocynus vittatus, H. brevis, H. forskali</i>	hùlàk'ì	sen	tigerfish				HR 15 ; Blench thinks this may be H. brevis ; said to be senior fish, having lost its teeth
3' <i>Alestes baremose, A. dentex</i>	sífi	f		sardine	sardine; liliyo V 122	pelpeleewu, HD Alestes dentex sethente, A. baremose, A. baremose tchadense, (Characidae); dried in sun, called 'salanga'	HR 16; V H. baremoze, with a 'z' not an 's' , Ko madensima, si; Blache 382 notes that both A. baremose and A. dentex are sfi in Lagwan
3' <i>Alestes baremose, A. dentex</i>	sélwá	m		sardine			HR 16
3' <i>Alestes baremose, A. dentex</i>	sílémá	juv					HR 16
3' <i>Brycinus macrolepidotus</i>	áliyáñgúwé				angria V 123	menjed'eere, paltaawu, Brycinus macrolepidatus	HR 16 ; V 123 Ko zemsì
3' <i>Brycinus nurse</i>	ngùms'álá			en français locale, sardine	fatimé salsal V 123	jatawre, murayre, Brycinus nurse, Alestes nurse (Rüpp. 1832), Characidae	HR 17, V 123, longueur 25 cm
3' <i>Micralestes elongatus</i>	ngìdí						HR 59, or Alestes; ngidi, nkume, and s:nhi are part of group; L has only M. humilis ; Blache ngodi said to be <i>Leptocypris niloticus</i> in Lagwan
3' <i>Micralestes species ?</i>	nkúmé	m					HR 99 pleu petit qui ngidi, noir, vivant en bande, ses yeux dur, part of ngums'ala group
3' <i>Micralestes species ?</i>	bárá	f					Possibly Aplocheilichthys almus, 650

Scientific Name	Lagwan	SC	English	Français	Arabic	Fulfulde	Comments
3 <sup>1</sup> <i>Hepsetus odoe</i>	klè kíí			en français local, brochet	kelep bahr V 121	sikkolwu; b'ooaaruu ndiyam Parietti	HR 17 , Ko kéléki
3 <sup>1</sup> <i>Citharinops distichodoides distichodoides</i>	s'úmán						L 263 ; Blache 387 has tsuman for Citharinops distichodoides in Lagwan; L says that species formerly names Citharinops d.
4 <sup>1</sup> <i>Citharinops distichodoides distichodoides</i>	gérúwá					hud'oowu	HR 21, resembles sakwan, black, larger than sakwan; small cales, herbivore; Blache 362, C. distichodoides for Lagwan
4 <i>Citharinus citherus, Citharinus latus</i>	sàkwàn	f			am tebek V 127	faaliyaawu	HR 19 ; !! V 127 Ko sakwan, kakabel ; Blache 381 cites Monod, same name; ? B 380 sagwan is Citharinus citherarus et latus in Lagwan; Kotoko say that it is the female, male is ganari
4 <sup>1</sup> <i>Citharinus citherus, Citharinus latus</i>	gánárí	m			abu gesh	hud'oowu, 'poisson d'herbe'; tous les Distichodus, syn. Nyaama-hud'oowu	HR 20; V 102 Citharinops distichodoides; said to be male, female is sakwan ; this s name now replaced by Citharinops d.
4 <sup>1</sup> <i>Citharinus citherus, Citharinus latus</i>	míkí	juv					HR 19; Blache 373 agrees with scientific name and Kotoko name, but doesn't mention juvenile form; Blache 377 nkri (or mkri ?) is Citharinus latus in Lagwan
4 <i>Citharinus latus</i>	bàtàkì					faaliyaawu	HR 20 ; a strong fish; its flesh is not appreciated; check, which is this also called a bataki
4 <i>Distichodus rostratus</i>	màgàn					hud'oowu, farjaawu	HR 21, V 125 Ko. batako, #131; Blache 371 same name, tous les Distichodus; Blache 352 bataki is D. brevipinnis ; not clear what distinguishes bataki and magan, but magan said to be larger ?!

Scientific Name	Lagwan	SC	English	Français	Arabic	Fulfulde	Comments
4 <sup>1</sup> <i>Distichodus brevipinnis</i> , <i>D. engycephalus</i> , <i>Paradistichodus dimidiatus</i>	bàtàkì				rishiné, V 125	hud'oowu	HR 22, V 125, #132 Blache 352 tou les D, or D. brevipinnis; this may be an Arab term, replacing magan
4 <sup>1</sup> <i>Ichthyoborus besse besse</i>	klè kíí				kalbalhoud, V 126	jukkaawu, Ichthyoborus besse ex Ichthyoborus besse (Joan. 1835), Distichodontidae	!! HR 22 ?? V 126, Ko kéléki
4 <sup>1</sup> <i>Barbus bynni occidentalis</i>	túm					gazawaawu, 'poisson de Gazawa', syn. menjed'eeyel	HR 24 ; not in V ; possibly B. parawaldroni, B. bynni waldroni
4 <sup>1</sup> <i>Labeo coubie</i> , <i>L. senegalensis</i> , <i>L. parvus</i>	túm					kad'd'eewu, tous les L.	HR 23 ; V 131, 45 cm
5 <sup>1</sup> <i>Labeo coubie</i> , <i>L. senegalensis</i> , <i>L. parvus</i>	ndúrí	juv			am dougoula V 130	pid'd'eewu, il s'abime très rapidement	HR 23, there is a nduri paw, tu ; V 130, Ko bombema ; Blache 359, 387 ; L. parvus is possibly nduri a tu; which is nduri a paw ?
5 <i>Clarias (Clarioides) albopunctatus</i>	k'álágé			en français locale, silure	balbut	muub'alaawu	HR 26, smallest and most common catfish, V 137, #302
5 <sup>1</sup> <i>Clarias (Clarioides) albopunctatus</i>	kácù	juv					HR 26 ; confirm tone
5 <sup>1</sup> <i>Clarias (Clarias) gariepinus</i>	gàyàr					muub'alaawu	HR 26, largest catfish, 1,5 m, V 137, #306
5 <sup>1</sup> <i>Heterobranchus bidorsalis</i> , <i>H. longifilis</i>	ghìmbì		African catfish		lô V 138	mbunwu, utilize en magie et en médecine traditionnelle	HR 27; V 138, #314, Ko gadirou, hombi, longueur 1,5 m
5 <sup>1</sup> <i>Heterobranchus bidorsalis</i> , <i>H. longifilis</i>	zùwè	juv					
5 <sup>1</sup> <i>Schilbe mystus (Eutropius niloticus)</i>	klé swá				délé V 135	battaawu, makeleleewu, a borrowing from Sango	HR 28, V 135, #281, Ko foliyo, tséfri; longueur 40 cm

Scientific Name	Lagwan	SC	English	Français	Arabic	Fulfulde	Comments
5' <i>Schilbe uranoscopus</i>	s'addè					battaawu	HR 28 no scales, Ankei 85, Schilbe (Eutropius) sp. ; blache 380 tous les schilbe
5' <i>Schilbe intermedius</i> ( <i>Schilbe mystus</i> )	màgùndàrà					battaawu	HR 28 no scales, related to ere ere ?
5' <i>Schilbe ssp.</i>	sàkàtàn	juv				battaawu	HR 28 like ere ere, no scales; Blache 381 tous les Schilbe
6' <i>Siluranodon auritus, Schilbe ssp.</i>	éré éré				ganja V 135 ere ere Abase says that terms is Arab, Kotoko true term, s'adde	battaawu, "poisson semblable a du tissu", c'est a sa couleur blanchatre que ce poisson doit son nom.	HR 28 V 135, #286, Ko mse fri, ndarkouli ; Blache 359 arabe tous les Schilbeidae
6 <i>Bagrus docmak</i>	mìzìgìlè					malalaywu	HR 45, V 133 ; said to be larger, possibly adult form, B. bajad being juvenile form; ask if these are considered one!?
6' <i>Bagrus bajad</i>	mùzlùwì				abu shanap 'father of whiskers', lagwan shanam haboraz V 133	malalaywu	HR 45; ?
6' <i>Chrysichthys (Chrysichthys) auratus</i>	pátímá bùgrù					djardeo V 133 jeeliwu, 'poisson a barbelures', Chrysichthys auratus tilhoi Pellgr. 1909, tous less Clarotes, Auchenoglanis (Bagridae)	HR 45, considered part of garga group; V 134 both C. have same name. Ko kagago sougoum, V 133; C. a. tilhoi du bassin du Lac Tchad, #257
6' <i>Clarotes laticeps</i>	dǎbé mùzlùwì				aboushok, banbou V 134	fowru-lid'd'i	HR 45, found in marshes ; V 135, #268, Ko génha, mbénéfi, commune sur fonds vaseaux; 80 cm ; V notes second species, C. macrocephalus ; Blache 355 ; L considers C. macrocephalus to be adult of C. laticeps

Scientific Name	Lagwan	SC	English	Français	Arabic	Fulfulde	Comments
6. <i>Clarotes laticeps</i> ?	dàli						HR 26; said to have a very large head, larger than ginha; possibly more mature specimen of species
6. <i>Clarotes laticeps</i>	gínhá	juv				muub'alaawu	HR 26, medium sized catfish, 90 cm; V 137, #303; said to have large head, but not as large as dali ; Blache 362, tous les Clarotes in Lagwan
6. <i>Auchenoglanis biscutantus</i> , <i>Auchenoglanis occidentalis</i>	mbùk'úsó						V 132, Ko. kagan, dans les zones d'inodations et les mares, 65 cm, #247
6. <i>Auchenoglanis biscutantus</i> , <i>Auchenoglanis occidentalis</i>	gòrògòrò	juv				fowru-lid'd'i, tufoore, fowru lid'd'i, Andrenoglanis occidentalis, Parietti ; also Parietti, Mochokus niloticus, tufoore	HR 46, considered part of garga group ; V 133, ko kagara zeï ; 58 cm, #251
6. <i>Synodontis ssp.</i>	̀nk'wè					fowru-lid'd'i	HR 48, très petit
7. <i>Synodontis ssp.</i>	gàrgà				garga Arabic term, some say Kotoko have borrowed, original Kotoko term nk'we	fowru-lid'd'i 'hyene des poissons', aussi pobbi-lid'd'i, tous les Clarotes (Bagridae), Auchenoglanis (Bagridei), Synodontis (Mochokidai) ; Pareitti, kurunnguwwu, tufoore for Synodontis	HR 48
7. <i>Synodontis batensoda</i> ( <i>Brachysynodontis batensoda</i> )	gàrgà bíklím					fowru-lid'd'i	HR 48, tres gros, <i>S. gobroni</i> ?
7. <i>Synodontis clarias</i>	̀nk'wèl xùsmi, ábbà zàgàrà					fowru-lid'd'i	HR 48; said second name is order name, first more recent
7. <i>Synodontis eupterus</i>	̀nk'wèn zèy, gàrgà zèy					fowru-lid'd'i	HR 48
7. <i>Synodontis ocellifa</i> ,	ábbà zàgàrà					fowru-lid'd'i	HR 48

Scientific Name	Lagwan	SC	English	Français	Arabic	Fulfulde	Comments
<i>S. filamentosus</i>							
7. <i>Synodontis gobroni</i>							said to be once in the region, but no longer
7. <i>Synodontis nigrita</i>	̀nk'w`en b`ırb`azl`a					fowru-lid'd'i	HR 48, Ankei 87
7. <i>Synodontis schall</i>	b`am`a						HR 47, blue, black; Blache says <i>Synodontis membranaceus</i> , <b>351</b>
7. <i>Synodontis sp.</i>	g`arg`a t`u					fowru-lid'd'i	HR 48
7. <i>Malapterurus minjiriya</i>	m`ıg`ıtl'i						HR 99 gros poisson ´electrique, sans ´ecaille ; L says not in region, but in Benue
8. <i>Malapterurus electricus</i>	m`ır`ıy`a		electric fish	en fran¸ais local, poisson-courant		feewfeewnde, 'chose tres froide'	HR 49; skin used to make a skin for children's drums
8. <i>Lates niloticus</i>	sh`ug`w`ı, sh`ug`ı		Nile perch	perche du Nil ; en fran¸ais local, capitaine	kapt`en	ankaltaawu	HR 50
8. <i>Lates niloticus</i>	m`ab`an `e sh`ug`w`ı	juv					HR 50
8. <i>Cichlidae and Anabantidae ssp.</i>	m`ab`an			en fran¸ais local, carpe	forfo	farawre, tous les Tilapia et hemichromis, Cichlidae ; <i>Sarotherodon galilaeus</i> ex <i>Tilapia galilaea</i> , <i>Oreochromis niloticus</i> ex <i>Tilapia nilotica</i>	HR 50ff; Blache 370 tous les Cichlidae et Anabantidae in Lagwan
8. <i>Cichlidae and Anabantidae ssp.</i>	p`ır`end`e	juv					HR 50ff
8. <i>Hemichromis fasciatus</i>	s`am					farawre, tous les <i>Hemichromis</i>	HR 57; V 149, #452; said to be very strong, will take several hooks at once
8. <i>Oreochromis niloticus</i>	v`uz`ı, m`ab`an `e v`uz`ı, m`ab`an `a t`u			en fran¸ais local, carpe		farawre	HR 51 ; Blache 370 cites Monod maban wusi <i>Tilapia nilotica</i> in Lagwan

Scientific Name	Lagwan	SC	English	Français	Arabic	Fulfulde	Comments
8' <i>Sarotherodon galileaeus galileaeus</i>	màbán ngúrlúm, màbán á pàw			en français local, carpe		farawre	HR 51, said to be large and white
8' <i>Tilapia zillii</i>	zàrá skwàrà	tilapia		en français local, carpe		farawre	HR 51; blache 391 zara skwara is <i>Hemichromis bimaculatus</i>
8' « <i>Ctenopoma</i> » <i>houyi</i> ( <i>Ctenopoma muriei</i> )	tákú				<i>Ctenopoma muriei muriei</i> <i>Ctenopoma petherici</i> two names from Kim	?? farawre-burbur, parawe-burbur, tous les <i>Ctenopoma</i> (Cichlidae)	HR 58, considered part of maban family; V 154, #520, same name for <i>C. petherici</i>
9' <i>Parachanna obscura</i>	mùtkúmán			en français local, poisson- serpent	am dof V 146	mboodiiwu, tous les Polypterus, Channidae aussi ; loopeewu, <i>Parachanna obscura</i> , Pareitti ; for same fish, Tourneux mboodiiwu	HR 53 ; V 146, #419
9' <i>Tetraodon lineatus</i>	ñk'wèlí			en français local, poisson- ballon		mbaggu-lid'd'i, 'tambour des poissons' <i>Tetraodon lineatus</i> , ex <i>T. fahaka strigosus</i>	HR 53 ;
9' <i>Epiphatys bifasciatus</i>	mátín símhí						Originally just simhi, but later changed to matin simhi ; small , between ngidi and nkume in size ; possibly in Alestes family
9' <i>Epiphatys annulatus</i>	xàzànnè						small, black and white spots, 650

Abbreviations for sources:

Blache	Blache (J.) 1964 les poisons du bassin du Tchad et du bassin adjacent du Mayo Kebi – ORSTROM.
HR	Holden, M. and W. Reed. 1972. West African Freshwater Fish. Longman.
L	Lévêque, Paugy, Teugels, 1990. Faune des poissons d'eaux douces et saumâtres de l'Afrique de l'Ouest.
TD	Tourneux et Dairou.
V	Vivien, J. 1991. Faune du Cameroun. Guide des Mammifères et poissons.