

A wordlist of the Ninzo language of Central Nigeria and its affinities

**[DRAFT CIRCULATED FOR COMMENT -NOT FOR CITATION WITHOUT REFERENCE TO
THE AUTHOR**

Roger Blench
Kay Williamson Educational Foundation
8, Guest Road
Cambridge CB1 2AL
United Kingdom
Voice/Ans 0044-(0)1223-560687
Mobile worldwide (00-44)-(0)7967-696804
E-mail rogerblench@yahoo.co.uk
<http://www.rogerblench.info/RBOP.htm>

This printout: Cambridge, October 19, 2011

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION.....	1
2. Location, history and sociolinguistic situation.....	1
2.1 Nomenclature	1
2.2 Location and settlements	1
2.3 Language status.....	1
2.4 Ninzo culture and history	1
2.5 Existing literature	1
3. PHONOLOGY	1
3.1 Vowels	1
3.2 Consonants.....	2
3.3 Tones	3
4. MORPHOLOGY	3
4.1 Nouns.....	3
4.2 Pronouns	5
5. LEXICAL COMPARISON AND THE CLASSIFICATION OF NINZO.....	6
REFERENCES	28

1. Introduction

This is an annotated wordlist of the Ninzo language, spoken in Fadan Wate in Kaduna State, Nigeria. The original version was a recension of Hörner (1980), but this was partially rechecked at Fadan Wate in 1995 with assistance of Enene Na'aman Enene. Unfortunately the second half of the list is as the original. Further transcriptions from Ninzo Language Project Committee (1999) have also been added.

2. Location, history and sociolinguistic situation

2.1 Nomenclature

The Ninzo people are referred to in all previous literature as 'Ninzam'. However, 'Ninzo' is now preferred by the community and will be used henceforth.

2.2 Location and settlements

The Ninzo live in some twenty villages on the border of Plateau and Nassarawa States in Central Nigeria in an oval between Gwantu, Akwanga and Wamba. They divide into some seven groups that have dialect differences, in some cases quite marked. These are;

Amar Dogo	Gidan Waya,
Amar Lada	Konkri
Amar Tita	Zahon, Takpa
Ancha	
Kwasa	
Sambe	
Fadan Wate	

2.3 Language status

Ninzo language appears to be flourishing. A standard orthography has been established and a translation of the New Testament has been published.

2.4 Ninzo culture and history

2.5 Existing literature

The only study of Ninzo in circulation is Hörner (1976) which was based largely on recorded taped material from an out-of-context informant. To judge by the opinions of my circle of informants who represented all the major lects, Hoerner's data is worryingly inaccurate and should be used only with care.

3. Phonology

The phonology of Ninzo is described in Hoerner (1976) and later NLP (1999) in the context of the proposed orthography¹. The suggestions given below are slightly different from NLP (1999)

3.1 Vowels

Ninzo probably has seven phonemic vowels;

¹ The NLP document was written by Enene xx, to whom I am grateful for accompanying me to Fadan Wate and assembling a group of speakers whose forms are recorded in the present wordlist.

	Front	Central	Back
Close	i	ɨ	u
Close-Mid	e	ə	o
Open		a	

For a Plateau language this is a highly unusual inventory. Tarok has three central vowels and has similarly lost the distinction between the open and close mid vowels.

Ninzo has a series of nasalised vowels;

ã	há	‘to pay’
ẽ	ahé	‘eggs’
ĩ	hĩ	‘to make soup’
ũ	hũ	‘to climb’

It is clear these occur in a rather restricted context, always word-final, always following h- and always with high tone. Nonetheless, nasalisation is clearly contrastive. Compare;

há	‘two’	há	‘to pay’
hĩ	‘to know’	hĩ	‘to make soup’

Other dialects of Ninzo, such as Amar, appears to make more extensive use of nasalisation. This topic requires considerable further investigation.

3.2 Consonants

Ninzo consonants are as follows:

	Bilabial	Labio-dental	Alveolar	Alveo-palatal	Retro-flex	Pala-tal	Velar	Labial-velar	Glottal
Plosive	p b		t d		ʈ ɖ	[tʃ] [dʒ]	k g	kp gb	
Fricative		f v	s z	ʃ ʒ	ʂ ʐ		ɣ		h
Affricate			ts						
Nasal	m		n			ɲ	ŋ		
Trill			r		ɽ				
Approximant						y		w	ɥ
Lateral			l						
Approximant									

The retroflex series is somewhat controversial, as its phonetics have never been investigated and is not reported for other languages in the region. /ɽ/ is common in this area and it is possible the other languages formed these sounds by analogy. The orthography for Ninzo represents retroflex by doubling the consonant. Thus;

ʈ	tt
ɖ	dd
ʂ	ss
ʐ	zz
ɽ	rr

A curious constraint on the retroflex series is that, apart from /ɽ/, they are always followed by –ú. For example;

t	tú	remove
d	dú	loosen
ʂ	ʂ	hot
ʐ	ʐ	bury

The ‘whistling fricative’ /q/ is written ‘hyw’. /kp/ and /gb/ have allophones /kf/ and /gv/ which occur before back vowels.

Nasals preceding consonants are homorganic. In initial position, nasals are usually tone-bearing, but in word-medial position they are usually not, except when the word is an old compound. Consonants followed by –r, –ɽ and –l are extremely common as are labialisation and palatalisation.

3.3 Tones

Ninzo has three level tones and a rising and falling tone, represented as follows;

High	´
Mid	Unmarked
Low	`
Rising	ˊ
Falling	ˋ

4. Morphology

4.1 Nouns

The dominant procedure for forming plurals is alternation of V- prefixes. The tone on these prefixes is highly variable and may well be driven by stem tones.

Singular prefixes are;

i-
ù-
and zero

Many words have unproductive prefixes and singular and plural is now marked only by tone.

Plural prefixes are;

à-
ì-

à- has an allomorph ànV- which occurs before certain nouns.

u/i-

Gloss	sg.	pl.
Tree (generic)	ù-nkunkurr	ì-nkunkurr
Root	u-zhízhì	ì-zhizhì
Stream, forest	u-mbló	i-mbló
Horn	u-nju	i-nju
Lip	u-bàraŋu	i-bàraŋu

u/a-

Gloss	sg.	pl.
Leaf	ù-mgbàmvù	à-mgbàmvù
Bark (dried)	u-ŋátù	a-ŋàtu
Flower	ú-gbáɽ	a-gbaɽ
Cloud	u-kpá	a-kpá
Room	u-kí	a-kí

Some u/a- prefix alternations also incorporate u/i- alternations in the first vowel of the stem;

Gloss	sg.	pl.
Man	ù-nùru	a-nirú
Old person	u-tuce	a-tice
Senior in age	u-nunku	a-ninku
Bow	u-tuta ⁺	i-tita

Some u/a- prefix alternations also incorporate alternations in the first syllable of the stem;

Gloss	sg.	pl.
Guest/stranger	u-nicir	a-bicir
Doctor	u-nifù	a-bifù
Witch	u-nutri	a-datri

i- always alternates with a-

Gloss	sg.	pl.
Ember	í-klárù	a-kíklárú
Stone	i-ngbítá	a-ngbítá
Year	i-sé	a-sé
Hill	ì-gbré	a-gbré
House	i-ko	a-ko

An i- prefix can alternate with an ani- prefix in the plural;

Gloss	sg.	pl.
Death	i-kfu	ani-kfu
He-goat	i-gbehir	ani-gbehir
Horse	i-ŋa	ani-ŋa
Leopard	i-ce	ani-ce
Guinea-fowl	ì-tsì	ani-tsi

An a- prefix can alternate with an anV- prefix in the plural;

Gloss	sg.	pl.
Cock	agba	an-agba
Colobus monkey	a-be	ana-be
Kob antelope	à-kùrù	áná-kúrú
Cat	à-músâ	àna-músâ
Chameleon	a-kanda	anu-kanda

A common process, which can be combined with prefix alternations, is reduplication of the first syllable of the root. The vowel of the reduplicated syllable is usually –i, but is –u in two unexplained cases.

Gloss	sg.	pl.
Senior in status	àṅkpyè	aṅkpikpyè
Finger	vivriṅo	i-mimarango
Ankle	í-gblédzá	à-gbígbledzá
Navel	i-mgbeku	i-mgbimgbeku
Liver	i-sur	i-sisur
Animal (Bush)	í-názhù	í-nínazhù
Hoe I	a-kla	i-kikla
Termite	í-yó	í-yíyó
Knife (small)	á-njî	i-njinji
Gown, small	a-nkru	i-nkinkru
Basket (generic)	à-sà	í-sísà
Arrow	à-wyírr	i-wyiwyírr
Friend	u-kpà	a-kpukpà
King	u-tû	a-tútù

Number marking can be achieved entirely through tonal change;

Gloss	sg.	pl.
Village, town	ìgbù	igbú
Road	ànkò	anko
Mother-in-law	à-yimbur	a-yímbúr

The following are ‘one-off’ pairings.

Gloss	sg.	pl.
Person (specific)	u-gó	ambûrr
Woman, wife	ayámba	amba
Child	ù-vuvùrr	à-múmàr
Grandchild	udzumu	a-marmu
Brother	u-zayìrr	a-múyìrr
Blind person	na-kréfi	aba-kréfi
Dog	ì-víyo	a-miyo

4.2 Pronouns

Number/ person	Subject	Object	Possessive Noun	Possessive adjective
1s	ìngà	ìngà	àmùngà	mū
2s	ùwà	ùwà	mùwà	mā
3s	à, úwá*	mā	àamá	àamá
1p	ùntá	ùntá	àmùntá	mùntá
2p	ímbá	ímbá	àmbá	àmbárr
3p	àbá, ā*	bā	àbárr	àmbárr

Asterisked forms are used to refer to someone after the initial reference

5. Lexical comparison and the classification of Ninzo

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
1.	Tree (generic)	ù-nkunkurr	ì-nkunkurr	cf. Ce <i>ì-kòñ</i> , Kulu <i>í-kòñ</i> , Izere <i>kâkón</i> , Hasha <i>iko</i> , Shall <i>kun</i> , Sur <i>kon</i> , Yangkam <i>koon</i> , Tarok <i>akún</i> ‘firewood’. This root is widespread in Niger-Congo, often meaning ‘firewood’.
2.	Leaf	ù-mgbàmvù	à-mgbàmvù	also ‘paper, book’. cf. Mada <i>mgbāmvū</i>
3.	Root	u-zhízhì	ì-zhizhì	cf. Tahoss <i>shehe</i> , Ayu <i>ishî</i> , Yeskwa <i>ishak</i> ,
4.	Branch	ú-gúngà	i-gíngà	cf. Ce <i>ku-gò</i> , Mada <i>nggākì</i>
5.	Bark (fresh)	u-kpùkpúlà	a-kpùkpúlà	cf. Alumu, Toro <i>ùkùkù</i>
6.	Bark (dried)	u-ḡáṭù	a-ḡáṭu	
7.	Thorn	ì-nṭo		cf. Ningye <i>ntu</i> , Alumu <i>tòtò</i> , Hasha <i>i-tyok</i> , Ceì- <i>títò</i> , Mada <i>ncwār</i>
8.	Grass (generic)	ù-guga	à-giga	cf. Ce <i>ku-gá</i> , Ningye <i>gəga</i> , Bu <i>giga</i> , Mada <i>gəgā</i>
9.	Cornstalk	ù-tákpù		
10.	Vine (generic)			
11.	Mushroom	ìḡu	ìḡú	
12.	Flower	ú-gbáṛ	a-gbáṛ	
13.	Water-lily			
14.	Algae			
15.	Seed/stone/pip	ìngmbimbi	bibi	cf. Mada <i>bě</i> , Ningye <i>be</i> , Toro <i>biro</i> , Alumu <i>biro</i> ⁺ , Shall <i>biri</i> , Bu <i>ibi</i>
16.	Ember	í-klárù	a-kíklárú	
17.	Charcoal	ì-klámbri	á-klámbri	cf. Mada <i>mbrī</i>
18.	Dust	ì-húr	—	cf. Ce <i>ihut</i> , Bu <i>iwuru</i> , Hasha <i>iwur</i> , Toro <i>huru</i> , Mada <i>ywūr</i> ,
19.	Ashes	ìntúró	—	cf. Mada <i>təntōñ</i> , Ayu <i>antórá</i> ,
20.	Ash from bushfire	ì-mbrí	—	
21.	Mud	alánca	—	cf. Mada <i>ncān</i>
22.	Clay			
23.	Dew	amé	—	cf. Ayu <i>iméṅ</i> , Ningye <i>mmeṅ</i> , Hasha <i>eme</i> , Rukul <i>mmaṅ</i> , Tarok <i>imìmyàṅ</i> , Yangkam <i>myaṅ</i> going back to a Niger-Congo root #me-
24.	Stone	i-ngbítá	a-ngbítá	cf. Mada <i>mgbántə</i>
25.	Sand	ugbuhún	—	cf. Mada <i>kàbū</i>
26.	Smoke	intí	—	cf. Ce <i>inci</i> , Ningye <i>nteṅ</i> , Bu <i>entə</i> , Mada <i>ntsəntsə</i> ,
27.	Fire	u-rú	—	
28.	Water	amasíṛ	—	cf. Mada <i>məsər</i> , Iregwe <i>rə-ḡí</i> ,

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
29.	Rain	ahrú	—	
30.	Cloud	u-kpá	a-kpá	cf. Mada kpəkpə
31.	Lightning	ingó	—	
32.	Harvest Season	a-bá		
33.	Rainy Season	ikə		
34.	Dry season	u-ga		
35.	Year	i-sé	a-sé	cf. Bu isə , Ningye je , Berom fěy pl. nefey ,. Probably also Hausa ɣekara
36.	Today	àri		
37.	Yesterday	nârè		cf. Ayu ărè , Rukul irə , Ningye ryɛɛŋ ,
38.	Tomorrow	ambré		cf. Ce kambàlà , Bu mbrə , Ningye mbwer , Təsu merebi , Ayu icámbirì ,
39.	Day before yesterday	nârère		
40.	Morning	ambre		
41.	Evening	ingbahrú		
42.	Dawn	igembrê		
43.	Afternoon	ázhì		
44.	Day	ázhì	i-ví	
45.	Night	ibíŋŋù	—	
46.	Moon/month	u-hwá	í-hwà	cf. Ayu ihwé , Yeskwa ufe , Ceì- hél , Mada hwá , Berom pwēl , Rukul u-fye , Fyem fyél , Bo fye , but an old Niger-Congo root. Also Ron, Sha, Kulere #fen though probably a loan into Chadic.
47.	Sun	ázhì		
48.	Sunrise	ànzà		
49.	Star(s)	ìntsintso	intsintso	
50.	Wind	ùnduqu	—	
51.	God I	ázhì		
52.	God II	abaci		The real meaning of this is something like ancestors, but has been adopted by Christians to distinguish it from the sun = God equation. cf. Bu baci ,
53.	Sky = cloud			
54.	World	ìngbungbúr	—	
55.	Ground, earth	i-mimì	—	cf. Berom vwel , Rukul amwel
56.	Surface of earth	úgómimì	—	
57.	Large River	inyí	—	
58.	Stream, forest	u-mbló	i-mbló	
59.	Forest, thick	u-cú	—	
60.	Mountain	i-gbú	ì-gbigbú	cf. Ce ì-gbòl , Bu gbulu , Ningye nkugbu , Ninzo i-gbú , Cara i-gale ,
61.	Hill	ì-gbré	a-gbré	
62.	Bush	ì-jíjí	—	
63.	Farm	ilá	ì-zuzú	
64.	Market*	u-dú	—	
65.	Room	u-kí	a-kí	
66.	House of dead person	a-kó		
67.	House	i-ko	a-ko	
68.	Outer yard	akplá	—	
69.	House interior	urə	—	
70.	Farm shelter	i-burr	a-burr	cf. Ayu imbùt ,
71.	Wall (of room)	ù-kánka	—	
72.	Thatch roof	akpúkpà		

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
73.	Granary	iwùrr	iwúrr	
74.	Road	ànkò	anko	also 'door' ()
75.	Path	iywiṛ'nkò	—	
76.	Village, town	ìgbù	ìgbú	
77.	Hamlet	anglako	—	
78.	River-bank	unḍu inyí		
79.	Swamp/wetland	àkpàtrì	—	
80.	Place	u-nto	i-ntò	
81.	Place (specific)	i-nkla	a-nkla	
82.	Person/people	u-nusirr	a-nusirr	
83.	Person (specific)	u-gó	ambûrr	
84.	Man	ù-nùru	a-nirú	
85.	Woman, wife	ayámba	amba	
86.	Child	ù-vuvùrr	à-múmàr	
87.	Husband	ùrú	anirú'mbárr	
88.	Widow	ayámbákò	ambakó	
89.	Young man	ù-vúvùrr'nzè	à-múmâr'nzè	
90.	Young girl	u-vá	a-niwa	
91.	Old man	u-tuce nusir	a-tice nusir	
92.	Old woman	u-tuce ayamba	a-tice amba	
93.	Father	à-tì, à-kì	à-titi, à-kiki	
94.	Mother	à-yìrr	à-yiyìrr	
95.	Father-in-law	u-hi	a-hi	
96.	Mother-in-law	à-yimbur	a-yímbúr	
97.	Daughter-in-law	i-yamba udzumu	amba budzumu	
98.	Barren woman			
99.	Relations			
100.	Ancestors			
101.	Senior in status	àṅkpyè	aṅkpyè	
102.	Senior in age	u-nunku	a-ninku	
103.	Grandfather	a-bacimu	a-bacimu	
104.	Grandmother	a-gugumu		
105.	Grandchild	udzumu	a-marmu	
106.	Aunt	ì-wùrímu	à-wúrímu	
107.	Brother I	u-zumburr	a-múya	
108.	Brother II	u-zayìrr	a-múyìrr	
109.	Sister	u-vámburr	a-múya nimba	
110.	Friend	u-kpà	a-kpukpà, akpà	cf. Ninzo ùkpàmù, Tarok ukpa(m), Bu ekpā,
111.	Guest/stranger	u-nicir	a-bicir	
112.	King/chief/ruler	u-tù	a-tútù	cf. Nupe etsu, Idoma
113.	Hunter	ù-nìzhá	à-bìzhá	
114.	Thief	ù-nàyí	à-bàyí	
115.	Doctor	u-nifù	a-bifù	
116.	Witch	u-nutri	a-datri	
117.	Corpse	i-kú	a-kù	
118.	Blacksmith	u-nìlà	a-bílá	
119.	Woodworker			
120.	Slave			
121.	Party-guest	i-mgbumgbur		
122.	Blind person	na-kréfi	aba-kréfi	
123.	Masquerade I	ambwe		
124.	Masquerade II	anazhi		
125.	Masquerade III			

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
126.	Masquerade IV			
127.	Ghost	i-zhi		
128.	Prophecy			
129.	Dream	u-la	a-la	
130.	Shame			
131.	Advice	ùré		
132.	Anger			
133.	Blindness	à-kréǹí		
134.	Bravery/courage			
135.	Fear/fright			
136.	Fatigue	u-di		
137.	Guilt			
138.	Happiness	apar		
139.	Laughter			
140.	Madness	ìlǎ		
141.	Race/running			
142.	Suffering			
143.	Wisdom			
144.	Life	i-so		
145.	Death	i-kfu	ani-kfu	
146.	Birth	i-ŋrí		
147.	Marriage	i-gar		
148.	Name	i-sa	a-sa	
149.	Grave			
150.	Feast	i-ga		
151.	Song			
152.	Gossip	amparr		
153.	Nonsense talk	gblà		
154.	Language, speaking	u-le	a-le	
155.	Proverb			
156.	Story			
157.	Word			
158.	Abuse	ìmàrr		
159.	Whistling	amvi		
160.	Call	ìyǒ		
161.	Lie	i-mu		
162.	News			
163.	Plan	dabara		
164.	Hunger I	ì-yò		
165.	Hunger II	i-nadza		
166.	Thirst	ùhré		
167.	Horn	u-nju	i-nju	
168.	Tail	àncâ		
169.	Egg I	i-hé	a-hé	
170.	Egg II	i-nkpe	a-nkpe	cf. Ningye kpaŋ , Kuturmi ikpa , Kulu di-kpa ⁺ ,
171.	Claw	a-(ko)nfa		
172.	Wing			
173.	Beak			
174.	Nest			
175.	Feather	u-ŋgvu	a-ŋgvu	
176.	Gum/glue			
177.	Ant-hill	a-darú		
178.	Hole in ground	u-juju	a-juju	

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
179.	Hole in tree			
180.	Smell			
181.	Vomit	ìkǎ		
182.	Honey	utu		
183.	Sweet thing	ímârr		
184.	Poison			
185.	Load	i-ki	i-ki	
186.	Bundle			
187.	Firewood	ìnkínkúrr		
188.	Stick	àmfarrr		
189.	Yam-heap			
190.	War	ikú		
191.	Fight	ìtsí		
192.	Work			
193.	Divination (types)			
194.	Medicine	a-hú		
195.	Money I	azo ⁺		
196.	Money II	inklo		
197.	Money III	aṇalanzo		
198.	Shadow			
199.	Thing	inkíni		
200.	Darkness	ibzhu		
201.	Heaviness	i-rə		
202.	Strength			
203.	Length			
204.	Land/country			
205.	Front	i-ci		
206.	Outside	n-abi		
207.	East	a-ndazhi		
208.	West	i-ṅgbahru		
209.	Left	mlà		
210.	Right			
211.	Disease (generic)			
212.	Fever (children)	i-fu		
213.	Fever (adults)	i-kurkpa		
214.	Smallpox			
215.	Diarrhoea			
216.	Eczema			
217.	Goitre			
218.	Boil			
219.	Sore/wound			
220.	Leprosy			
221.	Head	i-tú	a-tù	cf. Ningye tu , Mada tú but probably a vowel-change form the more common # ti -roots
222.	Brain	u-lade		
223.	Eye	i-shíshi	a-shíshi	cf. Jijili usi , but an extremely widespread root
224.	Eyeball	í-ṅbíshi		
225.	Face	a-shíshi	—	
226.	Cheek	u-ṅà	a-ṅà	
227.	Forehead	acìcì	—	
228.	Nose	ì-mvrì	—	cf. Kuturmi iwre ,

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
229.	Ear	u-tu	a-tu	cf. Ayu ito , Mada tɔ̃n , Fyem hutón , Mabo utó also throughout Tarokoid, but a PVC root #tuN- . Also Chadic: Sha 'a-tôn
230.	Mouth	a-ŋu		cf. Berom nú , Ningye nyu , Mada nyū , Fyem nún , Ayere anū but a Niger-Congo root
231.	Lip	u-báraŋu	i-báraŋu	
232.	Tooth	ì-jùrr	a-pírr	cf. Bu enyiri , Tarok ìnyin . A Niger-Congo root
233.	Tongue, language	ìrírí	—	cf. Mabo de-rem , Jijili ulɛ , Pe tí-lem , Yan̄kam rem cLela d-rémé , ultimately Atlantic-Congo #-lima
234.	Throat	igbigbyâr	—	
235.	Neck	i-to	a-tò	
236.	Neckbone	uťúťú ìto		
237.	Jaw	ažà		
238.	Chin	ándê	—	
239.	Shoulder I	u-gbà	aŋgbá	
240.	Shoulder II	u-mpà	—	
241.	Armpit	u-kóngbà	a-kóngbá	
242.	Arm, hand	ù-ŋo	a-ŋó	
243.	Wrist	i-tuŋgo		
244.	Elbow	i-kparanko	a-kparanko	
245.	Finger I	vivriŋo	i-mimarano	
246.	Finger II	i-vrino	i-marano	
247.	Leg	ù-zá	à-zá	
248.	Foot	úkpré		
249.	Ankle I	ìtòzà		
250.	Ankle II	í-gblédzá	à-gbígbledzá	
251.	Sole	i-mwadza		
252.	Heel	i-kpikpardza	a-kpikpardza	
253.	Thigh	àmpùzà		
254.	Knee	u-gbuzhu	a-gbuzhu	
255.	Nail (Finger/toe)	a-konfa	a-konfa	
256.	Female breast	ì-sisa	a-sisa	
257.	Stomach	i-ne ⁺	a-ne	
258.	Waist	àŋklàmpí		
259.	Guts	u-lile	a-lile	
260.	Chest I	a-sa		
261.	Chest II	ankə		
262.	Navel	i-mgbeku	i-mgbimbeku	also iku
263.	Hip	inkisho	inkisho	
264.	Back	u-go	i-gó	
265.	Middle of back	i-surgó		
266.	Buttocks	ampi		
267.	Penis	u-nca	i-nca	
268.	Vagina			
269.	Skin			
270.	Bone	u-kfúkúfú	a-kfúkúfú	
271.	Rib			
272.	Vein			
273.	Blood	à-yìyì		
274.	Breath			
275.	Tear			
276.	Sweat	ímârr		

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
277.	Vomit	ì-kɛ		
278.	Gall	ì-tsə		
279.	Urine			
280.	Faeces	àṅgyè		
281.	Hair	ì-nfɪnfu		
282.	Beard	à-ntàrr	á-ntárr	cf. Ayu àntèn,
283.	Liver	ì-sur	ì-sisur	cf. Toro sunɔ 'heart', Horom ázò 'liver', Fyem dú-zo pl. a-zo 'liver', Ayu ajor, Lungu izur
284.	Kidney I	u-ṅkplene		
285.	Kidney II	ì-gblagba		
286.	Heart	ì-sisur		
287.	Lungs	u-fufu		
288.	Intestines			
289.	Bladder	í-kwemambí		
290.	Body	u-kpa	ì-kpa	
291.	Meat	ì-nina		
292.	Animal (Bush)	í-názhù	í-nínazhù	
293.	Animal (Domestic)	í-tíṅdirihò		? also í-kího
294.	Cow	a-lando	ì-lando	cf. Ayu àràndon,
295.	Bull	a-lando niru	ì-lando niru	
296.	Calf			
297.	Goat	ivu	amu	
298.	He-goat	ì-gbehir	ani-gbehir	
299.	Castrated goat			
300.	Sheep			
301.	Ram			
302.	Castrated sheep			
303.	Dog	ì-víyo	a-miyo	
304.	*Cat	à-músâ	àna-músâ	
305.	*Pig			
306.	*Horse	ì-ṅa	ani-ṅa	
307.	*Mare	ì-ṅa nuṅba	ani-ṅa niṅba	
308.	*Donkey	ì-jaki	ani-jaki	<Hausa
309.	Elephant	ì-nyi	ani-nyi	cf. Ayu ìnyè, Anaang é-nìn, Kìong e-ṅie, Ashe ini, Mada , Eggon è-ṅjí, and also in WBC
310.	Hippo	ì-nama		
311.	Buffalo	ì-yar	ani-yar	cf. Rukul ì-yàt, Cara ì-yàt pl. yat, Yanḡam yyet, reflections of a more widespread root #-yati in East Benue-Congo. Also in WBC e.g. Nupe eya. See also Daffo yàt
312.	Lion			
313.	Leopard	ì-ce	ani-ce	cf. Horom kyè, Rukul ì-kwì, presumably related to old Niger-Congo root #-gbe, -kpe
314.	Hyena ²			
315.	Civet cat ³			
316.	Genet cat ⁴			
317.	Jackal ⁵			
318.	Wart-hog ⁶			

² (*Crocuta crocuta*)³ (*Viverra civetta*)⁴ (*Genetta genetta*)⁵ (*Canis aureus*)

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
319.	Bush-pig ⁷			
320.	Duiker antelope ⁸	ì-zhò	ání-zhó	H. barewa.
321.	Kob antelope ⁹	à-kùrù	áná-kúrú	H. mariya.
322.	Roan antelope ¹⁰	í-tà	ani-tá	H. gada.
323.	Porcupine ¹¹			
324.	Giant pangolin ¹²			
325.	Monkey(generic)			
326.	Baboon	i-ḡkíbu	ani-ḡkíbu	
327.	Patas monkey ¹³	i-kla	ani-kla	cf. Tarokoid 'baboon'. Pe ikaa , Yanjam ka , Tarok ika . This root is found elsewhere for 'vervet monkey', e.g. Nupe kánā . cf. Also Mwaghavul kaar (patas monkey)
328.	Vervet monkey ¹⁴	i-ce	ani-ce	
329.	Colobus monkey ¹⁵	a-be	ana-be	
330.	Squirrel (ground)			
331.	Squirrel (tree)			
332.	Rat (generic)			
333.	Bush-rat I	a-dze	ana-dze	
334.	Bush-rat II	i-dzirga		
335.	Bush-rat III	a-ntar	ana-ntar	
336.	Bush-rat IV			
337.	Giant rat ¹⁶			
338.	Fat mouse			
339.	Pygmy mouse			
340.	Grasscutter ¹⁷			
341.	Hedgehog ¹⁸			
342.	Hare ¹⁹	u-yo	anu-yo	
343.	House-bat	i-nángar	í-nángar	
344.	Fruit-bat			
345.	Animal sp. I	ìbùrr		
346.	Nile crocodile			
347.	Chameleon	a-kanda	anu-kanda	
348.	Agama lizard	a-kpa	ana-kpa	
349.	Skink	a-ncanblo	ana-ncanblo	
350.	Gecko			
351.	Lizard sp.	i-kparu	ani-kparu	H. dakunya ?
352.	Monitor lizard	kpukpokur	a-kpodacu	

⁶ (*Phacochoerus aethiopus*)⁷ (*Potamochoerus Porcus*)⁸ (*Cephalophus* spp.)⁹ (*Kobus kob*)¹⁰ (*Hippotragus equinus*)¹¹ (*Hystrix cristata*)¹² (*Manis giganteus*)¹³ (*Erythrocebus patas*)¹⁴ (*Cercopithecus aethiops*)¹⁵ (*Colobus polykomos*)¹⁶ (*Cretomyces* sp.)¹⁷ (*Thryonomys Swinderianus*)¹⁸ (*Atelerix albiventris*)¹⁹ (*Lepus Crawshayi*)

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
	(damo)			
353.	Monitor lizard (guza)	i-wulo	ani-wulo	
354.	Toad			
355.	River frog	i-gbahru	ani-gbahru	
356.	Land tortoise			
357.	Snake (Generic)	iwa	aniwă	
358.	Spitting cobra			
359.	Puff adder			
360.	Turtle			
361.	Crab	i-ka	ani-ka	
362.	River molluscs			
363.	Fish (generic)	i-kikla	i-kikla	
364.	Tilapia (spp.)			
365.	Puffer fish ²⁰			
366.	Catfish (spp.) ²¹			
367.	Nile Perch ²²			
368.	Electric fish ²³			
369.	Bird (generic) I	î-vîncê	a-mince	
370.	Bird (generic) II	i-vino	a-mino	
371.	Chicken (General)	iviko		
372.	?	a-marmiko		
373.	Cock	agba	an-agba	
374.	*Duck (Domestic)	kadzabar	ana-kadzabar	
375.	Dove	a-ngvu	ana-ngvu	
376.	Pigeon			
377.	Guinea-fowl	î-tsi	ani-tsi	
378.	Hooded Vulture ²⁴			
379.	Village Weaver ²⁵			
380.	Cattle-egret ²⁶			
381.	Black kite ²⁷	ankpa	an-ankpa	
382.	Hawk	i-nkinjar	ani-nkinjar	
383.	Standard-wing Night-jar			
384.	Owl (various spp.)			
385.	Grey Parrot ²⁸			
386.	Senegal Coucal ²⁹			
387.	Bush- fowl/partridge	iko	an-iko	
388.	Swallow			

²⁰ (*Tetraodon fahaka*)²¹ (*Synodontis* spp.)²² (*Lates niloticus*)²³ (*Malapterurus electricus*)²⁴ (*Neophron monachus*)²⁵ (*Ploceus cucullatus*)²⁶ (*Ardeola ibis*)²⁷ (*Milvus migrans*)²⁸ (*Poicephalus senegalus*)²⁹ (*Centropus* spp.)

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
389.	*Pied crow ³⁰			
390.	Woodpecker			
391.	Insect (Generic)			
392.	Scorpion	ìla		
393.	Butterfly			
394.	Dragon-fly			
395.	Mosquito	ìhù	ani-hu	
396.	Spider ³¹			
397.	Mason wasp ³²			
398.	Bee	í-sho	àni-shó	
399.	Sweat-fly			
400.	Sandfly			
401.	Housefly	ìvín-ci	a-min-ci	
402.	Ant I	á-nyínyá		= H. <i>kururuwa</i>
403.	Ant II	ì-vìjì	à-mìjì	= H. <i>kiyashi</i>
404.	Ant III	ì-víhǎ	à-míhǎ	= H. <i>gwano</i>
405.	Flea	ì-par	ani-par	
406.	Louse (Human)	a-mankfu		
407.	Millipede			
408.	Cockroach			
409.	Termite	í-yó	í-yíyó	
410.	Flying-ant			
411.	Grasshopper			
412.	Praying mantis			
413.	Firefly			
414.	Giant Cricket			
415.	Insect sp. I	anfo		
416.	Earthworm			
417.	Giant Snail			
418.	Soap (Traditional)			
419.	Oil	ànyè		
420.	Fat/grease	a-hihi		
421.	Milk	a-me salando	a-ma sisalando	
422.	Salt			
423.	Food	ila ⁺	a-la	
424.	Soup/stew			
425.	Draw soup	àmpwá		
426.	Porridge	ama		
427.	Sorghum-beer	a-hi		
428.	Beer dregs	a-nzá		
429.	Palm-wine	àncàrr		
430.	Peelings			
431.	Filter			
432.	Rag	úpri		'small piece of cloth'
433.	Floor-beater			
434.	Ladle	ùmplángò		
435.	Handle (of tool)			
436.	Stick	àmfarrr		
437.	Sickle			
438.	Cutlass			

³⁰ (*Corvus albus*)³¹ (*Acarina spp.*)³² (*Belenogaster spp.*)

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
439.	Iron, metal	i-nkpunkpiklo	a-nkpunkpiklo	
440.	Axe I	ì-wùrà	i-wúrá	
441.	Axe II	á-ɲgar	i-ɲgár	
442.	Adze			
443.	Hoe I	a-kla	i-kikla	
444.	Hoe II			
445.	Hoe III			
446.	Hammer			
447.	Knife (small)	á-ɲjì	i-ɲjinjì	
448.	Knife (large)	a-gbudar	i-gbudar	
449.	Hook	àkwàrr		
450.	Comb			
451.	Soft broom	àglá		
452.	Bag	àmbú		
453.	Sack			
454.	Fireplace			
455.	Shoe			
456.	Hat	a-kata		
457.	Cloth			
458.	Gown, small	a-nkru	i-nkinkru	
459.	Gown, big	i-kponkru	i-kponkru	
460.	Clothing	ankru	inkinkru	
461.	Grindstone (top)			
462.	Grindstone (lower)			
463.	Mortar (wood)	ují		
464.	Pestle			
465.	Pot (generic)	àmpírì		
466.	Ladle	ùmpláṅò		
467.	Spoon	ùntsángá		
468.	Head-pad			
469.	Basket (generic)	à-sà	í-sísà	
470.	Basket I			
471.	Basket II			
472.	Winnowing tray			
473.	Mat (generic)			
474.	Mat I			
475.	Hook	àkwàrr		
476.	Nail	u-kusa	i-kusa	
477.	Needle			
478.	Gun	bindiga		<Hausa
479.	Spear			
480.	Bow	ututa⁺	i-tita	
481.	Arrow	à-wyírr	i-wyiwyírr	
482.	Quiver			
483.	Chain			
484.	Rope			
485.	Stool			
486.	Door I	a-monkoki	i-monkoki	
487.	Door II	ànkò		also 'road' ()
488.	Fence			
489.	Bridge			
490.	Ladder			
491.	Canoe	u-gvu	i-gvu	
492.	Paddle			

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
493.	Bee-hive			
494.	Fish-Net			
495.	Fish-trap I			
496.	Fish-trap II			
497.	Fish-trap III			
498.	Snare			
499.	One	yír		
500.	Two	ha		
501.	Three	tár		
502.	Four	nás		
503.	Five	kywí		
504.	Six	tááni		
505.	Seven	tángbá		
506.	Eight	tándàr		
507.	Nine	trí(s)		
508.	Ten	wúr		
509.	Eleven	pò		Now replaced with 10+ 1
510.	Twelve	tsó		Now replaced with 10+ 2
511.	Twenty	sò há		
512.	Twenty-four	sò tár		
513.	Forty	sò nás		
514.	Sixty			
515.	Eighty	sò tándàr		
516.	Hundred	àyìrr yír		
517.	Thousand	ùkró		
518.	Black	-shir		
519.	White			
520.	Red			
521.	All I	pénpé		
522.	All II	wee ⁺		
523.	All together	weemí		
524.	All over	kónàmà		
525.	Plenty	kakami		
526.	Many	shishemi		
527.	Few			
528.	Sweet			
529.	Bitter	kpàkpa		
530.	Half			
531.	Hot (taste)	ivri		
532.	Hot	sú		
533.	Cold, be	sù		
534.	Old			
535.	New	həhə		
536.	Hard	klákáká		
537.	Strong	kyekye		
538.	Light I	fəŋgəŋga		
539.	Light II	fucucu		
540.	Pointed (needle)	vyanvyar		
541.	Heavy			
542.	Long	-le		
543.	Short			
544.	Narrow	njor		
545.	Wide			
546.	Near	hwihwir, fifir		
547.	Far			

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
548.	Wet			
549.	Dry			
550.	Fat I	mwě		
551.	Fat II	blababa		
552.	Smooth			
553.	Blunt	kplúkpúpú		
554.	Good	wure		
555.	Good character	dzidzi		
556.	Bad	ndândá		
557.	Peaceful	gigemi		
558.	Far	gbagba		
559.	Deep	ita		
560.	Big	nkpì		
561.	Clean I	u-wis		
562.	Clean II	udzidzi		
563.	Dirty I	cici		
564.	Dirty II	ankizhi		
565.	Few	tsumi		
566.	Every	kowane		
567.	Every one	koŋgo		
568.	Everywhere	konama		
569.	Alone	kítú		
570.	Abuse	ìràṛ		
571.	Accompany	gá		
572.	Add to			
573.	Allow	dí		
574.	Answer (question)	kpányé		
575.	Arrive			
576.	Ask a question	jí, zhi		
577.	Ask/beg for something			
578.	Awaken (s.o.)	grù		
579.	Bark (dog)			
580.	Be	si/su		
581.	Be (continuous)	kúdzì		
582.	Be bent			
583.	Be cheap	wre		
584.	Be deaf	gbatu		
585.	Be heavy			
586.	Be old	ce		
587.	Be on (s.t.)			
588.	Be ripe, mature	wrì		also 'to swing' (774.)
589.	Be rotten			
590.	Be short			
591.	Be unable	caṅkar		
592.	Beat (drum)			
593.	Beat (s.o.)	gúr	kfú	
594.	Become dry	kukru		
595.	Begin	guna		
596.	Bite	vunu	vuta	
597.	Blow (flute etc.)	vrí		
598.	Blow (fire etc.)	fú		
599.	Blow (wind etc.)	gõ		
600.	Boil	sùr		

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
601.	Break	ngàrr		
602.	Bring	grí		
603.	Build (house etc.)	me		
604.	Burn (fire burns)	tu		
605.	Bury	zú		
606.	Buy	rè		also 'sell' ()
607.	Call (to someone)	yǒ		
608.	Carry I	huru		
609.	Carry II	gri		
610.	Carve (wood etc.)			
611.	Catch	vú		also 'seize, pack'
612.	Challenge	zhu		
613.	Chew	tá		
614.	Choose	hlá		
615.	Chop	tsé		
616.	Climb	hǔ		
617.	Close I	kàhǎ		
618.	Close II	kacu		
619.	Come I	nyé		
620.	Come II	zhi		
621.	Come out (of room)			
622.	Continue (to do s.t.)			
623.	Cook	sùr		
624.	Cough	so(klo)		noun is iso .
625.	Count	blé		also 'read'
626.	Cover	kri		
627.	Cut down (tree)			
628.	Cut in two	gyù		
629.	Cut off (head etc.)	hǎ		
630.	Dance	(gr)inza		
631.	Deceive	re		
632.	Defecate	janje		
633.	Die	kfu		
634.	Dig (earth etc.)	ya		
635.	Divide/share	gà		
636.	Do/make	na		
637.	Drag			
638.	Draw water			
639.	Dream	ri u-la		
640.	Dress	cu		
641.	Drink	só		
642.	Drive away	hama		
643.	Drop			
644.	Dry in sun	kuru		
645.	Dwell, stay	kur		
646.	Eat	rí		
647.	Enter	ǐ		
648.	Escape	huzhu		
649.	Extinguish			

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
650.	Extract honey	tà		
651.	Fall (rain)			
652.	Fall over			
653.	Fear			
654.	Feel (cold etc.)			
655.	Fetch	zhe	gbyàɾ	
656.	Fight (in war)	teku	tsi	
657.	Fill, be full	shuu	surushu	
658.	Fill to brim	pwí		
659.	Finish (a task)	krè		
660.	Float	kplá		
661.	Flog			
662.	Flow (water etc.)			
663.	Fly (birds)	bya		
664.	Fold (cloth etc.)			
665.	Follow	gǎ		
666.	Forge	la		
667.	Forget	kpamusu		
668.	Fry (in oil)	klá		
669.	Gather/collect	shubi		
670.	Get I	same		H ?
671.	Get II	kpa		
672.	Get up	gru		
673.	Give	ni		
674.	Give birth	ɲrí		
675.	Go	kuma		
676.	Go down	ji kuma		
677.	Go out/exit	huzhu		
678.	Go up	gru		
679.	Grab	ywhè		
680.	Grind			
681.	Grow (plants)			
682.	Hatch (egg)			
683.	Hear	wó		
684.	Help I	dzi		
685.	Help II	la		
686.	Hide	shari		
687.	Hit/strike (drum)	gúr		
688.	Hoe	do		
689.	Hunt			
690.	Increase	domwe		
691.	Insult	kpakpale		
692.	Jump	tú		
693.	Kill	ɲu, nũ		
694.	Kneel			
695.	Know	hí		
696.	Laugh	mǎ		
697.	Learn	tser		also 'teach'
698.	Let, allow	du		
699.	Lick			
700.	Lie down	jikur		
701.	Lift	gyə		
702.	Like	só		
703.	Listen			
704.	Live	so		

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
705.	Look at	kye		
706.	Loose	ḍú		
707.	Lose s.t.			
708.	Make soup	hí		
709.	Marry	gar		
710.	Mature	tsu		
711.	Measure	tser		
712.	Mix			
713.	Mix mud for building	mlá		
714.	Mould (pot)			
715.	Mount	hú		see 'climb' ()
716.	Name s.o.	ri		
717.	Open	bɛ		
718.	Parade	bri		
719.	Pay	há		
720.	Peel	frí		
721.	Pierce/stab			
722.	Plait (hair) I	kfu		
723.	Plait (hair) II	kar		
724.	Plant (crop etc.)			
725.	Play	ró		
726.	Pluck	hywé		
727.	Pound (in mortar)			
728.	Pour (liquid)			
729.	Pull			
730.	Push			
731.	Rut on (clothes)			
732.	Receive			
733.	Refuse	kà		
734.	'Remain'			
735.	Remember			
736.	Remove	tú		
737.	Resemble			
738.	Return			
739.	Ride (horse etc.)			
740.	Roast on coals	hó		
741.	Rub			
742.	Run			
743.	Say/speak I	dá		
744.	Scatter	ngar		
745.	See	hí		
746.	Seek	zha		
747.	Seize	vú		also 'catch, pack'
748.	Sell	rè		also 'buy' ()
749.	Send	tú		
750.	Set trap			
751.	Sew			
752.	Shake			
753.	Sharpen			
754.	Shoot (arrow, gun)			
755.	Sieve	tù		
756.	Sing			

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
757.	Sit down	sò		
758.	Slaughter (animal)			
759.	Sleep	kùɾ		
760.	Smash			
761.	Smell			
762.	Snap in two			
763.	Sow seeds			
764.	Spit			
765.	Split			
766.	Stand	krì		also 'wait'
767.	Steal			
768.	Stir (soup)			
769.	Suck (breast etc.)			
770.	Surpass			
771.	Swallow	mrí		
772.	Sweep			
773.	Swell			
774.	Swing	wrí		also 'be ripe' (588.)
775.	Take			
776.	Tear (cloth etc.)			
777.	Tell			
778.	Throw			
779.	Tie			
780.	Touch			
781.	Twist (rope etc.)			
782.	Untie			
783.	Uproot (tuber)			
784.	Vomit			
785.	Wake	grù		
786.	Walk	ùzírr		also 'journey'
787.	Want, need, wish	só		
788.	Wash	ɲlà		
789.	Wear			
790.	Weed			
791.	Weep	yì		
792.	Wipe			
793.	Work			
794.	Yawn			
795.	I	ìngà		
796.	You	uwà		
797.	He/she/it	uwa		
798.	we			
799.	you pl.			
800.	They			
801.	Another	numa, nima		
802.	Something	ìnkíndrri		
803.	No-one	undur sama		
804.	Nothing I	benkini		
805.	Nothing II	mekindiri		
806.	Here	nungo		
807.	There			
808.	This	ngó		

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
809.	Who?			
810.	Which?			
811.	What?	àngíngí		
812.	When?			
813.	Where?			
814.	How much?	ùbírí		
	Exclamations			
815.				
	Adverbs			
816.	About, on	n-ítù		
817.	Above I	nùtsa		
818.	Above II	núshu		
819.	Afterwards, behind	n-úgò		
820.	Again	dzudzó	also dzidzó	
821.	Already	ba		
822.	At	ní		
823.	Away	n-àdò		
824.	Carefully, gently	bwèní		
825.	Since	ngbángbá mú		
826.	Between	tsútsu		
827.	Very cold	gblangba		
828.	In	ní		
829.	Inside	numi		
830.	Just now	dzidzango		
831.	Long ago	sisemu		
832.	Now I	dzidza(mi)		
833.	Now II	dzidzaṇo		
834.	Now III	mingo		
835.	On	atu		
	Particles etc.			
836.	and I	ku		
837.	and II	na		
838.	and III	ní		
839.	intensifier	pyú		‘very’
840.	Thus	meme		
841.	Not	iya		
842.	Question marker	báa		
	Proper names			
843.	Hausa language	ìnàgwê		
844.	European	nasara		

Edible and Useful Plants

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
845.	Guinea-yam ³³	àngbù		
846.	Aerial yam ³⁴			
847.	Red yam ³⁵			
848.	Water-yam ³⁶			

³³ (*Dioscorea guineensis*)

³⁴ (*Dioscorea bulbifera*)

³⁵ (*Dioscorea cayenensis*)

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
849.	Taro (Old cocoyam) ³⁷	àlò		
850.	New cocoyam ^{38*}			
851.	Cassava ^{*39}	u-logo		< Hausa
852.	Sweet potato ^{*40}	àngbòdákì		
853.	Wild yam I			
854.	Wild yam II			
855.	Tumuku ⁴¹			
856.	Rizga ⁴²			
857.	Sorghum ⁴³	ìkpú	i-kpukpu	pl. = 'different types of sorghum'.
858.	Sorghum seeds	i-nkpikpu		
859.	Sorghum sprouts	imbar		
860.	3-month Sorghum ⁴⁴			
861.	Bulrush millet ⁴⁵ (<i>gero</i>)	a-mar		
862.	Bulrush millet (<i>maiwa</i>)			
863.	Eleusine ^{*46}			
864.	Fonio (H. <i>acca</i>) ⁴⁷	i-ká	ikiká	
865.	Ibura (H. <i>iburu</i>) ⁴⁸			
866.	Maize ^{*49}	ìsànpàrr		
867.	Rice ⁵⁰	ágígímblo		
868.	Cowpea ⁵¹	ú-kyé	í-kyè	
869.	Spiral cowpea			
870.	Lima bean ⁵²			
871.	Bambara groundnut ⁵³	amfi kyekye		
872.	Kersting's ground-nut ⁵⁴			
873.	Groundnut (Peanut) ⁵⁵	ámfí		
874.	Tiger-nut ⁵⁶			
875.	Garden egg ⁵⁷			
876.	Okra ⁵⁸	u-ndarr	á-ndárr	

³⁶ (*Dioscorea alata*)³⁷ (*Colocasia esculenta*)³⁸ (*Xanthosoma mafaffa*) (H. wali)³⁹ (*Manihot esculenta*)⁴⁰ (*Ipomoea batatas*)⁴¹ (*Plectranthus esculentus*)⁴² (*Solenostemon rotundifolius*)⁴³ (*Sorghum bicolor*)⁴⁴ (H. *jigaari*)⁴⁵ (*Pennisetum* spp.)⁴⁶ (H. *tamba*) (*Eleusine coracana*)⁴⁷ (*Digitaria exilis*)⁴⁸ (*Digitaria iburua*)⁴⁹ (*Zea mays*)⁵⁰ (*Oryza sativa/ glaberrima*)⁵¹ (*Vigna unguiculata*)⁵² (*Phaseolus lunatus*)⁵³ (*Vigna subterranea*)⁵⁴ (*Macrotyloma geocarpa*)⁵⁵ (*Arachis hypogaea*)⁵⁶ (*Cyperus esculentus*)⁵⁷ (*Solanum melongena*)⁵⁸ (*Abelmoschus esculentus*)

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
877.	Chili pepper* (large) ⁵⁹			
878.	Birdseye chili* ⁶⁰	ìshé		
879.	Onion (<i>Allium cepa</i>)	a-libasa		< Hausa
880.	Garlic ⁶¹			
881.	Tomato ⁶²			
882.	Egusi melon ⁶³			
883.	Melon (other) ⁶⁴			
884.	Edible squash ⁶⁵			
885.	Sorrel/roselle ⁶⁶			
886.	Jews' mallow ⁶⁷			
887.	Kenaf ⁶⁸			
888.	Sesame seeds ⁶⁹	à-shìshì		
889.	Black sesame ⁷⁰			
890.	Sesame leaves ⁷¹			
891.	Bitterleaf ⁷²			
892.	Waterleaf* ⁷³			
893.	Plantain (<i>Musa</i> AAB)			
894.	Ensete	ú-ngbúngbá		
895.	Banana (<i>Musa</i> AAA)	a-yárába		< Hausa
896.	Orange* ⁷⁴			
897.	Bamboo			
898.	Pineapple* ⁷⁵			
899.	Coconut* ⁷⁶			
900.	Pawpaw* ⁷⁷			
901.	Gourd (generic)	úkúká		
902.	Gourd-bottle ⁷⁸			
903.	Gourd (spherical) ⁷⁹			
904.	Water-gourd	a-gbugba	i-gbigba	
905.	Other gourds			
906.	Tobacco*	ùntám̐ba		< Hausa

⁵⁹ (*Capsicum frutescens*)⁶⁰ (*Capsicum annuum*)⁶¹ (*Allium sativum*)⁶² (*Lycopersicon esculentum*)⁶³ (*Citrullus lanatus*)⁶⁴ (*Cucumis* spp)⁶⁵ (*Cucurbita pepo*)⁶⁶ (*H. yakuwa*) (*Hibiscus sabdariffa*)⁶⁷ (*H. lalo*)(*Corchorus olitorius*)⁶⁸ (*H. rama*) (*Hibiscus cannabinus*)⁶⁹ (*H. Riđi*) (*Sesamum indicum*)⁷⁰ (*Sesamum radiatum*)⁷¹ (*H. karkashi*)⁷² *Vernonia amygdalina*⁷³ (*Amaranthus* spp)⁷⁴ (*Citrus sinensis*)⁷⁵ (*Ananas comosus*)⁷⁶ (*Cocos nucifera*)⁷⁷ (*Carica papaya*)⁷⁸ (*Lagenaria siceraria*)⁷⁹ (*Cucurbita maxima*)

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
907.	Sugar-cane*			
908.	Loofah ⁸⁰ (H. <i>soso</i>)			
909.	Cola	itsir		
910.	(Cola spp)			
911.	Oil-palm ⁸¹	ìrì	iri	cf. Eggon eligi , Yeskwa é-leg ,
912.	Palm-fruit			
913.	Palm-oil	anyi siser		
914.	Palm kernel	i-mgberi	i-mgbiri	
915.	Palm kernel-oil	anyi shishir		
916.	Raphia/ bamboo palm ⁸²			
917.	Fan-palm ⁸³	i-shir		
918.	Monkey-guava ⁸⁴			
919.	Canarium tree ⁸⁵			
920.	Custard apple ⁸⁶			
921.	Wild date-palm ⁸⁷			
922.	Baobab ⁸⁸			
923.	Silk-cotton tree ⁸⁹			
924.	Shea tree ⁹⁰			
925.	Shea-fruit			
926.	Locust tree ⁹¹			
927.	Locust fruit			
928.	Locust-bean seeds	i-zhuzhu		
929.	Locust-bean cakes			
930.	Tamarind ⁹²			
931.	Sodom apple ⁹³			
932.	<i>Terminalia</i> sp. ⁹⁴			
933.	Black plum ⁹⁵			

⁸⁰ (*Luffa cylindrica*)⁸¹ (*Elaeis guineensis*)⁸² (*Raphia* spp.)⁸³ (*Borassus aethiopum*)⁸⁴ (*Diospyros mespiliformis*)⁸⁵ (*Canarium schweinfurthii*)⁸⁶ (*Annona senegalensis*)⁸⁷ (*Phoenix reclinata*)⁸⁸ (*Adansonia digitata*)⁸⁹ (*Ceiba pentandra*)⁹⁰ (*Vitellaria paradoxa*)⁹¹ (*Parkia biglobosa*)⁹² (*Tamarindus indica*)⁹³ (*Calotropis procera* H. tumfafiya)⁹⁴ (*H. baushe*)⁹⁵ (*Vitex doniana*)

Musical Instruments and Dances

No.	Gloss	Singular	Commentary
934.	Drum I	inqinga	Royal drum, lavishly decorated of gangaa type with a rectangular rattling iron plaque ideally made from a naturally hollow shea tree
935.	Drum II	uguru	gangaa type
936.	Drum III	ingba	gangaa type
937.	Drum IV	dusar	gangaa type
938.	Drum V	ambaya	gangaa type
939.	Drum VI	kalangu	< Hausa. Monkey-skin preferred for the head
940.	Drum VII	ajiji	Single-headed drum with conical body on a three-legged base and pegged skin. Diameter 0.4/0.7 m., H. 0.7/2.0m. The larger sizes are laid on the ground and played with the palms, the smaller ones stand upright and are struck with two sticks. Played for idzu abi , male initiation. Owned by the whole village.
941.	Drumstick	ago	
942.	Raft-zither	intintî	Raft-zither with 10 strings, grouped 2+2+1+2+2+1. Resonated by a spherical gourd, akanju , tied underneath it. The player holds the instrument vertically in front of him and plays with the thumbs. The Ninzo recognise three types, their own, and the Mada and Nungu types. Played for inza dance music as well as praise of the ancestors.
943.	Shawm	kakaki	A metal 5-holed shawm made by blacksmiths and resembling the Hausa algaita , although the name is borrowed from the Hausa long trumpet. Accompanies the inza dance
944.	Musical bow	aqolongo	A mouth-resonated musical bow with a palm-leaf string, struck with a light stick and modulated with a short stubby stick. Played for entertainment by men and also sometimes accompanies dancing.
945.	Transverse clarinet	ikpu	A transverse clarinet made from a sorghum internode (hence the name, which is the word for sorghum) made by children at harvest-time.
946.	Horn	unju	Open-ended transverse antelope horn. previously all families used to won one. Used in war, dancing and scaring pests from farms. Could produce four distinct tones.
947.	Iron gong	asha	Unequal double iron clapperless bell, used for the du'usar dance and mourning.
948.	Pod-rattle I	lagbalagba	Rattle made from the pod of the ukru tree (ca. 40 cm. long) or a vine (ca. 35 cm.). the larger one (which is sometimes bound with leather to preserve it) is played by women when a girl transfers house as part of the marriage process. The smaller size is used by young girls for entertainment.
949.	Pod-rattle II	ashakata	< Hausa
950.	Gourd-rattle	acica	Gourd-rattle made and played by women for rituals. Also applied to a rattle made from a pierced tin-can on a stick.
951.	Ankle rattles	ishir	Ankle rattles made from cuboidal packets woven from the leaves of the wild-date-palm. Used by women for the dongba dance.
Dances			
952.	Mourning	azhikyu	Dance for mourning, with a zither-player in the centre and a ring of women encircled by a ring of men.
953.	Social	inza	A social dance performed on moonlit nights by young people, often leading to marriages. A second type is more organised and is held to celebrate a successful farmer. They hold a triangular piece of metal which they strike against metal wristlets. Accompanied by inqinga , kakaki , unju .

954. Social comment	ambaya	Songs composed to comment on current affairs
955. Counting	tinini-tinini	Play-song which teaches children the duodecimal counting system
956. Beer	koni bar ba ahi	lit. 'searching for beer'. People go around searching for beer in the dry season. the dance is accompanied by the zither and consists of two lines of young men.
957. Weight-lifting	vu'aca	A trial of strength performed by in the dry season to the accompaniment of the zither. A heavy object, such as mortar, is placed in the centre of the circle and each person tries to pick it up with the teeth. However, this is only possible for someone in the throws of possession.
958. Commemoration	uguru kyu	A line dance commemorating venerable old people who have died. Accompanied by ijinga, kakaki, unju.
959. Harvest	Usarki doingba	Curved line dance sung by elder women after the harvest with beer flowing freely. The song texts warn of the treacherous nature of men. Accompanied by ijinga.

References

- Abraham, R.C. 1962. *Dictionary of the Hausa language*. London: University of London Press.
- Akos, R.Y. 1977. *Ninzam traditional music*. Unpublished B.Ed. thesis. Zaria: ABU.
- Bendor-Samuel, J. ed. 1989. *The Niger-Congo languages*. Lanham: University Press of America.
- CAPRO ined. *An ethnic survey of Plateau State*. Jos: CAPRO Research Office.
- Crozier, D. and Blench, R.M. 1992. *Index of Nigerian Languages (edition 2)*. SIL, Dallas.
- De Wolf, P. 1971. *The noun class system of Proto-Benue-Congo*. The Hague: Mouton.
- Gerhardt, L. 1983. *Beiträge zur Kenntnis der Sprachen des Nigerianischen Plateaus*. Glückstadt: Verlag J.J. Augustin.
- Hörner, Elisabeth 1980. *Ninzam –Untersuchungen zu einer Klassensprache des zentralnigerianischen Plateau*. Magisterarbeit, Universität Hamburg.
- Mukarovsky, H. 1976-1977. *A study of Western Nigritic*. 2 vols. Wien: Institut für Ägyptologie und Afrikanistik, Universität Wien.
- Ninzo Language Project Committee 1999. *Reading and writing Ninzo*. Jos: Nigeria Bible Translation Trust.
- Temple, Olive 1922. *Notes on the Tribes, Provinces, Emirates and States of the Northern Provinces of Nigeria*. Argus Printing and Publishing Co. Capetown.
- Westermann, D. 1927. *Die Westlichen Sudansprachen und ihre Beziehungen zum Bantu*. Berlin: de Gruyter.
- Williamson, Kay 1971. The Benue-Congo languages & Ijo. In *Current trends in Linguistics* 7 (ed.) T. Sebeok 245-306. The Hague: Mouton.
- Williamson, Kay 1973. *Benue-Congo comparative wordlist: Vol.2*. Ibadan: West African Linguistic Society.
- Williamson, K., and K. Shimizu. 1968. *Benue-Congo comparative wordlist, Vol. 1*. Ibadan: West African Linguistic Society.