

**The Eloyi language**  
**of**  
**Central Nigeria and its affinities**

**[DRAFT CIRCULATED FOR COMMENT -NOT FOR CITATION WITHOUT REFERENCE TO THE  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

Roger Blench  
8, Guest Road, Cambridge CB1 2AL  
United Kingdom  
Voice/Answerphone 00-44-(0)1223-560687  
Mobile 00-44-(0)7967-696804  
E-mail [R.Blench@odi.org.uk](mailto:R.Blench@odi.org.uk)  
<http://rogerblench.info/RBOP.htm>

This printout: September 15, 2007

**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 Eloyi culture and history .....2  
**3. PHONOLOGY .....2**  
    3.1 Vowels .....2  
    3.2 Consonants .....2  
    3.3 Tones .....3  
**4. MORPHOLOGY .....3**  
    4.1 Nouns .....3  
**5. LEXICAL COMPARISON AND THE CLASSIFICATION OF ELOYI.....5**  
**6. ELOYI WORDLIST.....6**  
**7. CONCLUSION: THE CLASSIFICATION OF ELOYI .....26**  
**REFERENCES.....26**

**TABLES**

Table 1. Principal sources of data for lexical comparison

**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

## 1. Introduction

This is an annotated wordlist of the Eloyi [=Afo] language, spoken in Nassarawa State, Nigeria. The wordlist is a composite of published lists and field material collected by Barau Kato from Mr. Abubakar Ugboga, aged 45 (who is of the Eloyi Mbeki), in May 2006. The principle published sources are Mackay (1964), Armstrong (1964, 1983, 1984<sup>1</sup>). There has been some literacy work in the past, and a book of Bible stories exists, but this was not seen by us.

## 2. Location, history and sociolinguistic situation

### 2.1 Nomenclature

Almost all sources prior to Armstrong (1955) use some variant of ‘Afo’ [Afawa, Afu, Afao] which is probably a Hausa form, although its origin is unknown. According to Armstrong, the Eloyi divide into two major ethnic and linguistic groups;

Èllóì Mbéjì	Eloyi of the plains
Èllóì Mbéci	Eloyi of the rocks

These two dialects are sufficiently different to make intercomprehension problematic.

Indeed there are two major dialects thus: Eloyi Mbeki (Eloyi of the rocks – Udègè Mbeki, Odù, Ondà, Kana 1 & 2, Apáwù, Igwò etc); Eloyi Ambú (Eloyi of the plains – Mararaba, Udègè Kasa [Mbăkwôgbà], Udèni Gida, Akun, Ufà, Udèni Magaji, Usenì etc).

### 2.2 Location and settlements

The Eloyi are settled in Nasarawa and Benue States; in Nasarawa, they are in Kokona, Nasarawa and Keffi Local Government Areas and in Ajiri LGA in Benue State. ‘Ajiri’ is also part of the title of the ruler of the Eloyi, the Osu Ajiri. Some of their main villages are Agwada, Onda, Mararaba Udege, Udege Mbeki. Neighbouring languages are Mada, Agatu, Gwandara, Gade, Gbagyi, Hausa, Basa and Epira.

Ajiri is a town and not the name of the people. It became the title of the chief during the political era of the second republic, when the government of Chief Solomon D. Lar, wanted to emancipate the people. Ajiri became popular because of Makama Dogo, a chief of Nasarawa, who was killed in this village. When the government wanted to give them a traditional stool, they decided to give Ajiri the title – Osu Ajiri.

### 2.3 Language status

Eloyi is apparently still very vigorous, probably spoken by some 100,000 people, and without significant Hausa influence. The most common second language, at least among some groups, is apparently Gwandara.

---

<sup>1</sup> Despite its title, this section is about Eloyi.

## 2.4 Eloyi culture and history

The first outsider to report on Eloyi culture was Gerhard Rolphs who visited their area in 1866 (Rolphs 1867, 1867/8 & 1871/72, 1874/5). His descriptions are under the name Afu, which was usual until the 1960s. Temple (1922) represents the next ethnographic record. Armstrong (1955) is a summary of existing administrative reports. Tschudi (1956) is the first modern ethnographic account of the Eloyi.

## 3. Phonology

The phonology of Eloyi remains tentative.

### 3.1 Vowels

Eloyi has seven phonemic vowels;

	Front	Central	Back
<b>Close</b>	i		u
<b>Close-Mid</b>	e		o
<b>Open-Mid</b>	ɛ		ɔ
<b>Open</b>		a	

### 3.2 Consonants

Eloyi consonants are as follows:

	Bilabial	Labio-dental	Alveolar	Alveopalatal	Palatal	Velar	Labial-velar	Glottal
Plosive	p b		t d		c j	k g	kp gb	
Nasal	m		n		ɲ	ŋ		
Trill			r					
Fricative		f v	s z	ʃ				
Approximant					y		w	
Lateral Approximant			l					

In Eloyi Mbeci, the following sound-shifts occur;

	Eloyi Mbeji IPA	Eloyi Mbeci IPA	Orthographic
s		θ	th
z		ɖ	dh
nz		ndɖ	ndh

### 3.3 Tones

## 4. Morphology

### 4.1 Nouns

Eloyi has alternating nominal prefixes, although many words do not alter between singular and plural. This erosion of the nominal prefixes may well be the impact of extensive bilingualism with Idomoid languages. The tables below show the patterns of alternation. Many alternations have only one or two cases so far recorded, which makes setting up the system highly provisional.

a-/mba-

<b>Gloss</b>	<b>sg.</b>	<b>pl.</b>
Father	á-da	mbá-da

ε-/mbε-

<b>Gloss</b>	<b>sg.</b>	<b>pl.</b>
Mother	éné	mbéné

O-/a-

<b>Gloss</b>	<b>sg.</b>	<b>pl.</b>
King/chief/ruler	ósù	ásù
Digging stick	ðdù	àdù
Patas monkey	ðbàgù	abàgù
Maxwell's duiker	ðvì	ávì

O-/E-

<b>Gloss</b>	<b>sg.</b>	<b>pl.</b>
Soup/stew	ɔsɔ	esɔ
Doctor	òbófí	èbófí
Slave	ónì	éni
Grandchild	óyè	éyè

o-/i-

<b>Gloss</b>	<b>sg.</b>	<b>pl.</b>
Night	o-tú	i-tú

u-/a-

<b>Gloss</b>	<b>sg.</b>	<b>pl.</b>
Masquerade I	ù-dadu	a-dadu
Witch	ù-rùwɔyè	à-rùwɔyè

u-/e-

<b>Gloss</b>	<b>sg.</b>	<b>pl.</b>
Insect (Generic)	ù-jìjírì	é-jìjírì
God, rain	ù-kpò	è-kpò
Corpse	ú-kpéjì	é-kpéjì

u-/i-

<b>Gloss</b>	<b>sg.</b>	<b>pl.</b>
Compound, house	ù-gù	ì-gù
Farm	ú-tú	í-tú

kV- prefixes are probably the most common in Eloyi singulars. However, they occur in a bewildering variety of forms and some type of stem harmony may be operating. However, the examples are too few to be sure of the rules.

kO-/a-

<b>Gloss</b>	<b>sg.</b>	<b>pl.</b>
Bush	kó-kátá	á-kátá
Egg	kɔ-ʃì	a-ʃì
Intestines	kó-kò	á-kò

ko-/e-

<b>Gloss</b>	<b>sg.</b>	<b>pl.</b>
Stomach	k <sup>w</sup> ó-kpo	é-kpo

kɔ-/ɔ-

<b>Gloss</b>	<b>sg.</b>	<b>pl.</b>
Grass (generic)	kó-sè	á-sè

ku-/E-

<b>Gloss</b>	<b>sg.</b>	<b>pl.</b>
Tree (generic)	kuwɛyì	éwɛyí
Turtle	kúkúnáɔ	ékúnáɔ
Eye	kú-yi	é-yi

ku-/i-

<b>Gloss</b>	<b>sg.</b>	<b>pl.</b>
Meat	ku-vyé	i-vyé
Liver	ku-tu	i-tu
Hair	kú-ńí	í-ńí
Fruit	kú-múmà	í-múmà

ka-/lɔ-

<b>Gloss</b>	<b>sg.</b>	<b>pl.</b>
Year	ká-rí	lórí

ki-/lu-

<u>Gloss</u>	<u>sg.</u>	<u>pl.</u>
Palm	kìcì	lu-cì
Neck	kì-tó	lù-tó

ke-/lo-

<u>Gloss</u>	<u>sg.</u>	<u>pl.</u>
Mouth	ke-nzu	lo-nzu

kε-/lu-

<u>Gloss</u>	<u>sg.</u>	<u>pl.</u>
Thatch roof	kènú	lùnú
Granary	kéné	lúné

ko-/lo-

<u>Gloss</u>	<u>sg.</u>	<u>pl.</u>
Lightning	kowu	lowu

Prefixes with rV- are very rare, and the only two examples are listed below;

rε-/a-

<u>Gloss</u>	<u>sg.</u>	<u>pl.</u>
Nose	ré-ηù	á-ηù

re-/e-

<u>Gloss</u>	<u>sg.</u>	<u>pl.</u>
Head	ré-ǰí	é-ǰí

## 5. Lexical comparison and the classification of Eloyi

The classification of Eloyi has been interestingly controversial, all the more so because the lexical database for comparison has been so weak. All the preliminary sources classified Eloyi as Plateau 2, i.e. together Izere, Tyap etc. (e.g. Greenberg 1966; Williamson & Shimizu 1968; De Wolf (1971). Armstrong (1955) was the first to suggest that there was a link with Idomoid and in Armstrong (1983) sets out the fullest case for this classification. In Armstrong's (1984:29) final published discussion of the subject he expresses some doubts, concluding 'Eloyi does not now seem as close to Idoma as it did when only Varvil's list was available'.

To try and resolve this issue, the wordlist is accompanied with extensive etymological commentary. This paper adopts the convention for reconstructions used in the Niger-Congo volume edited by Bendor-Samuel (1989), distinguishing those established by regular sound-correspondences from those derived by quick inspection of cognates. By this criterion, most major reconstructed forms are quasi-reconstructions (inevitably). The effect of this is to translate the starred forms of various writers to hache '#'.

## 6. Eloyi wordlist

The words are classified in sections as; Nouns  
Adjectives

Pronouns  
Other

Verbs Numerals

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
1.	Tree (generic)	ku-wɛyi	éwɛyí	
2.	Leaf	kú-pú	é-pú	cf. Idoma <b>epu</b> , Yala <b>upu</b> ,
3.	Root	ko-kpa	a-kpa	
4.	Branch	kɔ-nde	e-nde	
5.	Bark (of tree)	ku-kù	e-kù	cf. Alumu, Toro <b>ùkùkù</b> , Ce <b>ku-nku</b> , Nandu <b>kukôn</b> ,
6.	Thorn	òwùlà	àwùlà	
7.	Grass (generic)	kɔ-sè	ɔ-sè	cf. Idoma <b>áci</b> , Etulo <b>òʃɛ</b> , Jili <b>kúsò</b> ,
8.	Vine (generic)	ùkólò	ìkólò	
9.	Mushroom	iwu	—	cf. Jili <b>dewule</b> ,
10.	Fruit	kú-múmà	í-múmà	
11.	Water-lily	álùgbà	—	
12.	Algae	ùnzòrì	—	
13.	Seed/stone/pip	kú-yi	é-yi	
14.	Charcoal	ólanga	álanga	
15.	Dust	kumburu	—	cf. Jijili <b>umuru</b> ,
16.	Ashes	kúlò	—	
17.	Rubbish-heap	koza	—	
18.	Mud	ótótó	—	
19.	Clay	lombo	—	cf. Ake <b>damwa</b> , Eggon <b>lamwe</b>
20.	Dew	ùmè	—	cf. Hasha <b>eme</b> , Ningye <b>mmeŋ</b> , Rukul <b>mman</b> , Tarok <b>ìmìmyàŋ</b> , Yanƙam <b>myaŋ</b> , also Mambiloid but almost certainly going back to a Niger-Congo root #me-
21.	Stone	kóki	éki	
22.	Sand	ɔ̀jè	—	cf. Idoma <b>ɔ̀jè</b> , Yala <b>wɔ̀jè</b> , Jijili <b>ijwe</b> , Hyam <b>njep</b> , Yeskwa <b>énjíp</b> ,
23.	Smoke	úwú	—	cf. Ake <b>owi</b> ,
24.	Fire	o-yi	ɛ-yi	
25.	Water	embi	—	cf. Eggon <b>ami</b> , Ake <b>imbi</b> , Akpa <b>imèny</b> , Yeskwa <b>ame</b> ,
26.	Rain I	ù-kpò	è-kpò	also ‘God’
27.	Rain II	itùmò	—	
28.	Cloud	amu	—	
29.	Fog/mist	ku-bú	e-bú	cf. Idoma <b>ébú</b> , cf. PWN #— <b>buda</b> ‘raincloud’.
30.	Lightning	ko-wu	lo-wu	
31.	Rainy Season	iwó	—	
32.	Dry season	ònèkà	—	cf. Ake <b>ona</b> ,
33.	Harmattan	ɔ̀kpáki	—	
34.	Year	kárí	lórí	



No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
35.	Today	ɔné		
36.	Yesterday	múlé		cf. Təsu nùmòlé,
37.	Tomorrow	kójí		
38.	Morning	mukwótù		
39.	Evening	onúyó		
40.	Dawn	méyifumò		
41.	Day	onu		also 'sun'. cf. Plateau roots for 'sun' and 'God' #nom-
42.	Night	o-tú	i-tú	cf. Akpa itfú, Izere kâ-túk, Cara kituk, Yeskwa ocúk, CB #-túkù, Fyem tukwa 'day'. -tuk is found throughout BC. cf. Berom túrūk, but also tūk 'day of 24 hours'.
43.	Moon/month	ó-vyá	é-vyá	cf. Ake oywā, Idoma ðya, Akpa òkwya, PJ #-kwa,
44.	Sun	onu		also 'day'. cf. Ake ɔnnɛ, Idoma ènð. Also Yoruba oòrùn. ? cognate with widespread Plateau #-nom forms.
45.	Star(s)	kulovyó	elovyó	
46.	Wind	kokpò	ekpò	
47.	God	ù-kpò	è-kpò	also 'rain'
48.	Sky	ófí		
49.	World			
50.	Ground, earth	eji		cf. Ake kafe, CB #-ci.
51.	Large River	rísù		cf. Ake ruzo,
52.	Stream	ókú	ékú	
53.	Lake, pond, pool	kù-bú	è-bú	cf. Idoma úbú, Akposo i-bu /à-, Gurma bùŋ-u 'river',
54.	Forest			
55.	Mountain	lówá		
56.	Hill I	ko-cakú	a-cakú	
57.	Hill II	ódùdù		
58.	Bush	kókátá	ákátá	
59.	Farm	útú	ítú	cf. Igede eru,
60.	Field	ókpulo	ékpúló	
61.	Market	rìjǐ		cf. Igede ihi, N. Idoma ifi,
62.	Compound, house	ùgù	ìgù	
63.	Room			
64.	Wall (of room)			
65.	Thatch roof	kènú	lùnú	
66.	Granary	kéné	lúné	
67.	Well	òbùga	èbùga	
68.	Road, path	ɔ-guze	ɛ-guze	cf. Agala ðgwù,
69.	Village/settlement	kúsé	ésé	
70.	River-bank	kenzu ókú		
71.	Swamp/wetland	òpadama		

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
72.	Place	<b>kize</b>		
73.	Person/people	<b>ó-nzù</b>	<b>é-nzù</b>	? cognate with the –ntu forms that give rise to ‘Bantu’.
74.	Man	<b>ònzònu</b>	<b>ànzònu</b>	
75.	Woman	<b>óko</b>	<b>eko</b>	
76.	Child	<b>ú-mé</b>	<b>é-mé</b>	cf. Ayere, Yoruba <b>omo</b> , Təsu <b>àmeré</b> ,
77.	Husband	<b>ónú</b>	<b>ánú</b>	cf. Idoma <b>-lo</b> , Jukun <b>-nu</b> , ? cognate with widespread #-rom roots.
78.	Wife	<b>óko</b>	<b>éko</b>	
79.	Widow			
80.	Young man	<b>òsàmbàrì</b>	<b>àsàmbàrì</b>	
81.	Young girl	<b>úmé jíko</b>	<b>émí jíko</b>	
82.	Old person	<b>apí kókó</b>		
83.	Father	<b>á-da</b>	<b>mbá-da</b>	cf. Idoma <b>áda</b> , Ndun <b>edâ</b> , CB <b>-tààtá</b> .
84.	Mother	<b>éné</b>	<b>mbéné</b>	cf. Idoma <b>éné</b> ,
85.	Barren woman	<b>òdòji</b>	<b>èdòji</b>	
86.	Relations	<b>onzu komba</b>	<b>enzu komba</b>	
87.	Ancestors	<b>ekpeji</b>		
88.	Grandparents	<b>apókó</b>		
89.	Grandchild	<b>óyè</b>	<b>éyè</b>	
90.	Brother	<b>ómé némi</b>	<b>émé némi</b>	
91.	Sister	<b>ómé némi óko</b>	<b>émé némi óko</b>	
92.	Friend	<b>úme zàmi</b>	<b>éme zàmi</b>	
93.	Guest/stranger	<b>ùgbògà</b>	<b>àgbògà</b>	
94.	Hospitality	<b>ògà</b>		cf. Idoma <b>ògà</b> , Nupe <b>éga</b> ‘guest’.
95.	King/chief/ruler	<b>ósù</b>	<b>ásù</b>	cf. Nupe <b>etsu</b> , Ninzo <b>ùcù</b> , Ningye <b>cum</b> ,
96.	Hunter	<b>onzú ifòmà</b>	<b>enzú ifòmà</b>	
97.	Thief	<b>wèlò</b>	<b>àwèlò</b>	
98.	Doctor	<b>òbófí</b>	<b>èbófí</b>	
99.	Witch	<b>ùrùwàdyè</b>	<b>àrùwàdyè</b>	
100.	Corpse	<b>úkpéjì</b>	<b>ékpéjì</b>	
101.	Blacksmith	<b>òndokondo</b>	<b>wàndokondo</b>	
102.	Woodworker			
103.	Slave	<b>óni</b>	<b>épi</b>	
104.	Dwarf	<b>odàngiri</b>		
105.	Masquerade I	<b>ùdadu</b>	<b>adadu</b>	wears long dress
106.	Masquerade II	<b>adaweji</b>		bushy head – other masquerades run away whenever it is out
107.	Masquerade III	<b>ékpòkú</b>		these are in numbers of up to 4 and above
108.	Masquerade IV	<b>òbere</b>		
109.	Masquerade V	<b>iyò</b>		very big
110.	Masquerade V I	<b>ìjwè</b>		clothes made of basket
111.	Masquerade VII	<b>èkpò</b>		used for graduation of age grade

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
112.	Prophecy			
113.	Shame	<b>lovià</b>		
114.	Fear/fright	<b>iyi</b>		cf. Eggon <b>iyili</b> , Yeskwa <b>ɪ̀ni</b> . Contra Armstrong (1983:104) probably not cognate with the rest of Idomoid.
115.	Bravery/courage	<b>èyè gbó</b>		
116.	Laughter	<b>luŋwo</b>		
117.	Wisdom	<b>ètèkèlèmù</b>		
118.	Guilt	<b>ìmvlǒ</b>		
119.	Anger	<b>òmbà</b>		
120.	Journey	<b>luze</b>		
121.	Race/running	<b>ènyà</b>		cf. Ake <b>ɪ̀nya</b> , Idoma <b>ìnyà</b> , Kuteb <b>-nyaŋ</b>
122.	Heat	<b>ɔyi</b>	<b>eyi</b>	
123.	Suffering	<b>èyiŋgímímà</b>		
124.	Death	<b>lúkú</b>		
125.	Name	<b>é-ji</b>		cf. Idoma <b>ìye</b> , Igede <b>enyí</b> , PJ <b>gyin</b> , Mambila <b>yili</b> ,
126.	Grave	<b>kùvð-kúkpéji</b>		
127.	Song	<b>kómú</b>		
128.	Proverb	<b>kóbá</b>		
129.	Story	<b>èzà</b>		
130.	Word			
131.	Lie	<b>òmwílo</b>		
132.	News			
133.	Debt	<b>kókpá</b>		
134.	Hunger	<b>lunzu</b>		
135.	Horn	<b>kúló</b>		
136.	Tail			
137.	Egg <sup>2</sup>	<b>ko-ʃi</b>	<b>a-ʃi</b>	cf. Ewe <b>àzi</b> , Nupe <b>ezhì</b> , Igede <b>èji</b> , Ukum <b>àtsi</b> , CB# - <b>gi</b>
138.	Wing	<b>kúkówó</b>	<b>ékówó</b>	cf. Igede <b>vcwɔ/a-</b>
139.	Beak			
140.	Nest			
141.	Feather	<b>ku-cere</b>	<b>i-cere</b>	cf. Jili <b>kíji</b> ,
142.	Gum/glue			
143.	Ant-hill			
144.	Hole in ground	<b>kù-vð</b>		cognate with widespread #-boN roots?
145.	Hole in tree	<b>otumùkǔweji</b>		
146.	Smell	<b>òmbò</b>		
147.	Poison			
148.	Load	<b>éwúló</b>		
149.	Bundle	<b>kúrí</b>		
150.	Firewood	<b>éwéyi</b>		

<sup>2</sup> See discussions in Westermann (1927:214), Mukarovsky (1976: 89-90)

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
151.	Stick	<b>kúwéyi</b>		
152.	Yam-heap	<b>èwu-íyísu</b>		
153.	War	<b>èwà</b>		
154.	Work	<b>èdúmà</b>		cf. PMC #- <b>tom</b>
155.	Divination (types)	<b>ùkpèkpúlè</b>		
156.	Medicine (generic)			
157.	Money	<b>eduwó</b>		
158.	Shadow			
159.	Thing			
160.	Strength			
161.	Length			
162.	Width	<b>wówà</b>		cf. Idoma ðwá,
163.	Land/country	<b>ěji</b>		
164.	Sleep	<b>ondò</b>		
165.	Disease(generic)			
166.	Smallpox	<b>ádá</b>		
167.	Diarrhoea	<b>émifúmò</b>		
168.	Eczema	<b>kóndò</b>		
169.	Goitre	<b>etúkòrò</b>		
170.	Boil	<b>ùwúpí</b>		
171.	Sore/wound	<b>òfià</b>		
172.	Leprosy	<b>ùkpólàfimà</b>		
173.	Head	<b>ré-ǰí</b>	<b>é-ǰí</b>	
174.	Eye	<b>kú-yi</b>	<b>é-yi</b>	cf. Yala <b>èyi</b> , Nupe <b>eye</b> , Ningye <b>yi</b> , Ekoid <b>è-yîd</b>
175.	Face			
176.	Cheek			
177.	Forehead			
178.	Nose	<b>ré-ŋù</b>	<b>á-ŋù</b>	cf. Idoma <b>èŋwu</b> , Ndoro <b>ŋwǎnâ</b> , Wase <b>nwán</b> ,
179.	Ear	<b>kólù</b>	<b>á-lù</b>	cf. Akpa <b>àrɔ</b> ,
180.	Mouth	<b>ke-nzu</b>	<b>lo-nzu</b>	cf. Eggon <b>anyu</b> , but found throughout Plateau
181.	Tooth			
182.	Tongue			
183.	Throat			
184.	Neck	<b>ki-tó</b>	<b>lù-tó</b>	cf. Ningye <b>tɔ</b> , but found through East Benue-Congo often with an affricate
185.	Jaw			
186.	Chin			
187.	Shoulder			
188.	Armpit			
189.	Fist			
190.	Arm	<b>kúwó</b>	<b>éwó</b>	cf. Igede <b>ɔbwɔ</b> , Yeskwa <b>ò-bók</b> , CB <b>-bókò</b> , PMC #- <b>bok</b>
191.	Hand			
192.	Palm	<b>kici</b>	<b>lu-ci</b>	
193.	Leg	<b>kwólé</b>	<b>álé</b>	

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
194.	Foot I	<b>kò-dàbà</b>	<b>à-dàba</b>	
195.	Thigh			
196.	Knee			
197.	Nail (Finger/toe)			
198.	Female breast	<b>kwómè</b>	<b>ámè</b>	cf. Idoma <b>àmè</b> , Ake <b>ambe</b> ,
199.	Stomach	<b>ù-bù</b>	<b>ì-bù</b>	cf. Igede <b>ùbù/i-</b> . Niger-Congo <b>#-bu</b> ,
200.	Chest			
201.	Navel	<b>íkò</b>		
202.	Back	<b>ósú</b>		cf. Ake <b>inzo</b> , Oge <b>òsū</b> , Daja <b>èṣū</b> , but probably cognate with a widespread root with a final front vowel, e.g. Yala <b>e-ṣi</b> ,
203.	Buttocks			
204.	Penis	<b>ùfi</b>		
205.	Vagina	<b>òzò</b>		
206.	Skin	<b>kwókpo</b>	<b>ékpo</b>	cf. Idoma <b>ḍkpá</b> , CB <b>#-kóbà</b> , PWN <b>#-kwuba</b> .
207.	Bone	<b>kú-kú</b>	<b>é-kú</b>	cf. Hasha <b>kuku</b> , Ninzo <b>ukfúkfú</b> , Fyem <b>huhúp</b> pl. <b>ahúp</b> , weakened from the more widespread <b>#kup</b> . Cf. Bo <b>ukúp</b> , Pe <b>ukup</b> , Tarok <b>akúp</b> and Yanƙam <b>kup</b> and PB <b>#-kubi</b>
208.	Rib			
209.	Vein			
210.	Blood	<b>enji</b>		cf. Eggon <b>manji</b> , Yeskwa <b>ají</b> , Kulu <b>bè-jí</b> , Yoruba <b>èje</b> , Ningye <b>gyi</b> , Akpa <b>imàh̄ji</b> ,
211.	Breath	<b>éjò</b>		
212.	Tear	<b>epè</b>		
213.	Saliva	<b>òtè</b>		
214.	Sweat	<b>ànu</b>		
215.	Urine	<b>àjìnga</b>		
216.	Faeces	<b>òpù</b>		
217.	Hair	<b>kú-ṣí</b>	<b>í-ṣí</b>	cf. Igede <b>inyí</b> , Akpa <b>iyi</b> , Nupe <b>enyi</b> , Etsako <b>enyi</b> ,
218.	Beard			
219.	Liver	<b>kutu</b>	<b>itu</b>	
220.	Heart			
221.	Intestines	<b>kó-kò</b>	<b>á-kò</b>	
222.	Body			
223.	Meat	<b>kuvyé</b>	<b>ivyé</b>	also 'animal'. cf. Igede <b>iyò</b> , Ake <b>iwye</b> Tesu <b>wi</b> , Hasha <b>i-vwe</b> , Eloyi <b>ivyé</b> , widespread in Jukunoid as <b>wi</b> , suggesting a regional root <b>##vwi</b> See BCCW,1 where this is treated as a weakening of <b>##bi</b> .
224.	Animal (Bush)	<b>izṣfi</b>		
225.	*Camel	<b>arakomi</b>		<Hausa
226.	Cow	<b>èndo</b>	<b>endo</b>	cf. Etulo <b>h̄dà</b> , suggesting this is cognate with widespread <b>#ena</b> forms.
227.	Bull	<b>èndowákú</b>		

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
228.	Calf	úmé èndo		
229.	Goat	ε-mu	é-mú	cf. Igede εmú/é-, Akpa ìmòbu.
230.	He-goat	usú		
231.	Castrated goat	usú omgbe ápímà		
232.	Sheep	ìlo	ìlo	cf. Idoma álá,
233.	Ram	òtùrkpé		
234.	Dog	i-zú	í-zú	
235.	*Cat	ùṅápi		
236.	*Pig	orúsu		
237.	*Horse	òṅà		
238.	Elephant	ì-ṅgyi	i-ṅgyi	cf. Ninzo iṅyí, Toro nyi, Bu ninyi, Yeskwa èni but also in Central Togo
239.	Hippo	ìnjí wembi	ìnjí bembì	
240.	Buffalo	εṅá		
241.	Lion	obaga		
242.	Leopard	ì-ce	í-ce	cf. Idoma èṅè, Bu εce, Horom kyè, Fyem kwe, Hasha ehwe, Jari ì-kwi, Tesu kwi related to Niger-Congo #-gbe, -kpe
243.	Hyena <sup>3</sup>	òtùmúsù		
244.	Civet cat <sup>4</sup>	èwu		
245.	Genet cat <sup>5</sup>	ègbomu		
246.	Jackal <sup>6</sup>	ekó erí		
247.	Aardvark	ùgbùlèwù		cf. Akpa ògbòwù,
248.	Wart-hog <sup>7</sup>	ònzò		
249.	Bush-pig <sup>8</sup>	orúsú ósè		
250.	Maxwell's duiker <sup>9</sup>	òvì	ávì	cf. Idoma àwì,
251.	Kob antelope <sup>10</sup>	ukpétu		
252.	Roan antelope <sup>11</sup>	èzáká		
253.	Porcupine <sup>12</sup>	onukye		
254.	Tree pangolin <sup>13</sup>	òkrùkodòko		
255.	Baboon	èwanà		
256.	Patas monkey <sup>14</sup>	òbàgù	abàgù	cf. Tiv àbàgù, Akpa òbàgwù
257.	Vervet monkey <sup>15</sup>	ekó	é-kó	cf. Idoma èka, PCJ kaN, Horom cárán, but

<sup>3</sup> (*Crocuta crocuta*)<sup>4</sup> (*Viverra civetta*)<sup>5</sup> (*Genetta genetta*)<sup>6</sup> (*Canis aureus*)<sup>7</sup> (*Phacochoerus aethiopus*)<sup>8</sup> (*Potamochoerus Porcus*)<sup>9</sup> (*Cephalophus* spp.)<sup>10</sup> (*Kobus kob*)<sup>11</sup> (*Hippotragus equinus*)<sup>12</sup> (*Hystrix cristata*)<sup>13</sup> (*Manis tricuspis*)<sup>14</sup> (*Erythrocebus patas*)

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
				probably also more widespread # <b>kana</b> roots. Also in Chadic: Mwaghavul <b>kaar</b> ,
258.	Colobus monkey <sup>16</sup>	<b>òbàgù ósè</b>		
259.	Squirrel (ground)	<b>ùtò</b>		
260.	Squirrel (tree)	<b>ùtò ófí</b>		
261.	Rat (generic)	<b>ikí</b>		
262.	Bush-rat I	<b>ùpè</b>		
263.	Bush-rat II	<b>òfí</b>		
264.	Bush-rat III	<b>ìfítú</b>		
265.	Giant rat <sup>17</sup>	<b>ekúlu</b>		
266.	Fat mouse			
267.	Pygmy mouse			
268.	Grasscutter <sup>18</sup>	<b>ízú riki</b>		
269.	Hedgehog <sup>19</sup>	<b>ùgbégbériefe</b>		
270.	Hare <sup>20</sup>	<b>òsù</b>		
271.	House-bat	<b>káfèbé</b>		
272.	Fruit-bat	<b>kámbé</b>		
273.	Nile crocodile <sup>21</sup>	<b>ikwù</b>	<b>íkwù</b>	cf. Idoma <b>íkwù</b> , Kulu <b>èguru</b> , Alumu <b>kùrù</b> , Shakara <b>nhworin</b> , Kuteb <b>ù-kúr</b> , Ufia <b>kí-kwù</b>
274.	Chameleon	<b>ùkpòkpò rífi</b>		
275.	Agama lizard	<b>oyó</b>		
276.	Skink	<b>kódo</b>		
277.	Gecko	<b>òfàpíyò</b>		
278.	Monitor lizard ( <i>damo</i> )	<b>ózù</b>		
279.	Monitor lizard ( <i>xx</i> )	<b>òyo</b>		
280.	Toad	<b>òwóyì</b>		
281.	Frog			
282.	Tortoise	<b>kukrúrùnjè</b>		
283.	Snake (Generic)	<b>kíyagérá</b>		
284.	Spitting cobra	<b>ògboku</b>		
285.	Python	<b>izóló</b>		
286.	Turtle	<b>kúkúnábo</b>	<b>ékúnábo</b>	N. Eloyi lect. cf. Idoma <b>ikínábo</b>
287.	Crab	<b>ùkokú</b>		
288.	River molluscs			
289.	Fish (generic)	<b>ù-mù</b>	<b>è-mù</b>	
290.	Tilapia (spp.)	<b>kope</b>		
291.	Puffer fish <sup>22</sup>			

<sup>15</sup> (*Cercopithecus aethiops*)<sup>16</sup> (*Colobus polykomos*)<sup>17</sup> (*Cretomyces* sp.)<sup>18</sup> (*Thryonomys Swinderianus*)<sup>19</sup> (*Atelerix albiventris*)<sup>20</sup> (*Lepus Crawshayi*)<sup>21</sup> Gerhardt (1983:131) reconstructs \*-**kut** for his PP4. May be linked with widespread #-**kuru** forms for 'tortoise'.

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
292.	Catfish (spp.) <sup>23</sup>	édú		
293.	Nile Perch <sup>24</sup>			
294.	Electric fish <sup>25</sup>	ukpówó		
295.	Bird (generic)	ofí		
296.	Chicken, fowl	émú		cf. Yeskwa ènù but also words for 'bird' Horom nòn, Tarok inyil, Pe i-nol, Yaŋkam noy. A common Benue-Congo root also CB -nòní. Mukarovsky (II, 405) gives examples that suggest a reconstruction to Proto-Volta-Congo (#-nun-).
297.	Cock	okórù		
298.	*Duck (Domestic)	ìdàgù		
299.	Pigeon (Domestic)	òtátàbrì		
300.	Guinea-fowl	èsu		
301.	Hooded Vulture <sup>26</sup>	ùpèrémi		
302.	Village Weaver <sup>27</sup>	òmàṅgà		
303.	Cattle-egret <sup>28</sup>	òfí èndo		
304.	Black kite <sup>29</sup>	òrókúmá		
305.	Standard-wing Night-jar	éwé		
306.	Owl (various spp.)	èlù		
307.	Grey Parrot <sup>30</sup>			<Hausa
308.	Senegal Coucal <sup>31</sup>	òdudu kǔkǔ		
309.	Bush- fowl/partridge	ìwokóló		
310.	Swallow	ofí úzè		
311.	*Pied crow <sup>32</sup>	owu-kòkyó		
312.	Woodpecker			
313.	Insect (Generic)	ùjìjìrì	éjìjìrì	
314.	Scorpion	ènà		
315.	Butterfly	ùsálù		
316.	Dragon-fly	kepiṅòlá		
317.	Mosquito	èjítú		
318.	Spider <sup>33</sup>	òfi		
319.	Mason wasp <sup>34</sup>	ìgbò		

<sup>22</sup> (*Tetraodon fahaka*)<sup>23</sup> (*Synodontis* spp.)<sup>24</sup> (*Lates niloticus*)<sup>25</sup> (*Malapterurus electricus*)<sup>26</sup> (*Neophron monachus*)<sup>27</sup> (*Ploceus cucullatus*)<sup>28</sup> (*Ardeola ibis*)<sup>29</sup> (*Milvus migrans*)<sup>30</sup> (*Poicephalus senegalus*)<sup>31</sup> (*Centropus* spp.)<sup>32</sup> (*Corvus albus*)<sup>33</sup> (*Acarina* spp.)<sup>34</sup> (*Belenogaster* spp.)



No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
320.	Bee	ewú		
321.	Sweat-fly	épo		
322.	Sandfly			
323.	Housefly	íji		
324.	Ant (Generic)	ìrindù		
325.	Louse (Human)	ékpí		
326.	Millipede	kùdàṅolo		
	centipede	kùbábáná		
327.	Cockroach	ùyèpé		
328.	Termite	òmgbósù		
329.	Flying-ant			
330.	Grasshopper	kòkó		
331.	Praying mantis	ṅòṅòrínṅo		
332.	Firefly			
333.	Giant Cricket	ìlete		
334.	Earthworm	ùmgbò		
335.	Giant Snail	kókpá		
336.	Soap (Traditional)	ùsèbúlú ògì		
337.	Oil	eží		
338.	Fat/grease	àfyà		
339.	Salt	otópwà		
340.	Soup/stew	asò	esò	cf. Idoma ðhò, Oloma asò, CB #-to 'gravy',
341.	Porridge	òpetepete		
342.	Sorghum-beer	àtèmba asu		
343.	Palm-wine	òbòmi		
344.	Peelings	mìṅgbé		
345.	Filter	yéyémù		
346.	Rag	kúḷḡírí		
347.	Floor-beater	koribo		
348.	Handle (of tool)	útù		
349.	Sickle	ùlòje		<Hausa
350.	Cutlass	kòda, òpìyà		<Hausa
351.	Iron	kòsò		
352.	Axe	kùkéké		
353.	Adze			
354.	Digging stick	òdù	àdù	cf. Ake òdù, PJ idu 'hoe', Yoruba ro 'to hoe',
355.	Hoe I	eyì ósè		small hoe
356.	Hoe II	eyè úwégbá		big one for making ridges
357.	Hoe III			
358.	Hammer			<Hausa
359.	Knife	kepo		
360.	Comb	kèfí		
361.	Broom	aḷékú		
	soft broom	oyo		
362.	Bag	obúrga		<Hausa

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
363.	Sack	kùbùfu		
364.	Fireplace	ésé		
365.	Shoe	ekpó iyátá		
366.	Cloth			
367.	Grindstone (top)	rímé		
368.	Grindstone (lower)	rìkò		
369.	Mortar (wood)	emi		
370.	Pestle	ofi		
371.	Pot (generic)	kèwù		
372.	Pot I	kéwúṅgámí		clay pot
373.	Pot II	kéwúṅgá		iron
		kòsò		
374.	Pot III	ùtá		for storing drinking water
375.	Pot IV	èlu		
376.	Head-pad	kwóká	áká	cf. Idoma èka, Kulu ìkal, Tiv ìkār, PBK #-kata
377.	Basket (generic)	kìbìrì		
378.	Basket I			
379.	Basket II			
380.	Winnowing tray	kótà		
381.	Mat (generic)	òkyò		
382.	Mat I	óté		hand made
383.	Needle	kéyi		
384.	Spear	úkpà		
385.	Bow	kwótó	étó	cf. Idoma òta, but Niger-Congo #-ta
386.	Arrow	ogu		
387.	Quiver			
388.	Chain			
389.	Rope	ò-rimóci	è-rimóci	cf. Igede ori pl. iri, Edo ìrì, Igbo élíí, Kulu ù-lík,
390.	Stool	kàgì		
391.	Wooden door	òkpòrò kóbé		
392.	Fence			<Hausa
393.	Box	kwòkpàti	àkpàti	Widespread loanword
394.	Bridge	ùrà		
395.	Ladder			
396.	Canoe	kódá	ádá	
397.	Paddle	kòsò		
398.	Bee-hive	kògbà ṅwi ewú		
399.	Fish-Net			
400.	Fish-trap I			
401.	Snare			
402.	One I	kònzé		
403.	One II	-nyí		cf. Etulo onyíi, Igala ínyé, Nupe ení, Ebira òni,
404.	Two	-po		cf. Idoma èpà, PJ pàṅ,

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
405.	Three	-lá		
406.	Four	-ndo		
407.	Five	-ollò		cf. Akpa èèrò,
408.	Six	-rènyí		cf. Akpa èèriny,
409.	Seven	-lòwò		
410.	Eight	-ràndá		
411.	Nine	-ròndo		
412.	Ten	-wó		cf. Igede iwo, Nupe guwo, PWS #-gwa
413.	Eleven	úwólu kpejí		
414.	Twelve	-so		
415.	Twenty	-pò		
416.	Twenty-four	-lendo		
417.	Forty	-endo		
418.	Sixty	-rèjí		
419.	Eighty	-ràndá		
420.	Hundred	-èkpowo		
421.	Black	rukùjì	warukùjì	
422.	White	kùrùwò		
423.	Red	kùyò		
424.	Good	ḡḡl		cf. Idoma ðhl, S. Idoma ðsí,
425.	Bad	úwùrá	mbirá	
426.	Sweet	érimà		
427.	Bitter	wònú		
428.	All-every	úwunáwuná	mbanámbaná	
429.	Whole, all	kpéékpéyí	kpéékpemba	cf. Idoma kpérim,
430.	Big	úwòḡl	mbèḡl	
431.	Fat	búlòmà		
432.	Dirty	yérimí		
433.	Other	ńjifo		
434.	True	ògèca		
435.	Half			
436.	Near	kèlè		
437.	Far	ndàmà		
438.	Heavy	eyíslú	oyíslú	
439.	Many	ribàribà		
440.	Narrow	ḡéréré		
441.	(be) hot	oyoyi		cf. Idoma yi 'burn',
442.	Cold	tùmò		
443.	Old	mákó		
444.	New	úwopó	mbepó	
445.	Wet			
446.	Dry	ḡirimà		
447.	Smooth	kipiyàmà		

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
448.	Add to	<b>kyòṅí</b>		
449.	Answer (question)	<b>ṅamà</b>		
450.	Arrive	<b>míbó</b>		
451.	Ask a question	<b>yòkuyò</b>		
452.	Ask/beg for something	<b>èṣékú</b>		
453.	Awaken (s.o.)	<b>èníweyìmò</b>		
454.	Bark (dog)	<b>ífúmò</b>		
455.	Bathe	<b>wómò</b>		cf. Nnam <b>woómò</b> , PCJ <b>vwog</b> , Kulu <b>wók</b> ,
456.	Be	<b>yi</b>		
457.	Be able to see	<b>móbe</b>		
458.	Be bent	<b>lèmò</b>		
459.	Be in a place	<b>yòmò</b>		
460.	Be on (s.t.)	<b>mukádù</b>		
461.	Be rotten	<b>vumà</b>		
462.	Be sharp	<b>rímò</b>		
463.	Be short			
464.	Beat (drum)	<b>bí</b>		
465.	Beat (s.o.)			
466.	Become dry			
467.	Begin			
468.	Bite	<b>kú</b>		cf. Idoma <b>kwú</b> , Yala <b>kú</b> ,
469.	Blow (mouth)	<b>fu</b>		cf. Ninzo <b>fú</b> ‘blow fire’,
470.	Blow (wind)	<b>tú</b>		
471.	Boil	<b>gú</b>		cf. Igbo <b>íghu</b> ,
472.	Breathe	<b>fényó</b>		cf. Idoma <b>ényó</b> , Yala <b>tényó</b> ,
473.	Build (house etc.)			
474.	Burn (fire burns)	<b>púmò</b>		
475.	Bury			
476.	Buy			
477.	Call (to someone)			
478.	Carry			
479.	Carve (wood etc.)			
480.	Catch			
481.	Chew			
482.	Choose	<b>mító</b>		
483.	Climb	<b>yàmufí</b>		
484.	Close	<b>kokoṅwò</b>		
485.	Come	<b>bó</b>		cf. Yoruba <b>bò</b> , Akpa <b>bí</b> , PMC <b>#ba</b>
486.	Come out (of room)	<b>bó kudù</b>		
487.	Continue (to do s.t.)			
488.	Cook	<b>vyé</b>		
489.	Cough			

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
490.	Count	wàyímà		
491.	Cover			
492.	Cut down (tree)	kpólò		
493.	Cut in two	zé		cf. Jili <b>semɛ</b> , Agala, Unemɛ <b>se</b> ,
494.	Cut off (head etc.)			
495.	Dance			
496.	Die	kpómò		
497.	Dig (earth etc.)	vú		cf. Idoma <b>bù</b> , S. Idoma <b>bvu</b> , CB #puk-
498.	Divide/share	kà		cf. Kulu <b>káp</b> , PJ *kaP, Somyev <b>gap</b> , PB <b>-gab-</b> ,
499.	Do/make	wó		cf. Hausa <b>wóó</b> ,
500.	Drag			
501.	Draw water			
502.	Dream			
503.	Drink	wó		cf. Ekoid <b>wó</b> , Edo <b>wó</b> , Tarok <b>wá</b> , PLC* <b>η<sup>w</sup>óη</b> , Ndoro <b>ηgwō</b> , Noni <b>wó</b>
504.	Drop			
505.	Dry in sun			
506.	Eat	rí		cf. Idoma <b>lé</b> , Igede <b>rì</b> , Tarok, Ake <b>rí</b> , Fyem <b>dé</b> , Mabo <b>ré</b> , reflexes of the widespread <b>-ri</b> , <b>-di</b> Niger-Congo roots
507.	Enter	sa		
508.	Extinguish	nyí		cf. Idoma <b>nyí</b> , Ake <b>yiro</b> , Jili <b>ni</b> ,
509.	Fall (rain)	tàmà		
510.	Fall over	kpeji		
511.	Fear	ríyi		
512.	Feel (cold etc.)			
513.	Fight (in war)	kírèwà		
514.	Fill			
515.	Finish (a task)			
516.	Float	fúlòmèmbi		'to be on the surface of the the water'
517.	Flog			
518.	Flow (water etc.)	rimà		
519.	Fly (birds)	eyìmò		
520.	Fold (cloth etc.)	kùyímò		
521.	Follow	mbwàlú		
522.	Forget	kùléyi		
523.	Fry (in oil)			
524.	Gather/collect	kpálélù		
525.	Get	mina		
526.	Give	tó	kú	
527.	Give birth	mbà		cf. PJ #mbat-
528.	Go	sò		cf. Yala <b>so</b> ,
529.	Go out/exit	wòkudù		
530.	Grind	ìkpòmò		
531.	Grow (plants)	ìbúlòmà		

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
532.	Hatch (egg)	<b>íbímà</b>		
533.	Have	<b>mìyíyí</b>		
534.	Hear	<b>pwà</b>		cf. Idoma <b>pó</b> , S. Idoma <b>pfó</b> , Pe <b>pok</b> , Hone <b>fúk</b> ,
535.	Hit/strike (drum)	<b>kpá</b>		
536.	Hoe			
537.	Hold	<b>ràwú</b>		
538.	Hunt	<b>tókótó</b>		
539.	Jump			
540.	Kill	<b>ɲmgbé</b>		cf. Yala Ikom <b>ɲmgbó</b> ,
541.	Kneel			
542.	Know	<b>yí</b>		cf. Iten <b>ye</b> , Ayu <b>ye</b> , Eggon <b>yi</b> , Pe <b>yi</b> , Nupe <b>ye...kpe</b>
543.	Laugh	<b>nyðɲgɔmà</b>		
544.	Learn			
545.	Lick	<b>lé</b>		cf. Edo <b>lalo</b> , cLela <b>lèmsé</b> , Horom <b>lyes</b> , Noni <b>lá</b> , PB <b>-damb-</b> ,
546.	Lie			
547.	Lie down	<b>nɔmà</b>		
548.	Listen	<b>mgbálù</b>		
549.	Live	<b>réyi</b>		
550.	Look at	<b>yésè</b>		
551.	Lose s.t.	<b>kitàmà</b>		
552.	Marry	<b>mitóko</b>		
553.	Mix	<b>mgbélésù</b>		
554.	Mould (pot)	<b>mbà</b>		cf. Tiv <b>màà</b> , Idoma <b>mà</b> , Yoruba <b>mɔ</b> , PMC <b>#ma</b>
555.	Mount			
556.	Open			
557.	Pierce/stab	<b>gu</b>		cf. Idoma <b>gwu</b> ,
558.	Plait (hair)			
559.	Plant (crop etc.)			
560.	Play	<b>nénè</b>		
561.	Pound (in mortar)			
562.	Pour (liquid)			
563.	Pull	<b>yí</b>		
564.	Push	<b>bó</b>		
565.	Put on (clothes)	<b>lo ewúlo</b>		
566.	Receive	<b>minakiya</b>		
567.	Refuse	<b>mitomo</b>		
568.	‘Remain’	<b>itàyì</b>		
569.	Remember	<b>milólò</b>		
570.	Resemble	<b>ewô elè</b>		
571.	Return	<b>gbàmà</b>		
572.	Ride (horse etc.)			
573.	Roast on coals	<b>fá</b>		cf. PI <b>fá</b> , PJ <b>fwaP</b> , Horom <b>fwas</b> , Berom <b>fuf</b> ‘burn’, also in Chadic: Daffo <b>fâf</b>



No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
618.	Turn	<b>fù</b>		
619.	Twist (rope etc.)			
620.	Untie			
621.	Uproot (tuber)			
622.	Vomit	<b>komò</b>		
623.	Walk	<b>zemà</b>		
624.	Want/need	<b>mìgíkiya</b>		
625.	Wash (self)	<b>womò</b>		
626.	Wash (cloth)	<b>gbò</b>		
627.	Wear			see 568
628.	Weave	<b>fukiya</b>		
629.	Weed	<b>ose mgběmà</b>		
630.	Weep	<b>oga lomò</b>		
631.	Wipe	<b>wòkiya</b>		
632.	Work	<b>èdúmà</b>		
633.	Yawn	<b>éwókenzu</b>		
634.	I	<b>imi</b>		emph. <b>imimì</b> ,
635.	You	<b>uṅwo</b>		
636.	He/she/it	<b>áwò</b>		
637.	He/she/it (emph.)	<b>uwué</b>		
638.	we	<b>kinzú</b>		
639.	you pl.	<b>lúyí</b>		
640.	They	<b>mbămbà</b>		
641.	How?	<b>woté</b>		
642.	Who?	<b>uwé</b>		
643.	Which?	<b>ṅginá</b>		
644.	What?	<b>kimbé</b>		
645.	When?	<b>onúná</b>		
646.	Where?	<b>muná</b>		
647.	Exclamations			
648.	Adverbs			
648.	Here	<b>múne</b>		
649.	Particles etc.			
650.	and	<b>m̀bùlà</b>		cf. Agatu <b>mlà</b> ,
651.	not	<b>mó</b>		



## Edible and Useful Plants

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
652.	Guinea-yam <sup>35</sup>	<b>lúsú</b>	<b>ísú</b>	cf. Ake <b>isru</b> , Igede <b>iju</b> , Yoruba <b>isu</b> ,
653.	Aerial yam <sup>36</sup>			
654.	Red yam <sup>37</sup>		<b>ènùga</b>	
655.	Water-yam <sup>38</sup>	<b>ùbùnù</b>	<b>èbùnù</b>	cf. Idoma <b>òbònà</b> ,
656.	Taro (Old cocoyam) <sup>39</sup>	<b>kògbásá</b>	<b>agbásá</b>	
657.	New cocoyam <sup>40*</sup>	<b>kògbásá</b>	<b>agbásá</b>	
658.	Cassava <sup>*41</sup>	<b>kòrógwo</b>	<b>òrógwo</b>	< Hausa
659.	Sweet potato <sup>*42</sup>	<b>árímene</b>		
660.	Wild yam I	<b>uvye</b>	<b>ivye</b>	
661.	Wild yam II			
662.	Tumuku <sup>43</sup>			
663.	Rizga <sup>44</sup>			
664.	Sorghum <sup>45</sup>	<b>awa</b>		
665.	Bulrush millet <sup>46</sup> ( <i>gero</i> )	<b>anza</b>		
666.	Bulrush millet ( <i>maiwa</i> )	<b>ânji</b>		
667.	Eleusine <sup>*47</sup>			
668.	Fonio (H. <i>acca</i> ) <sup>48</sup>	<b>aṅa</b>		
669.	Ibura (H. <i>iburu</i> ) <sup>49</sup>	<b>igba</b>		
670.	Maize <sup>*50</sup>	<b>kukpákpà</b>	<b>ikpákpà</b>	
671.	Rice <sup>*51</sup>	<b>ìfikafa</b>		< Hausa
672.	Cowpea <sup>52</sup>	<b>kònzè</b>	<b>ènzè</b>	cf. Idoma <b>èjè</b> , Horom <b>kúnì</b> , PB <b>#kúnde</b> ,
673.	Spiral cowpea			
674.	Lima bean <sup>53*</sup>	<b>konegba</b>	<b>anega</b>	
675.	Other beans I	<b>wàfikí</b>		
676.	Other beans II	<b>kòfèke</b>		
677.	Other beans III			
678.	Bambara groundnut <sup>54</sup>	<b>kofi</b>	<b>efi</b>	

<sup>35</sup> (*Dioscorea guineensis*)<sup>36</sup> (*Dioscorea bulbifera*)<sup>37</sup> (*Dioscorea cayenensis*)<sup>38</sup> (*Dioscorea alata*)<sup>39</sup> (*Colocasia esculenta*)<sup>40</sup> (*Xanthosoma mafaffa*) (*H. wali*)<sup>41</sup> (*Manihot esculenta*)<sup>42</sup> (*Ipomoea batatas*)<sup>43</sup> (*Plectranthus esculentus*)<sup>44</sup> (*Solenostemon rotundifolius*)<sup>45</sup> (*Sorghum bicolor*)<sup>46</sup> (*Pennisetum* spp.)<sup>47</sup> (*H. tamba*) (*Eleusine coracana*)<sup>48</sup> (*Digitaria exilis*)<sup>49</sup> (*Digitaria iburua*)<sup>50</sup> (*Zea mays*)<sup>51</sup> (*Oryza sativa/ glaberrima*)<sup>52</sup> (*Vigna unguiculata*)<sup>53</sup> (*Phaseolus lunatus*)<sup>54</sup> (*Vigna subterranea*)

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
679.	Kersting's ground-nut <sup>55</sup>			
680.	Groundnut (Peanut) <sup>56</sup>	<b>kòfáta</b>	<b>òfáta</b>	
681.	Tiger-nut <sup>57</sup>			
682.	Garden egg <sup>58</sup>	<b>kunje</b>	<b>enje</b>	
683.	Okra <sup>59</sup>	<b>kotu</b>	<b>eto</b>	
684.	Chili pepper* (large) <sup>60</sup>	<b>kokpoko</b>	<b>ákpoko</b>	
685.	Birdseye chili* <sup>61</sup>			
686.	Onion ( <i>Allium cepa</i> )	<b>kólibasa</b>	<b>álibasa</b>	< Hausa
687.	Garlic <sup>62</sup>			
688.	Tomato <sup>63</sup>	<b>òtúmatùr</b>		< Hausa
689.	Egusi melon <sup>64</sup>	<b>kófi</b>	<b>éfi</b>	
690.	Melon (other) <sup>65</sup>			
691.	Edible squash <sup>66</sup>			
692.	Sorrel/roselle <sup>67</sup>	<b>òṅákwa</b>		
693.	Jews' mallow <sup>68</sup>	<b>kònári</b>	<b>ànári</b>	
694.	Kenaf <sup>69</sup>	<b>kòrama</b>	<b>àràma</b>	< Hausa
695.	Sesame seeds <sup>70</sup>	<b>kòwápèn</b>	<b>awapèn</b>	
696.	Black sesame <sup>71</sup>	<b>òtòmò</b>		
697.	Sesame leaves <sup>72</sup>	<b>òkónù</b>		
698.	Bitterleaf <sup>73</sup>	<b>kùkpólazu</b>		
699.	Waterleaf* <sup>74</sup>	<b>òsembi</b>		
700.	Plantain ( <i>Musa</i> AAB)	<b>kógùrù</b>	<b>ágùrù</b>	
701.	Banana ( <i>Musa</i> AAA)	<b>ágùrù</b>	<b>íyèdò</b>	
702.	Orange* <sup>75</sup>	<b>kòlémú</b>	<b>èrè mí</b>	
703.	Bamboo	<b>kówɔ</b>	<b>éwɔ</b>	
704.	Pineapple* <sup>76</sup>	<b>kopè nasara</b>		

<sup>55</sup> (*Macrotyloma geocarpa*)<sup>56</sup> (*Arachis hypogaea*)<sup>57</sup> (*Cyperus esculentus*)<sup>58</sup> (*Solanum melongena*)<sup>59</sup> (*Abelmoschus esculentus*)<sup>60</sup> (*Capsicum frutescens*)<sup>61</sup> (*Capsicum annuum*)<sup>62</sup> (*Allium sativum*)<sup>63</sup> (*Lycopersicon esculentum*)<sup>64</sup> (*Citrullus lanatus*)<sup>65</sup> (*Cucumis* spp)<sup>66</sup> (*Cucurbita pepo*)<sup>67</sup> (*H. yakuwa*) (*Hibiscus sabdariffa*)<sup>68</sup> (*H. lalo*)(*Corchorus olitorius*)<sup>69</sup> (*H. rama*) (*Hibiscus cannabinus*)<sup>70</sup> (*H. Ridfi*) (*Sesamum indicum*)<sup>71</sup> (*Sesamum radiatum*)<sup>72</sup> (*H. karkashi*)<sup>73</sup> *Vernonia amygdalina*<sup>74</sup> (*Amaranthus* spp)<sup>75</sup> (*Citrus sinensis*)<sup>76</sup> (*Ananas comosus*)

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
705.	Coconut* <sup>77</sup>			
706.	Pawpaw* <sup>78</sup>	<b>kòpè</b>		
707.	Gourd (Generic)	<b>ògyá</b>		
708.	Gourd-bottle <sup>79</sup>			
709.	Gourd (spherical) <sup>80</sup>	<b>kǎ̀tù</b>		
710.	Other gourds			
711.	Cotton	<b>òwuru</b>		
712.	Tobacco*	<b>átàmbà</b>		<Hausa
713.	Sugar-cane*	<b>kòtākànda</b>		
714.	Loofah <sup>81</sup> (H. <i>soso</i> )	<b>kùsòso</b>		<Hausa
715.	Cola	<b>kòṅgórò</b>		
716.	Oil-palm <sup>82</sup>	<b>erì</b>	<b>éri</b>	cf. Degema <b>èdí</b> , Idoma <b>àli</b> ,
717.	Palm-fruit	<b>éyèrì</b>		
718.	Palm-oil	<b>ejí</b>		
719.	Palm kernel	<b>ítù</b>		
720.	Raphia/ bamboo palm <sup>83</sup>	<b>kówo</b>		
721.	Fan-palm <sup>84</sup>	<b>ódó</b>	<b>édó</b>	cf. Igala <b>ódó</b> , Idoma <b>ódó</b> ,
722.	Monkey-guava <sup>85</sup>			
723.	Canarium tree <sup>86</sup>	<b>òpá</b>		
724.	Custard apple <sup>87</sup>			
725.	Wild date-palm <sup>88</sup>			
726.	Baobab <sup>89</sup>	<b>kòkúmúka</b>		
727.	Silk-cotton tree <sup>90</sup>	<b>iwú</b>		
728.	Shea tree <sup>91</sup>	<b>èlàsà</b>		
729.	Shea-fruit	<b>kúkpókpóló</b>		
730.	Locust tree <sup>92</sup>	<b>ená</b>		
731.	Locust fruit	<b>epi</b>		
732.	Locust-bean cakes	<b>kepi</b>		
733.	Tamarind <sup>93</sup>			
734.	Sodom apple <sup>94</sup>			
735.	<i>Terminalia</i> sp. <sup>95</sup>			

<sup>77</sup> (*Cocos nucifera*)<sup>78</sup> (*Carica papaya*)<sup>79</sup> (*Lagenaria siceraria*)<sup>80</sup> (*Cucurbita maxima*)<sup>81</sup> (*Luffa cylindrica*)<sup>82</sup> (*Elaeis guineensis*)<sup>83</sup> (*Raphia* spp.)<sup>84</sup> (*Borassus aethiopum*)<sup>85</sup> (*Diospyros mespiliformis*)<sup>86</sup> (*Canarium schweinfurthii*)<sup>87</sup> (*Annona senegalensis*)<sup>88</sup> (*Phoenix reclinata*)<sup>89</sup> (*Adansonia digitata*)<sup>90</sup> (*Ceiba pentandra*)<sup>91</sup> (*Vitellaria paradoxa*)<sup>92</sup> (*Parkia biglobosa*)<sup>93</sup> (*Tamarindus indica*)<sup>94</sup> (*Calotropis procera* H. tumfafiya)<sup>95</sup> (*H. baushe*)

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
736.	Black plum <sup>96</sup>			

### Musical Instruments

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
737.	Drum I	òbà		Made of clay and is placed on the ground, being beaten with the hands
738.	Drum II	kúkpátá		wooden drum, is also placed on the ground while s.o mounts on it to beat with the hands
739.	Drum III	kòṅgá		normal size drum
740.	Flute	òmbùlà		
741.	Zither	kùmbúru		
742.	Transverse horn	kúlól		
743.	Iron gong			
744.	Gourd-rattle	ògyá		
745.	Ankle rattles	áṅgànga		

### 7. Conclusion: the classification of Eloyi

Eloyi has a significant number of cognates with Idomoid which could be taken to support Armstrong's conclusion. However, few of these are exclusively with Idomoid and most are shared with Plateau or indeed more widely with EBC. In particular, they are most commonly shared with Jili and Ake-Eggon. The concept that there is any particular link with the Central Plateau languages (Plateau 2) has no support whatsoever.

A particular morphological feature of Eloyi makes it likely that it is affix alternation noun-class language which has borrowed words from languages without such alternations but which permit nouns to begin with a vowel is that many of the cognates are with plurals which then form singulatives, usually with ku-. See, for example, xx. This seems to suggest a Plateau orientation with heavy influence from Idomoid languages rather than the reverse. Nonetheless, it is important to note that much of Eloyi seems to have no good external parallels at all. for this reason it is tentatively classified as a single branch of Plateau.

### References

- Abraham, R.C. 1962. *Dictionary of the Hausa language*. London: University of London Press.
- Armstrong, R.G. 1955. The Idoma-speaking peoples. In: *Peoples of the Niger-Benue confluence*. C.D. Forde (ed.) 77-89. Ethnographic Survey of Africa, X. London: IAI.
- Armstrong, R.G. 1964. A few more words of Eloyi. *Journal of West African Languages*, I(2): 57-60.
- Armstrong, R.G. 1983. The Idomoid languages of the Benue and Cross River Valleys. *Journal of West African Languages*, XIII(1): 91-149.
- Armstrong, R.G. 1984. The consonant system of Akpa. *Nigerian Language Teacher*, 5(2): 26-29.
- Bendor-Samuel, J. ed. 1989. *The Niger-Congo languages*. Lanham: University Press of America.
- 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.
- Mackay, H.D. 1964. A word-list of Eloyi. *Journal of West African Languages*, 1(1): 5-12.
- Newman, R.M. 1997. *An English-Hausa dictionary*. Lagos: Longman.

<sup>96</sup> (*Vitex doniana*)

- Rolphs, G. 1867. Die Art der Begrüssung bei verschiedenen Negerstämmen. *Petermanns Geographische Mitteilungen*, 13:333-336.
- Rolphs, G. 1867/8 & 1871/72. Reise durch Nord Afrika vom mittelländischen Meer bis zum Busen von Guinea, 1865 bis 1867. *Petermanns Geographische Mitteilungen*, Ergänzungsheft 25:1-25 & 34:1-124. Gotha: Justus Perthes. [Eloyi material is in the 1871/2 reference]
- Rolphs, G. 1874/5. *Quer durch Afrika. Reisen vom Mittelmeer nach dem Tschadsee und zum Golf von Guinea*. [2 vols.] Leipzig.
- Temple, Olive 1922. *Notes on the Tribes, Provinces, Emirates and States of the Northern Provinces of Nigeria*. Argus Printing and Publishing Co. Cape Town.
- Tschudi, J. 1956. Aus dem sozialen Leben der Afos, Hügelland von Nassarawa, Nigeria. *Baessler Archiv*, n.F. 4(2):147-172.
- Westermann, D. 1927. *Die Westlichen Sudansprachen und ihre Beziehungen zum Bantu*. Berlin: de Gruyter.
- Williamson, K., and K. Shimizu. 1968. *Benue-Congo comparative wordlist, Vol. 1*. Ibadan: West African Linguistic Society.
- Williamson, Kay 1971. The Benue-Congo languages & Ijò. 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.