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Colour Atlas of Cyprinodonts of the Rain Forests of Tropical Africa
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We dedicate this book to Dr. h. c. J. J. SCHEEL in appreciation of his outstanding work on african Cyprinodonts.
Among the killifishes the Cyprinodonts of the tropical Africa are certain to belong to the most gorgeously coloured fishes that we know. These 146 species of the rain forests of West and Central Africa listed in this volume, make up almost precisely a third of the extent of all the species of the hitherto known and described oviparous toothcarps. The remaining two thirds are mainly spread over savanna areas of Africa as well as in South and Central America and in the more temperate zones of North America. Only a few species are found in Europe and Asia.

The predominant majority of these killifishes dealt with in this book are dependant ecologically on the rain forest and there are only a few forms that were able to inhabit the neighbouring savanna areas. Both rain forests and coral reefs shelter most of the fauna species and among the smaller fishes of running waters the killies surely represent one of the most frequently found groups having abundant species.

In this volume only species of the rain forests are taken up and beyond this, only those inhabitants of the savanna whose distribution areas at least partly reach to the rain forests (z. B.: E. spilargyreus, E. bifasciatus, Aply. normani). Strictly inhabitants of savanna as for instance, A. banforense, Aply. pfaffi, Aply. lamberti and others are excluded. Since publication of Scheels „Rivulins of the Old World“, of late the first guiding monography on killifishes, nearly twenty years have passed in which time numerous trips for both studying and collecting to the various regions of West and Central Africa have been undertaken. Due to these journeys not only many species could be found and described but our knowledge of the distribution, ecology and biology of these fishes greatly increased.

On this occasion some people representing all those persons who have contributed to the knowledge of killifishes of the rain forests within this period are to be named in alphabetical order: Dr. V. ETZEL, Cuxhaven, Dr. J. H. HUBER, Paris, Dr. M. POLL, Tervuren, Dr. R. ROMAND, Dakar and Dr. J. J. SCHEEL, St. Laurent du Var.

We thank Mr. R. H. WILDEKAMP for many valuable discussions and for providing the drawings of fishes in this book. Likewise a great help was provided by the part on Cyprinodontidae of the recently published Volume 2 of the „Catalogue of Freshwater Fishes of Africa“ which has been written by the authors WILDEKAMP, ROMAND and SCHEEL.

Furthermore we are grateful to Mrs. T. RADDA, Vienna, for translating some chapters into English and to Mr. Fred WRIGHT, Bwlch, Wales, for kindly correcting the English version.

After analysing all the literature at our disposal, the results of our own investigations - which had hitherto been published in numerous single papers - were summarized in this monography. We hope to offer all persons and institutions who have interest in this fascinating group of fishes, either for scientific or private reasons, a useful tool which will be suitable to answer all questions on taxonomy, systematics, distribution, ecology and biology of the Cyprinodonts of the rain forests of West and Central Africa.

Vienna, in January 1987

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The rainforests of tropical Africa are spread over a large area beginning in the West in southern Guinea and Sierra Leone throughout Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo, Benin, Nigeria, Cameroon, Ecuatorial Guinea, Gabon, Congo, Cabinda to Zaire in the Southeast. There are, however, some species which are also living in savanna areas and therefore they reach to Senegambia, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Bourkina Faso (former Upper Volta) and to many other northern States (Fig. 1). The so-called Dahomey gap in southeastern Ghana, Togo and Benin interrupts the western part and the central african part of the tropical rainforest belt.

River systems are very important in respect to the evolution of new forms and they are barriers for many species of the cyprinodonts (Fig. 2).
Rainfall and temperature depend on the relief in a high degree. The rainfall is highest at the coast but diminishes steadily northwards and towards the inland, respectively. It is also higher in mountainous regions. The Dahomey gap is due to the fewer rainfall in this area.

The distribution of the different types of vegetation is mainly influenced by the variation of rainfall. Rainforest needs an annual rainfall of at least 2000 mm. Areas of 1000 to 1500 mm of annual rainfall are grown with Guinea savanna. If
the amount of rain is below 1000 mm, only dry or Sudan savanna can grow, and landscapes with rainfall of 500 mm or below are developing a vegetation of the Sahel savanna (Fig. 3).

The coastal region is characterized by estuaries, creeks and swamps and is mainly covered by the typical Mangrove. The coastal lowlands with their abundant rainfall which drains away very slowly are covered with a dense swamp forest with a high density of different plant species. Towards the inland the evergreen rainforest is spread. Only on very few places this rainforest is still a primary one, mostly replaced by secondary forest with a much lower species composition. The inland plateau with its rainforest has lower temperatures and less rainfall. In mountainous regions of higher elevations a quite different plant association - the so-called highland savanna - with mountain forest or tall grass vegetation can be found.

The bordering parts of the inland are grown with Guinea savanna. Trees can usually be observed in wet parts along rivers and the characteristic plants are different tall grass species. Sudan and Sahel savanna show only grass elements and thorns or scrub, respectively (Fig. 4).

Habitats, Collecting and Protection

The habitats of the toothcarps of the rainforests are mainly streams, brooks and rivers and occasionally pools and ponds. The *Epiplatys* species are surface dwellers hiding under floating leaves of aquatic plants. *Aphyosemion species* usually can be found on quiet parts of their habitats. The lampeyes are schooling in the fast running Darts of brooks and rivers (Fig. 5).

![Fig. 5, a crow with a tourist, habitat of E. sexfasciatus, A. splendopleure, A. calliurum and P. similis](image-url)
Foerschichthys, Adamas and some other dwarf forms prefer swamp habitats with stagnant water.

The water temperatures depend on the respective sea level. In the coastal area temperatures of 23 to 26 °C can be measured, whereas in the inland plateau habitats the temperatures are 21 to 24 °C. At higher elevations the water temperatures are even lower and values of 17 to 21 °C can be observed during day and night times on the one hand, and in the different seasons of the year on other hand.

Conductivity values of the natural habitats are very often equal to that of distilled water and usually vary between 20 and 50 µS. The pH lies in most cases below 5 and 6 and thus is far beyond the neutral value. Measurements of the total hardness show values lower than 1 German degree in most of the places.

For fish collecting a licence is needed in many western and central african states. Non annual species can be found easily in all seasons, but the collection of annual species is very difficult, however, and depends on the different seasons of the year. Rain and dry seasons are different in the respective parts of the rainforest (see Fig. 6).

![Fig. 6: Rainfall in the different seasons in West and Central Afrika.](image)

During the past twenty years an increasing destruction of the rainforest in many states of the area under investigation could be observed. This is due to the destructive impact of man to his natural environment. As mentioned above, killifishes are ecologically bound to rainforests and the destruction of their habitats could lead to the extinction of species in the near future - above all the relict species with a small distribution area. Therefore we should try to keep enough fish of the respective species in our tanks in order to preserve them for the next generations also.

**Classification, Systematics and Taxonomy**

The cyprinodontiforms, commonly known as killifishes or toothcarps, are a large and diverse group of teleostean fishes with a pantropical and temperate Laurasian distribution, living mainly in freshwaters. The first classification of cyprinodonts was proposed in 1895 by GARMAN, including oviparous and viviparous groups. Until 1980 the oviparous group of the family Cyprinodontidae was currently divided in eight subfamilies as listed in the following table:
Family Cyprinodontidae
Subfamily Fundulinae
Genus Fundulus, Lucania, Leptolucania, Oxyzygonectes, Cubanichthys, Chriopeoides, Valencia, Empetrichthys, Crenichthys, Profundulus, Adinia
Subfamily Cyprinodontinae
Genus Cyprinodon, Megupsilon, Floridichthys, Jordanella, Cualac, Aphanius
Subfamily Lamprichthynae
Genus Lamprichthys
Subfamily Orestiatainiae
Genus Orestias
Subfamily Pantanodontinae
Genus Pantanodon
Subfamily Procatopodinae
Genus Aplocheilichthys, Procatopus, Hypsopanchax, Plataplochilus, Hylapanchax, Congopanchax
Subfamily Rivulinae
Genus Rivulus, Trigonectes, Rivulichthys, Pterolebias, Rachovia, Austrofundulus, Cynolebias, Aphyosemion, Nothobranchius, Adamas, Epiphiates, Aplocheilus, Pachypanchax, Callopanchax
Subfamily Fluviphylacinae
Genus Fluviphylax

In 1981 Dr. Lynne R. PARENTI published a comprehensive work based mainly on specific differences in anatomical features of the skeleton in most of the genera of all groups of the cyprinodonts. She found out that the Cyprinodontiformes are a monophyletic group, but using methods of a cladistic phylogenetic systematics, she could show that the former family Cyprinodontidae is non-monophyletic. According to her investigations she proposed a new comprehensive classification as follows:

Order Cyprinodontiformes BERG, 1940
Suborder Aplocheiloidei, PARENTI, 1981
Family Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860
Family Rivulidae MYERS, 1925
Suborder Cyprinodontodei, PARENTI, 1981
Section 1
Family Profundulidae HOEDEMAN and BRONNER, 1951
Section 2
Division 1
Family Fundulidae JORDAN and GILBERT, 1882
Division 2
Sept 1
Family Valenciidae, PARENTI, 1981
Sept 2
Superfamily Poecilioidea, PARENTI, 1981
Family Anablepidae GARMAN, 1895
Subfamily Anablepinae GARMAN, 1895
Subfamily Oxyzygonectinae, PARENTI, 1981
Family Poeciliidae GARMAN, 1895
Subfamily Poeciliinae GARMAN, 1895
Subfamily Fluviphylacinae ROBERTS, 1970
Subfamily Aplocheilichthyinae MYERS, 1928
The genera treated in this book belong either to the former Rivulinae and Procatopodinae, respectively, or to the Aplocheilidae and Aplocheilichthyinae, using PARENTI’s classification. We followed in our book the latter one. The family Aplocheilidae can be divided into two groups of genera: Aplocheilus, Pachypanchax, Epiplatys, Foerschichthys and probably Episemion on the one hand and Nothobranchius, Aphyosemion, Adamas, Fundulosoma and Pronothobranchius on the other hand. We referred both groups to the subfamilies Aplocheilinae and Nothobranchiinae, respectively.

The Aplocheilichthyinae comprise the so-called lampeye genera Aplocheilichthys, Procatopus, Plataplochilus, Hypsopanchax, Hylopanchax and Congopanchax. They are sister groups of the viviparous subfamily Poeciliinae and the oviparous and monotypic subfamily Fluviphylacinae, forming together the family Poeciliidae.

Among the subgenera of the genus Epiplatys only Aphyoplatys seems to be justified. Pseudepiplatys (annulatus) shows no significant differences in its meristics with Epiplatys. Parepiplatys may be considered as synonymous with Lycocyprinus according to the close relationship of the two type species.

The highest number of species belongs to the genus Aphyosemion. Until recently 12 subgenera had been described. The subgenera Callopanchax and Archiapphyosemion are distributed in the western rainforests and adjacent savannas. There are, however, certain differences between the 8 species of the latter subgenus. A. geryi, A. roloffii and A. liberiense show a red colour pattern with yellow/red margins of the unpaired fins. Their chromosome numbers are n = 20 to 21 and the standard lengths are below 40 mm. A. guineense, A. viride, A. maeseni, A. jeanolpoli and A. petersii have no red pigmentation on the body sides and fins; their chromosome numbers are n = 19 to 21, and standard lengths are more then 40 mm (to 60 mm in some species). Therefore we suggest a new subgenus Scriptaphyosemion n. subgen. (type species: A. geryi). Diagnosis as mentioned above, consisting of A. geryi, A. roloffii and A. liberiense. The members of this subgenus seem to be related to the A. calliurum group of the easternwards distributed subgenus Mesoaphyosemion.

There is also one representative of the subgenus Paraphyosemion, which can be found westwards of the Dahomey gap, namely A. walkerii. The other species are occurring eastwards of the gap.

The subgenus Chromaphyosemion comprises the A. bivittatum group and occurs in the coastal rainforests from Togo to Gabon. Diapteron was created to comprise the A. georgiae group by the authors in the rank of a genus. It does not seem, however, justified to separate it from Aphyosemion and therefore
we lowered its rank to a subgenus. The subgenera *Paludopanchax*, *Fundulopanchax*, *Gularopanchax* and *Raddaella* are comprising annual forms occurring from the Dahomey gap to Gabon, Congo and most probably also to the Zaire river basin. *Kathetys* contains only three species in Nigeria/Cameroon to the Central African Republic and *Aphyosemion* s.s. also reaches Zaire with most of its species.

**Description of Aphyosemion polli sp. nov.**

During our collecting trip to Zaire in 1982 we collected at location Nr. 26, 5 km North of N’jili, the international airport of Kinshasa in a swampy brook fishes of the so-called *A. schoutedeni* (non BLGR. 1920) POLL, 1952. Aquarium strains of this fish were distributed at that time in Europe by A. DUBOIS.

**Material:**
3 adult males from our collection
Musee Royal de l’Afrique Centrale (MRAC) Nr. 77345 Environ de Leopoldville (Stanley Pool) coll. by A. DUBOIS in 1951: 1 specimen
MRAC Nr. 103583-103591 Stanley Pool coll. by A. WERNER: 8 specimen
MRAC Nr. 80150-55 Leopoldville coll. by A. DUBOIS: 5 specimen
MRAC Nr. 80138 Leopoldville coll. by Van de WEYER: 1 specimen
MRAC Nr. 73150 Congo (aquarium strain) don. by E. ROLOFF: 1 specimen

Morphometrical and meristical data of the holotype and two patatypes as percentages of the standard length with standard deviations of the mean values: Total length 134 (1,0), praedorsal length 69 (1,5), praenal length 55 (0,6), praeventral length 45 (0,6), body height 20 (0,6), head length 28 (0,6), diameter of eye 7 (0,0) length of snout 6 (1,0). There are 9 (0,0) rays in the dorsal fin and 15 (0,0) rays in the anal fin. The first dorsal finray is over the 9 to 10th anal finray and there are 29 to 31 scales in a longitudinal line along the sides of the body. The colour pattern of *A. polli* n. sp. can be seen on page 124 of this book. This species was karyotyped by SCHEEL in 1972. He found n = 11, A == 18,8%. This karyotype is quite different from that of all other species of the *A. elegans* group.

We dedicate this new species to Prof. Dr. M. POLL, Tervuren.

**Explanations to the following part on the individual species**

The succession of the genera correspond to the classification of PARENTI. The succession of the species within the respective genera is according to their distribution areas beginning in the West and continuing to the East and Southeast, respectively. We tried to put the respective closely related species in this order.

**Distribution:** The red dots on the maps correspond to hitherto known finding places. A greater number of dots usually points to a higher frequency of the occurrence of the respective species, while fewer ore even one dot mean that this species is rare or represents a relict species.

**Systematic relations:** The most closely related forms or form are named. Subspecies: The type locality of each subspecies is mentioned.

**Variability** refers partly to the morphometrical and meristical datas, partly to the colour pattern, which can be more or less vary among the individual species in a quite different way.

By syntopic occurrence the simultaneous occurrence of two or more species is understood.

The water temperatures of the individual habitats are very essential for a proper maintenance and breeding of the killis.

**Biology:** The data refer to the reproduction and length of the incubation period of the embryos.
**Epiplatys spilargyreius** (DUMERIL, 1861)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Aplocheilinae RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: *Epiplatys* GILL, 1862

First Description: Arch. Mus. Hist. Nat. 10, 258
Type Locality: "Eaux douces de le Côte des Mandingues (Afrique occidentale)"; presently Senegambia

Synonyms: *Poecilia spilargyreia* DUMERIL, 1861; *Haplochilus senegalensis* STEINDACHNER, 1870; *H. marnoi* STEINDACHNER, 1881; *H. s. acuticaudatus* PELLEGRIN, 1913; *Panchax grahami decemfasciata* PELLEGRIN, 1933

Meristics: D 7-10, A 15-19, S 26-29
Systematic Relationship: Probably related to *E. fasciolatus* and *E. longiventralis*
Subspecies: None
Distribution: From eastern Senegal to the White Nile drainage in Sudan, lower Zaire River and coastal plains of southeastern Ghana

Variability: Medium
Syntopic Occurrence: *E. bifasciatus*
Habitat: Small streams, brooks and swamps in the dry and humid savanna
Temperatures: 22-32 °C
Biology: Surface dwelling species with an incubation period of 10-14 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
**Epiplatys bifasciatus** (STEINDACHNER, 1881)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Aplocheilinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: Epiplatys GILL, 1862  
First Description: Sitzungsber. Akad. Wiss. Wien 83, 199  
Type Locality: "Bahr el Seraf and Bahr el Gebel"; Nile system in central Sudan  
Synonyms: *Haplochilus bifasciatus* STEINDACHNER, 1881; *Haplochilus baudoni* PELLEGRIN, 1922; *Panchax taeniatus* PFAFF, 1933; *P. steindachneri* SVENSSON, 1933; *E. ndelen-sis* FOWLER, 1949  
Meristics: D 7-10, A 14-19, S 25-29  
Total Length: M 70 mm, F 60 mm;  
Systematic Relationship: Closely related to *E. barmoiensis* and *E. chevalieri*  
Subspecies: None  
Distribution: From Senegal to the upper Nile drainage and coastal savannas in Ghana, Togo and Benin  
Variability: Medium  
Syntopic Occurrence: *E. spilargyreius*  
Habitat: Swamps, brooks and rivers of the guinean, grass, thorn and coastal savannas in Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo and Benin  
Temperatures: 22-32 °C  
Biology: Surface dwelling species with an incubation period of 10-14 days  
Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
**Epiplatys barmoiensis** SCHEEL, 1968

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Subfamily: Aplocheilinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: *Epiplatys* GILL, 1862

First Description: Rivulins of the Old World 453  
Type Locality: "Rokupr, western Sierra Leone"  
Synonyms: *E. matlocki* BERKENKAMP, 1977; *E. lokoensis* BERKENKAMP & ETZEL, 1978

Meristics: D 89, A 16-17, S 27  
Systematic Relationship: Closely related to *E. bifasciatus*

Subspecies: None  
Distribution: From southwestern Sierra Leone to southwestern Liberia  
Variability: Low  
Syntopic Occurrence: *E. annulatus, E. fasciolatus, E. dageti, A. liberiense*

Habitat: Swamps and swampy parts of brooks in the coastal plains  
Temperatures: 24-30 °C  
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days  
Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Epiplatys fasciolatus (GUENTER, 1866)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Aplocheilinae RADD, 1981
First Description: Cat. Fish. 6, 358
Type Locality: "Sierra Leone"

Synonyms:
- Haplochilus fasciolatus GUENTER, 1866
- E. dorsalis MAYER, 1936
- E. sexfasciatus leonensis AHL, 1937
- E. matlocki FOWLER, 1950
- E. zimiensis BERKENKAMP, 1977
- E. f. huwaldi BERKENKAMP & ETZEL, 1978

Meristics: D 7-14, A 16-18, S 26-30
Total Length: M 90 mm, F 80 mm

Systematic Relationship: E. olbrechtsi is very closely related to E. fasciolatus and had been considered as a subspecies of the former by some authors

Subspecies:
- E. f. tototaensis ROMAND, 1978 (t.t.: Totota, Liberia)
- E. f. ruhkopf BERKENKAMP & ETZEL, 1980 (t.t.: Zienzu/Soakoko, Central Liberia)
- E. coccinatus BERKENKAMP & ETZEL, 1982 (t.t.: Belefuana, Central Liberia)
- E. f. josianae BERKENKAMP & ETZEL, 1983 (t.t.: Kenema, S. Leone)
- E. f. puetzi BERKENKAMP & ETZEL, 1985 (t.t.: 20 km N Buchanan, Liberia)

Distribution: From Guinea Bissau to southern Liberia

Variability: Medium

Syntopic Occurrence: E. njalaensis, A. roloffii/liberiense

Habitat: Rivers and brooks in the rainforest and derived savanna

Temperatures: 24-28 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
Epiplatys njalaensis NEUMANN, 1976

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Aplocheilinae RADDA, 1981
First Description: Aquarien u. Terrarien 4
Type Locality: "Njala, Südwest-Provinz von Sierra Leone, etwa 4 Meilen nördlich von Mano Geleben, Einzugsbereich des Yong river"

Synonyms: None
Meristics: D 9-10, A 13-14, S 28
Total Length: M 50 mm, F 45 mm
Systematic Relationship: E. njalaensis and E. fasciolatus are sibling species with a sympatric distribution

Subspecies: None
Distribution: Area around Njala and Zimi in southeastern Sierra Leone
Variability: Low
Syntopic Occurrence: E. fasciolatus, A. roloffi/liberiense
Habitat: Small rivers and brooks in the rainforest and derived savanna
Temperatures: 25-28 °C
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
**Epiplatys olbrechtsi** POLL, 1941

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Aplocheilinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: *Epiplatys* GILL, 1862

First Description: Rev. Zool. Bot. Afr. 34, 139  
Type Locality: "Confluent de la petit rivière Masei et de la riv. Bon de Boan, affl. du fleuve Nuon border area between Liberia and Ivory Coast"

Synonyms: *E. fasciolatus olbrechtsi* DAGET, 1952; 1963

Meristics: D 10-13, A 15-18, S 28-30  
Total Length: M 90 mm, F 80 mm

Systematic Relationship: Very closely related to *A. fasciolatus* and to the other members of the *E. fasciolatus* complex

Subspecies:  
- *E. o. kassiapleuensis* BERKENKAMP & ETZEL, 1977 (t.t.: W Elfenbeinküste, Man)  
- *E. o. azureus* BERKENKAMP & ETZEL, 1983 (t.t.: 20 km N Tapeta, Central Liberia)  
- *E. o. dauresi* ROMAND, 1985 (t.t.: Environs de Bouaké, Côte d'Ivoire centrale)

Distribution: Nipoué, Cavally and Sassandra drainages in eastern Liberia and Western Ivory Coast, respectively

Variability: Medium

Syntopic Occurrence: *A. liberiense schmitti*, *A. maeseni*, *A. viride*

Habitat: Rivers, brooks and swampy streams in the rainforest and guinean savanna

Temperatures: 24-28 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
**Epiplatys lamottei** DAGET, 1954

Subfamily: Aplocheilinae RADDA, 1981  Subgenus: *Epiplatys* GILL, 1862
First Description: Mem.I.F.A.N. 36, 317

Type Locality: "Simandou", southeastern Guinea

Synonyms: *E. fasciolatus lamottei* DAGET, 1954

Meristics: D 10-12, A 14-17, S 28-31  Total Length: M 70 mm, F 60 mm

Systematic Relationship: *E. lamottei* is a member of the *E. fasciolatus* complex

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Upper Niger drainage in southeastern Guinea and in the upper parts of the coastal rivers in northern Liberia

Variability: Low

Syntopic Occurrence: *E. hildegardeae*, *A. maeseni*, *A. viride*

Habitat: Brooks in the rainforest

Temperatures: 18-23 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
**Epiplatys roloffi ROMAND, 1978**

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENT], 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Aplocheilinae RADD, 1981  
Subgenus: *Epiplatys* GILL, 1862  
First Description: DATZ 31, 368  
Type Locality: "Salayea", northern Liberia  
Synonyms: *Epiplatys* sp. "Braunrot" BERKENKAMP & ETZEL, 1978  
Meristics: D 11-13, A 16-17, S 32-34  
Total Length: M 80 mm, F 70 mm  
Systematic Relationship: A member of the *E. fasciolatus* complex  
Subspecies: None  
Distribution: Probably a small distribution area around the type locality in northwestern Liberia  
Variability: Low  
Syntopic Occurrence: *A. viride*?  
Habitat: Swamps, swampy streams and brooks in the rainforest  
Temperatures: 20-24 ºC  
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days  
Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
**Epiplatys hildegardae** BERKENKAMP, 1983

**Suborder:** Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
**Family:** Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
**Subfamily:** Aplocheilinae RADDA, 1981  
**Subgenus:** Epiplatys GILL, 1862

**First Description:** Rev. Zool. afr. 97, 856  
**Type Locality:** "N'Zérékoré, Südguinea"; southern upper Guinea  
**Synonyms:** E. hildegardae BERKENKAMP, 1978 (nom. nudum); E. olbrechtsi SCHEEL, 1968 (in part)

**Meristics:** D 10-12, A 15-18, S 28+2-3  
**Total Length:** M 60 mm, F 50 mm

**Systematic Relationship:** A. hildegardae belongs to the *E. fasciolatus* group

**Subspecies:** None  
**Distribution:** Only known from its type locality  
**Variability:** Low?

**Syntopic Occurrence:** *E. lamottei, A. maeseni, A. viride, Aply. nimbaensis*

**Habitat:** Unknown  
**Temperatures:** Unknown  
**Biology:** No experience  
**Maintenance and Breeding:** Not yet kept alive
*Epiplatys annulatus* (BOULENGER, 1915)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Aplocheilinae RADDA, 1981


Type Locality: "Maka, Sierra Leone"; southern Sierra Leone

Synonyms: None

Systematic Relationship: Type species of the monotypic subgenus *Pseudepiplatys*

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Coastal areas of western Guinea to western Liberia

Variability: Medium

Syntopic Occurrence: *E. fasciolatus, E. barmoiensis, A. occidentale, A. liberienne*

Habitat: Swamps and swampy parts of shallow brooks in open savanna and rainforest

Temperatures: 25-30 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of about 10 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Epiplatys chaperi (SAUVAGE, 1882)

Suborder: Cyprinodontioidei PARENTI, 1981
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860
Subfamily: Aplocheilinae RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: Epiplatys GILL, 1862

First Description: Bull. Soc. Zool. France. 7, 323

Type Locality: "Lagune d'Assinie à Couacrou"; southeastern Ivory Coast

Synonyms: E. etzeli BERKENKAMP, 1975

Meristics: D 8-12, A 13-17, S 24-28
Total Length: M 75 mm, F 70 mm

Systematic Relationship: Closely related to the sympatric E. sheljuzhkoi and also to the allopatric E. sexfasciatus

Subspecies:
- E. ch. spillmanni ARNOULT, 1960 (t.t.: Nannafoues, Bouake)
- E. ch. schreiberi BERKENKAMP, 1975 (t.t.: SO Kumasi, W-Ghana)

Distribution: Southern and central Ivory Coast, southern Ghana to southwestern Togo

Variability: High

Syntopic Occurrence: E. sheljuzhkoi, A. petersii, Aply. rancureli, Aply. normani

Habitat: Brooks and streams in the rainforest and derived savanna

Temperatures: 24-30 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
Epiplatys sheljuzhkoi POLL, 1953

Suborder: Cyprinodontiformes PARENTI, 1981
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860
Subfamily: Aplocheilinae RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: Epiplatys GILL, 1862


Type Locality: "Environs d'Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire"; Ivory Coast
Synonyms: E. chaperi sheljuzhkoi ARNOULT & DAGET, 1964, and many others

Meristics: D 11-12, A 15-18, S 28-30
Total Length: M 75 mm, F 70 mm

Systematic Relationship: Sibling species of E. chaperi

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Coastal rainforest of southeastern Ivory Coast
Variability: Low

Syntopic Occurrence: E. chaperi, A. petersii, Aply. rancureli, Aply. normani

Habitat: Rivers and brooks of the rainforest
Temperatures: 25-29 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
**Epiplatys sexfasciatus** GILL, 1863

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Aplocheilinae RANNOI, 1981
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860
Subgenus: *Epiplatys* GILL, 1862

First Description: Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phil. 136
Type Locality: "Gabon River (Ogowe)“, Gabon

Synonyms: *Haplochilus infraseptatus* GÜNTHER, 1966 (in part)

Meristics: D 9-13, A 14-19, S 27-32
Total Length: M 80 mm, F 60 mm;

Systematic Relationship: Closely related to *E. chaperi* and also to *E. esekanus*

Subspecies: *E. s. rathkei* RANNOI, 1971 (Kumba, Cameroon); *E. s. togolensis* LOISELLE, 1971 (Palime, Togo); *E. s. baroi* BERKENKAMP, 1975 (Kribi, Cameroon)

Distribution: Southern parts of Togo, Benin, Nigeria, coastal plains in Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea and northwestern Gabon

Variability: High

Syntopic Occurrence: *E. grahami, A. splendopleure, A. bivittatum, A. volcanum, A. loennbergi, A. calliurum, P. similis, P. nototaenia*

Habitat: Brooks in the coastal rainforests
Temperatures: 23-26 °C

Biology: Surface dwelling species with an incubation period of 10-14 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
Epiplatys esekanus SCHEEL, 1968

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Aplocheilinae R ADDA, 1981
Subgenus: Epiplatys GILL, 1862
First Description: Rivulins of the Old World 185
Type Locality: "Brook 15 miles north of Eseka, near the Eseka-Yaounde-Edea crossing in East Cameroon"

Synonyms: None
Meristics: D 10, A 16, S 16-19
Systematic Relationship: A relict species closely related to E. sexfasciatus
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Restricted area at the border between the coastal plains and the inland plateau around the type locality in southwestern East Cameroon

Variability: Low
Syntopic Occurrence: A. raddai
Habitat: Brooks of the rainforest at the western rim of the inland plateau
Temperatures: 22-26 °C
Biology: Non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
**Epiplatys sangmelinensis** (AHL, 1928)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Subfamily: Aplocheilinae RADDA, 1981  
First Description: Zool. Anzeiger 79, 118

Type Locality: "Sangmelima, Südkamerun am oberen Lobo-Fluß"

Synonyms: *Panchax sangmelinensis* AHL, 1928; *P. nyongensis* AHL, 1928

Meristics: D 8--1Q A 16-17, S 30-31  
Total Length: M 70 mm, F 60 mm;

Systematic Relationship: Probably related to *E. esekanus*

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Upper drainages of the Sanaga, Nyong and Dja rivers in southern Cameroon as well as in the upper Ivindo system in northern Gabon and Congo

Variability: Medium

Syntopic Occurrence: A. *cameronense*, A. *batesii*, A. *splendidum*, A. *punctatum*, H. *stictopleuron*

Habitat: Swamps and brooks in the rainforest of the inland plateau

Temperatures: 21-23 °C

Biology: Non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
**Epiplatys berkenkampi** NEUMANN, 1978

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Aplocheilinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: *Epiplatys* GILL. 1862

First Description: Aquarien and Terrarien 25, 125

Type Locality: "Bach von 10 cm Tiefe etwa 30 km südlich Lambarene an der Straße von Biguenia nach Mora, Gabun", central western Gabon

Synonyms: *Aplocheilus multifasciatus* RADDA & HUBER, 1977

Meristics: D 9-10, A 14-16, S 29-30  
Total Length: M 80 mm, F 70 mm;

Systematic Relationship: According to his karyotype *E. berkenkampi* is closely related to *E. sexfasciatus*, but he is most likely to belong to the *E. multifasciatus* group

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Ogowe drainage of the plains in western Gabon

Variability: High

Syntopic Occurrence: *E. singa*, *A. exigoideum*, *A. primigenium*

Habitat: Small rivers and brooks in rainforest and derived savanna

Temperatures: 23-26 °C

Biology: Non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
**Epiplatys huberi** RADDA & PÜRZL, 1981

**Suborder:** Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
**Family:** Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
**Subfamily:** Aplocheilinae RADDA, 1981  
**Subgenus:** Epiplatys GILL, 1862

**First Description:** Aquaria 28, 193

**Type Locality:** "25 km ONO N’dendé an der Straße nach Lébamba", central Gabon

**Synonyms:** Aplocheilus (E.) huberi RADDA & PÜRZL, 1981

**Meristics:** D 9, A 14-15, S 29-30  
**Total Length:** 65 mm

**Systematic Relationship:** Closely related to *E. berkenkampi*

**Subspecies:** None

**Distribution:** Southwestern rim of the Du Chaillu mountains in central Gabon

**Variability:** Low

**Syntopic Occurrence:** None

**Habitat:** Brooks in the rainforest

**Temperatures:** 20-24 °C

**Biology:** Non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days

**Maintenance and Breeding:** Easy
Epiplatys longiventralis (BOULENGER, 1911)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860
Subfamily: Aplocheilinae RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: Epiplatys GILL, 1862

First Description: Ann. Mus. Nat. Hist. (8) 8, 266

Type Locality: "Swamps between Agwarba and Awka", southern Nigeria

Synonyms: Haplochilus longiventralis BOULENGER, 1911

Meristics: D 7-10, A 15-18, S 25-29

Systematic Relationship: Closely related to E. biafranus, another relict species with a restricted distribution area

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Between Enugu and Onitsha in the northern part of the former Biafra in southeastern Nigeria

Variability: Low

Syntopic Occurrence: None

Habitat: Swamps and stagnant parts of brooks in guinean savanna

Temperatures: 25-29 °C

Biology: Non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
Epiplatys biafranus RADDA, 1970

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Aplocheilinae RADDA, 1981
First Description: Aquaria 17, 8
Type Locality: "Umgebung von Port Harcourt, Biafra-Nigeria", southeastern Nigeria

Synonyma: None

Meristics: D 9-10, A 12-13, S 26-28

Total Length: M 50 mm, F 45 mm;
Systematic Relationship: Closely related to the northernly distributed savanna form E. longiventralis

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Between Owerri, Port Harcourt and Aba in southeastern Nigeria

Variability: Low
Syntopic Occurrence: E. sexfasciatus, A. splendopleure, A. calliurum
Habitat: Swamps, swampy parts of brooks and small streams in the rainforest
Temperatures: 20-25 °C
Biology: Non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
**Epiplatys multifasciatus** (BOULENGER, 1913)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Aplocheilinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: *Epiplatys* GILL, 1862

First Description: Bull. Soc. Nat. Luxembourg 43  
Type Locality: "Kondoué, Kasai" southern Zaire  
Synonyms: None  
Meristics: D 9-11, A 14-16, S 26-31  
Total Length: M 70 mm, F 60 mm;  
Systematic Relationship: Closely related to *E. boulengeri*, *E. berkenkampi* and *E. phoeniceps*  
Subspecies: None  
Distribution: Zaire river and Kasai river drainages in Zaire and the lower Oubangui river system in Congo  
Variability: Medium  
Syntopic Occurrence: Species of the A. elegans group  
Habitat: Swamps, quiet parts of brooks and rivers of the rainforest  
Temperatures: 23-26 °C  
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days  
Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
**Epiplatys boulengeri** (PELLEGRIN, 1926)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860

Subfamily: Aplocheilinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: *Epiplatys* GILL, 1862

First Description: Rev. Zool. Afr. 14, 206

Type Locality: "Kidada, Mogenda, Tshimbu"; central Zaire

Synonyms: None

Meristics: D 9-11, A 14-17, S 28-29  
Total Length: M 60 mm, F 50 mm;

Systematic Relationship: Probably closely related to *E. multifasciatus*

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Central Zaire, Congo and southeastern Gabon

Variability: Unknown

Syntopic Occurrence: A. rectogoense (SE Gabon)

Habitat: Brooks in the rainforest and guinean savanna

 Temperatures: 25-28 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Epiplatys phoeniceps HUBER, 1980

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860
Subfamily: Aplocheilinae RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: Epiplatys GILL, 1862

First Description: Killi Revue Supplement 2, 12
Type Locality: “200 metres au sud du village Ignoli, soit 13 km au sud du village de Débrouillé, dans un petit ruisseau assez courant, du Congo septentrional, bassin de la Sangha”

Synonyms: None
Meristics: D 9-10, A 15-16, S 28-30+1-3  Total Length: M 60 mm, F 50 mm;
Systematic Relationship: A member of the E. multifasciatus group
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Sangha river drainage in central eastern Congo
Variability: Low?
Syntopic Occurrence: A. elegans
Habitat: Brooks and streams in the rainforest
Temperatures: 22-26 °C
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days
Maintenance and Breeding: No Batas published
**Epiplatys mesogramma** (HUBER, 1980)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Aplocheilinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: *Epiplatys* GILL, 1862

First Description: Killi Revue Supplement 2, 6  
Type Locality: "Marigot coupant une bretelle partant de Pisa pour rejoindre la route Mbaiki-Mongoumba, République Centrafricaine" south of Bangui, Central African Republic

Synonyms: None  
Meristics: D 9-10, A 15-17, S 27-28+2  
Total Length: M 55 mm, F 45 mm;  
Systematic Relationship: A member of the *E. multifasciatus* group

Subspecies: None  
Distribution: Hitherto only known from its type locality  
Variability: Low?  
Syntopic Occurrence: *E. chevalieri, A. decorsei*

Habitat: Swamps and brooks in the rainforest  
Temperatures: No measurements  
Biology: Unknown  
Maintenance and Breeding: Not yet kept alive
Epiplatys chevalieri (PELLEGRIN, 1904)

Suborder: Cyprinodontoiidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860
Subfamily: Aplocheilinae RADD, 1981  
Subgenus: Epiplatys GILL, 1862

First Description: Bull. Mus. Hist. Nat. 10, 222
Type Locality: "Brazzaville", Congo
Synonyms: Haplochilus chevalieri PELLEGRIN, 1904; H. nigricans BOULENGER, 1913
Meristics: D 7-8, A 13-14, S 27-28  
Total Length: M 50 mm, F 40 mm;
Systematic Relationship: No close relatives within the genus
Subspecies: Probably E. ch. nigricans can be considered as a subspecies
Distribution: Area around the Pool Malebe (former Stanley pool) in Congo and Zaire  
(E. ch. chevalieri) and Ubangi river drainage in Zaire and Central African Republic  
(E. ch. nigricans)
Variability: Medium
Syntopic Occurrence: A. cognatum, A. christyi
Habitat: Swamps and swampy brooks of the rainforest
Temperatures: 23-25 °C
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Epiplatys dageti POLL, 1953

Suborder: Cyprinodontodei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860
Subfamily: Aplocheilinae R ADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: Lycocyprinus PETERS, 1868


Type Locality: "Mare près de Port Bouet, 18 km d’Abidjan" Ivory Coast

Synonyms: Poecilia sexfasciata PETERS, 1864

Meristics: D 9, A 14-16, S 26-27  
Total Length: M 55 mm, F 45 mm

Systematic Relationship: Type species of the subgenus Lycocyprinus and probably a relative of E. grahami and E. singa

Subspecies: E. d. monoviae DAGET & ARNOULT, 1964 (t.t.: Monrovia, Liberia)

Distribution: Coastal swamps from western Liberia to southeastern Ivory Coast

Variability: Low

Syntopic Occurrence: None

Habitat: Swamps with stagnant water in the coastal savanna

Temperatures: 25-30 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
**Epiplatys grahami** (BOULENGER, 1911)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860
Subfamily: Aplocheilinae Radda, 1981
Subgenus: ? *Lycocyprinus* Peters, 1868

First Description: Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. (8) 8, 267
Type Locality: "Lagos, in swamps; southwestern Nigeria"

Synonyms: *Haplochilus grahami* BoulenGER, 1911; *E. nigromarginatus* Schultze, 1937

Meristics: D 7-11, A 16-17, S 26-30  
Total Length: M 60 mm, F 50 mm;

Systematic Relationship: Very closely related to *E. singa*

Subspecies: None

Distribution: From southeastern Benin, through southern Nigeria and Cameroon to northwestern Equatorial Guinea

Variability: Medium

Syntopic Occurrence: *E. sexfasciatus, A. calliurum, Aply. macrophthalmus*

Habitat: Swamps and swampy parts of small streams in the forests of the coastal plains

Temperatures: 23-28 °C

Biology: Surface dwelling species with an incubation period of 10-14 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
Epiplatys singa (BOULENGER, 1899)

First Description: Ann. Mus. Congo Belge Zool. 1, 113
Type Locality: "Marais de Boma", lower Zaire
Synonyms: Haplochilus singa BOULENGER, 1899; Haplochilus ansorgii BOULENGER, 1911; Haplochilus macrostigma BOULENGER, 1911; Panchax chinchoxoanus AHL, 1924; P. ornatus AHL, 1928
Meristics: D 8-11. A 14-16, S 27-31  Total Length: M 60 mm, F 50 mm;
Systematic Relationship: Very closely related to E. grahami
Subspecies: E. s. ansorgii and E. s. macrostigma may be recognized as a subspecies in Gabon and Congo, respectively
Distribution: Coastal plains of southwestern Gabon, southern Congo and in Bas Zaire province
Variability: High
Syntopic Occurrence: E. sexfasciatus, E. berkenkampi, A. striatum, A. gabunense, A. exigioideum, A. primigenium
Habitat: Swamps and quiet parts of brooks in the forest and wooded savanna
Temperatures: 22-26 °C
Biology: Surface dwelling species with an incubation period of 10-14 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
**Epiplatys duboisi** POLL, 1952

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Subfamily: Aplocheilinae R ADDA, 1981  

Type Locality: "Leopoldville, petit ruisseau a faible courant près de N'Do" Kinshasa, Zaire

Synonyms: None

Meristics: D 9-10, A 15-17, S 24-26  
Total Length: M 30 mm, F 25 mm;

Systematic Relationship: Type species of the monotypic subgenus *Aphyoplatys*

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Drainage systems of the Nkéni, Alima, Vouma, Kouyou and Likoula rivers in eastern Congo and in the lower Kasai and middle Zaire rivers in Zaire

Variability: Medium

Syntopic Occurrence: *E. chevalieri, A. formosus, A. (Raddaella sp.)*

Habitat: Swamps, shallow and weedy parts of small brooks in the rainforest

Temperatures: 22-25 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
**Epiplatys callipteron** RADDA & PÜRZL, 1987

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Aplocheilinae RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: *Episemion* RADDA & PÜRZL, 1987

First Description: DKG-Journal 19, 17
Type Locality: "6 km SE Bibasse on the N 2 road to Mitzic"; northern Gabon
Meristics: D 10-12, A 15-16, S 28-29+2
Total Length: M 39 mm, F 33 mm
Systematic Relationship: No relation to any other species of Aplocheilidae
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Relict-like distribution area of the upper Woleu in northern Gabon
Variability: Low
Syntopic Occurrence: A. cameronense
Habitat: Brooks and streams in the rainforest
Temperatures: 21-24 °C
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Foerschichthys flavipinnis (MEINKEN, 1932)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860

Subfamily: Aplocheilinae RADD, 1981  
Subgenus: Foerschichthys

SCHEEL & ROMAND, 1981

First Description: Blätter Aqu. u. Terr.-Kde. 43, 54

Type Locality: "Küstennahes Hinterland von Lagos", southwestern Nigeria

Synonyms: Aplocheilichthys flavipinnis MEINKEN, 1932

Meristics: D 6-7, A 13-14, S 30-31

Total Length: M 30 mm, F 20 mm

Systematic Relationship: Recent investigations revealed that F. flavipinnis is an aplocheiloid fish belonging to the subfamily Aplocheilinae (PARENTI, 1982)

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Coastal plains of southeastern Ghana, southern Togo and Benin as well as of southwestern Nigeria

Variability: Low

Syntopic Occurrence: E. grahami, A. filamentosum, A. bitaeniatum, A. calliurum, F. thierryi

Habitat: Swamps, small streams and brooks in rainforest and derived savanna

Temperatures: 24-28 °C

Biology: F. flavipinnis is a non-annual species with an incubation period of 12-14 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Aphyosemion occidentale CLAUSEN, 1966

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: Callopanchax MYERS, 1933  

First Description: Rev. Zool. Bot. Afr. 74, 331

Type Locality: "Blama, Sierra Leone"; eastern Sierra Leone

Synonyms: Roloffia occidentalis (many authors); Fundulus sjoestedti (non LÖNNBERG); many authors; Roloffia huwaldi BERKENKAMP & ETZEL, 1980;

Meristics: D 17-23, A 17-20, S 32-37  
Total Length: M 90 mm, F 80 mm

Systematic Relationship: Closely related to A. monroviae

Subspecies: A. o. toddi CLAUSEN, 1966 (t.t.: Barmoi, Sierra Leone)

Distribution: Coastal river systems in Sierra Leone and in western Liberia, probably also in the southeastern most part of Guinea

Variability: High

Syntopic Occurrence: A. rololfi, E. annulatus

Habitat: Swamps, pools and swampy parts of brooks in the rainforest and derived savanna

Temperatures: 24-28 °C

Biology: An annual species with an incubation period of 1-3 months

Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Aphyosemion monroviae (ROLOFF & LADIGES, 1972)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: Callopanchax MYERS, 1933
First Description: DATZ, 25, 299
Type Locality: "Waldtümpel etwa 25 Meilen von Monrovia in Liberia"; southwestern Liberia
Synonyms: Roloffia monroviae ROLOFF & LADIGES, 1972
Meristics: D 14-17, A 17-19, S 32-35+3
Total Length: M 80 mm, F 70 mm;
Systematic Relationship: Closely related to A. occidentale
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Between the lower Mano river drainage and the lower St. Paul river system in southwestern Liberia
Variability: Low
Syntopic Occurrence: Unknown
Habitat: Swamps, stagnant parts of swampy brooks in the coastal rainforest
Temperatures: 22-26 °C
Biology: An annual species with an incubation period of 2-3 months
Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
Aphyosemion guineense DAGET, 1954

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae R ADDA, 1981
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860
Subgenus: Archiaphyosemion R ADDA, 1977

First Description: Mem. I. F. A. N. 36, 300
Type Locality: "Dabola, chutes du Tinkisso, Banian, Simandou, Banamana, cercle de Kissidougou"; Guinea
Syntopic Occurrence: Aply. kabae, Aply. nimbaensis

Synonyms: Roloffia guineensis (many authors)
Meristics: D 11-15, A 14-18, S 29-34 Total Length: M 65 mm, F 60 mm;
Systematic Relationship: Type species of the subgenus Archiaphyosemion, related to A. maeseni, A. viride and A. jeanpoli

Subspecies: None
Distribution: Upper Guinea and northern Sierra Leone in the upper Niger drainage and in the coastal flowing rivers, respectively
Variability: Low
Habitat: Pools, brooks and streams in the highland savanna
Temperatures: 18-26 °C
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of about 14 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
**Aphyosemion maeseni** POLL, 1941

**Suborder:** Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
**Family:** Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
**Subfamily:** Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981  
**Subgenus:** Archiaphyosemion RADDA, 1977

**First Description:** Rev. Zool. Bot. Afr. 34, 141

**Type Locality:** "Confluent de la petit rivière Masei et de la Bon de Boan, affl. du Nuon"; border area between southern Liberia and Ivory Coast

**Synonyms:** Roloffia maeseni (some authors)

**Meristics:** D 9-14, A 14-18, S 27-34  
**Total Length:** M 60 mm, F 55 mm;

**Systematic Relationship:** Closely related to A. *viride*, A. *jeanpoli* and A. *guineense*

**Subspecies:** None

**Distribution:** Upper parts of St. Paul, St. John and Cess river systems in Liberia and southeastern Guinea, middle Sassandra river drainage in Ivory Coast

**Variability:** Low

**Syntopic Occurrence:** A. *viride*, E. *lamottei*, E. *hildegardae*

**Habitat:** Pools, brooks and streams in the rainforest and guinean savanna

** Temperatures:** 18-23 °C

**Biology:** A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days

**Maintenance and Breeding:** Difficult
Aphyosemion viride (LADIGES & ROLOFF, 1973)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: Archiaphyosemion RADDA, 1977
First Description: DATZ 9, 155
Type Locality: "Urwaldbach nahe Salayio, NW-Liberia"; northwestern Liberia
Synonyms: Roloffia viridis LADIGES & ROLOFF, 1973
Meristics: D 9-13, A 13-15, S 27-29+2-3  Total Length: M 50 mm, F 45 mm;
Systematic Relationship: Forms together with A. guineese, A. maeseni and A. jeanpoli the subgenus Archiaphyosemion
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Upper parts of the St. Paul and St. John river systems in eastern upper Guinea and northeastern Liberia
Variability: Low
Syntopic Occurrence: A. maeseni, E. roloffi
Habitat: Brooks and streams in guinean savanna and rainforest
Temperatures: 20-24 °C
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
Aphyosemion jeanpoli (BERKENKAMP & ETZEL, 1979)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI. 1981
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: Archiaphyosemion RADDA, 1977

First Description: B. K. A. Publ. 11
Type Locality: "16 miles from Voinjama, in direction of Zorzor in north Liberia"
Synonyms: Roloffia jeanpoli BERKENKAMP & ETZEL, 1979; R. melantereon GRIMM, 1974; and other authors; R. seeegersi (nom. nudum) BERKENKAMP & ETZEL. 1979

Meristics: D 9-10, A 13-14, S 33-34  
Total Length: M 50 mm, F 40 mm;
Systematic Relationship: Closely related to the other members of the subgenus Archiaphyosemion

Subspecies: None
Distribution: Upper tributaries of the Loffa river in northwestern Liberia
Variability: Low
Syntopic Occurrence: None
Habitat: Springfed pools and brooks in the rainforest
Temperatures: 25-28 °C
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 14-20 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
**Aphyosemion geryi** LAMBENT, 1958

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: *Scriptaphyosemion* RADDA 1987  

Type Locality: "Region de Conacry-Dubreka, Bass Guineé"; southern Guinea  
Synonyms: *A. guineense geryi* LAMBERT, 1958; *Roloffia geryi* (many authors)  
Meristics: D 12-15, A 15-18, S 28-31  
Total Length: M 50 mm, F 40 mm;  

Systematic Relationship: Closely related to *A. roloffi* and *A. liberiense*  
Subspecies: None  
Distribution: From the mouth of the Gambia river southwards along the coast to southeastern Sierra Leone  
Variability: Medium  
Syntopic Occurrence: *A. roloffi/liberiense, E. annulatus*  
Habitat: Pools, swamps, and swampland streams and brooks in coastal and guinean savanna as well as in rainforest  
Temperatures: 25-28 °C  
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of about 14 days  
Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
Aphyosemion roloffii ROLOFF, 1936

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: Scriptaphyosemion RADDA, 1987

First Description: Wochenschr. Aqu. Terr. Kde. 33, 324

Type Locality: "40-50 km landeinwärts Freetown"; southwestern Sierra Leone

Synonyms: Roloffia roloffii (many authors); R. chaytori ROLOFF, 1971; R. roloffi hastingsi ROLOFF, 1971, (nom. nudum); R. brueningi ROLOFF, 1971; R. caldal CAHALAN (nom. nudum); R. etzeli BERKENKAMP, 1979

Meristics: D 11-14, A 15-18, S 29-32  
Total Length: M 50 mm, F 45 mm;

Systematic Relationship: Very closely related (semispecies?) to A. liberiense

Subspecies: None

Distribution: From the lower Little Scarcies river drainage southwards to the lower Loffa river in western Liberia

Variability: High

Syntopic Occurrence: E. annulatus, E. njalaensis

Habitat: Pools, swampy brooks and streams with stagnant water in the coastal rainforest and derived savanna

Temperatures: 24-28 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
Aphyosemion liberiense (BOULENGER, 1908)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: Scriptaphyosemion RADDA, 1987
Type Locality: "Monrovia, Liberia"

Synonyms: Haplochilus liberiensis BOULENGER, 1908; Panchax liberiensis AHL, 1924; Roloffia liberiensis (many authors); A. calabaricus AHL, 1936; Epiplatys melantereon FOWLER, 1950; Aphyosemion bertholdi ROLOFF, 1965; A. fredrodi VANDERSMISSEN, ETZEL & BERKENKAMP, 1980; A. mulleri (nomen nudum)

Total Length: M 45 mm, F 40 mm;
Systematic Relationship: Very closely related (semispecies?) to A. rolffi and to the other members of the subgenus Scriptaphyosemion

Subspecies: A. l. schmitti ROMAND, 1979 (t.t.: Tchiens, Ostliberia); southeastern Liberia
Distribution: Southeastern Sierra Leone and Liberia at lower elevations
Variability: Medium
Syntopic Occurrence: E. annulatus, E. olbrechtsi
Habitat: Swamps, stagnant brooks and streams in the coastal rainforest
Temperatures: 22-25 °C
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
**Aphyosemion petersii** (SAUVAGE, 1882)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: Archiaphyosemion RADDA, 1977  

First Description: *Bull. Soc. Zool. France* 7, 342  

Type Locality: "Conacrou, lagune d'Assinie"; southern Ivory Coast  

Synonyms: Roloffia petersii (some authors); A. pulchripinnis ZUSCHLAG, 1960 (nom. nudum)  

Meristics: D 8-11, A 15-16, S 29-32  

Total Length: M 50 mm, F 45 mm;  

Systematic Relationship: Distribution area separated from the other members of the subgenus Archiaphyosemion  

Subspecies: None  

Distribution: Coastal plains of southeastern Ivory Coast and adjacent parts of southwestern Ghana  

Variability: Low  

Syntopic Occurrence: *E. sheljuzhkoii, E. chaperi*  

Habitat: Shallow parts of small brooks and streams in the rainforest  

Temperatures: 25-27 °C  

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days  

Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
**Aphyosemion walkeri** (BOULENGER, 1911)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADD, 1981  
Subgenus: *Paraphyosemion* KOTTELAT, 1976

First Description: Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. 8, 262  
Type Locality: "Bokitsa Mine (Wasa)"; southwestern Ghana

Synonyms: *Fundulus walkeri* BOULENGER, 1911; *F. spurelli* BOULENGER, 1913; *F. rubrofasciatus* BRÜNING, 1930; *A. (Fundulopanchax) fallax* AHL, 1935

Meristics: D 14–60, A 16–17, S 29–32  
Total Length: M 60 mm, F 50 mm;

Systematic Relationship: *A. walkeri* is the only one species of the subgenus *Paraphyosemion* with a distribution area west of the Dahomey gap

Subspecies: *A. w. litoriseboris* RADD, 1976 (t.t.: Ivory Coast)

Distribution: Lower Bandama, Comoé and Bia river drainages in southeastern Ivory Coast, and Bia, Tano, Ankobra and Oda river drainages in southwestern Ghana

Variability: High

Syntopic Occurrence: None

Habitat: Swamps, stagnant parts of brooks and streams in the coastal rainforest and derived savanna

Temperatures: 25-28 °C

Biology: An annual species with an incubation period of 1-2 months

Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
Aphyosemion gardneri (BOULENGER, 1911)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981  
First Description: Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. (8) 8, 261

Type Locality: “Okwoga, headwaters of the Cross river”, southeastern Nigeria

Synonyms: Fundulus gardneri BOULENGER, 1911; Haplochilus brucei BOULENGER, 1911;
A. g. obuduense WRIGHT & JEREMY, 1974; A. clauseni SCHEEL, 1975 nom. nud.
A. (Paraphyosemion) biafranum KOTTELAT, 1976 nom. nud.

Meristics: D 12-16, A 14-18, S 29-34  
Total Length: M 50-70 mm, F 40-55 mm;

Systematic Relationship: Forms together with A. mirabile, A. cinnamomeum, A. ndianum,
A. spoorenbergi, A. puerzli and A. amieti the subgenus Paraphyosemion

Subspecies: A. g. nigerianum CLAUSEN, 1963 (t.t.: Arum, Jos plateau, Nigeria)
A. g. lacustre RADDA, 1974 (t.t.: Lake Ejagham, western Cameroon)
A. g. mamfense RADDA, 1974 (t.t.: Bachou Akagbe, western Cameroon)

Distribution: Niger and Benue drainages in Nigeria and coastal river drainages in southeastern
Nigeria and western Cameroon on basement complex soils

Variability: Very high, colour polymorphism occurring

Syntopic Occurrence: A. scheeli

Habitat: Brooks, swamps, pools and streams in the guinean and highland savanna
(A. g. nigerianum) and in rainforests (A. g. lacustre, A. g. mamfense)

Temperatures: 20-28 °C

Biology: A semi-annual species with an incubation period of 15 days to one month

Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
Aphyosemion mirabile  RADDA, 1970

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: Paraphyosemion KOTTELAT, 1976

First Description: Aquaria 17, 59
Type Locality: "Kleiner Bach nahe der Ortschaft Mbio, an der Straße nach Kumba", southwestern Cameroon

Synonyms: None

Meristics: D 12-15, A 15-16, S 31-33
Total Length: M 60 mm
Systematic Relationship: Closely related to A. gardneri and the other members of the subgenus Paraphyosemion

Subspecies:
A. m. moense RADDA, 1970 (U.: between Kendem and Noumbe)
A. m. traudeae RADDA, 1971 (t.t.: Manyemen)
A. m. intermittens RADDA, 1974 (t.t.: Bakébé, upper Cross system)

Distribution: Relict-like distribution in the upper Cross and Mo river drainages in southwestern Cameroon

Variability: High
Syntopic Occurrence: E. sexfasciatus, P. aberrans, P. similis
Habitat: Brooks and small streams in the rainforest
Temperatures: 23-24 °C
Biology: A semi-annual species with an incubation period of about three weeks
Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
**Aphyosemion cinnamomeum**  CLAUSEN, 1963

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860

Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: Paraphyosemion KOTTELAT, 1976

First Description: Vidensk. Medd. Dansk. naturh. Foren. 125, 201

Type Locality: "Small stream in low mountainous area, 44 miles N of Kumba, Cameroon"

Synonyms: None

Meristics: D 13-14, A 16-17, S 30-33  
Total Length: M 60 mm

Systematic Relationship: A member of the A. gardneri group

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Endemic to the upper reaches of the Moungo drainage, North of Badouma to 9 km South of Manyemen

Variability: Low

Syntopic Occurrence: *P. similis*

Habitat: Brooks in the rainforest on soils of the basement complex and volcanic soils

Temperatures: 22-24 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-15 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
**Aphyosemion spoorenbergi** BERKENKAMP, 1976

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: **Paraphyosemion** KOTTELAT, 1976  

First Description: Der Aquarienfreund 5 (7) 123  
Type Locality: Unknown (Aquarium material of unknown origin) "Grenzgebiet Nigeria/West-Kamerun, vermutlich aus dem Gebiet zwischen Calabar and Mamfe"  
Synonyms: *Aphyosemion* spec. "Spoorenberg"  

Meristics: D 14-15, A 15-17, S 35-37  
Total Length: M 75 mm, F 65 mm;  

Systematic Relationship: Closely related to *A. ndianum* and the other members of the subgenus *Paraphyosemion*  

Subspecies: None  
Distribution: Probably the border area between southeastern Nigeria and southwestern Cameroon  
Variability: High  
Syntopic Occurrence: None  
Habitat: Most probably prefers the same habitat as *A. ndianum*  
Temperatures: No measurements published  
Biology: A semi-annual species with an incubation period of 2-3 weeks  
Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
**Aphyosemion ndianum** SCHEEL, 1968

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADD, 1981  
Subgenus: *Paraphyosemion* KOTTELAT, 1976

First Description: Rivulins of the Old World; T. F. H. Publ. 455

Type Locality: "Near Osombo of East Nigeria, near the southern part of the Mamfe-Eyomojok-Calabar road", border area between SE Nigeria and Cameroon

Synonyms: None

Meristics: D 14-16, A 15-18, S 31-35  
Total Length: 70 mm

Systematic Relationship: Closely related to *A. spoorenbergi* and the other members of the subgenus *Paraphyosemion*

**Subspecies:** None

**Distribution:** Drainage of the Ndian river in southeastern Nigeria and probably also in the bordering area in southwestern Cameroon

**Variability:** Medium

**Syntopic Occurrence:** None?

**Habitat:** Swamps and swammy parts of brooks in the rainforest

**Temperatures:** No measurements published

**Biology:** A semi-annual species with an incubation period of about one month

**Maintenance and Breeding:** Difficult
Aphyosemion puerzli  RADDA & SCHEEL, 1974

First Description: Aquarien-Journal (Wien) 4 (3) 33
Type Locality: "Kleiner Bach nahe dessen Einmündung in einen größeren Zufluß des Wouri, 27 km nordöstlich der Kreuzung der Straßen Douala-Edea-Yabassi in Richtung Yabassi", western Cameroon

Synonyms: None
Meristics: D 13-14, A 16, S 33-34  Total Length: 70 mm
Systematic Relationship: Closely related to A. amiei and the other members of the subgenus Paraphyosemion

Subspecies: None
Distribution: Relict-like distribution area in the drainage systems of the Henda, Nkwoh and Wouri rivers

Variability: Medium
Syntopic Occurrence: E. sexfasciatus, A. riggenbachi, P. similis
Habitat: Swamps and swampy parts of brooks and shallow parts of small streams in the rainforest
Temperatures: 23-26 °C
Biology: A semi-annual species with an incubation period of 6-8 weeks
Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
**Aphyosemion amieti** RADDA, 1976

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: *Paraphyosemion* KOTTELAT, 1976

First Description: Aquaria 23, 52

Type Locality: "Bach im Regenwald an der Straße von Koupongo, 500 m westlich von Somakak (Songmakak), Sanaga-System im südwestlichen Kamerun"; southwestern Cameroon

Synonyms: None

Meristics: D 14, A 16-17, S 33-34  
Total Length: 70 mm

Systematic Relationship: Very closely related to *A. puerzli* and the other members of the subgenus *Paraphyosemion*

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Relict-like distribution area of the lower Sanaga drainage in western Cameroon  
Variability: Low

Syntopic Occurrence: E. sexfasciatus, *A. riggenbachi*, *A. ahli*, *A. franzwerneri*

Habitat: Swampy parts of shallow brooks in the rainforest  
Temperatures: 23-26 °C  
Biology: A semi-annual species with an incubation period of about 3 weeks

Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
Aphyosemion filamentosum (MEINKEN, 1933)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: Paludopanchax RADDA, 1977

Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860
First Description: Blätter Aqu. u. Terr.-Kde. 44, 249
Type Locality: "Tropisches Westafrika" (Aquarium material of unknown origin)
Synonyms: Fundulopanchax filamentosum MEINKEN, 1933; Fundulus "aus Togo" MEINKEN, 1930

Meristics: D 13, A 14, S 28
Total Length: M 50 mm, F 45 mm
Systematic Relationship: Together with A. arnoldi, A. rubrolabiale and A. robertsoni forms the A. arnoldi group

Subspecies: None
Distribution: Southern Togo, Benin and southwestern Nigeria
Variability: Very high
Syntopic Occurrence: E. grahami, F. flavipinnis
Habitat: Swamps and swampy parts of brooks in the coastal rainforest and derived savanna
Temperatures: 23-30 °C
Biology: An annual species with an incubation period of about 3 months and sometimes even more
Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
Aphyosemion arnoldi (BOULENGER, 1908)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: Paludopanchax RADDA, 1977

Type Locality: "Warri", western Nigerdelta in southern Nigeria
Synonyms: Fundulus arnoldi BOULENGER, 1908

Meristics: D 15-16, A 15-17, S 25-27
Total Length: 50 mm

Systematic Relationship: Closely related to A. filamentosum, A. rubrolabiale and A. robertsoni

Subspecies: None
Distribution: Western part of the Niger-delta
Variability: Low
Syntopic Occurrence: E. grahami, A. deltaense, A. sjoestedti, F. flavipinnis
Habitat: Temporary swamps, swampy parts of small brooks of the coastal rainforest
Temperatures: 23-26 °C
Biology: An annual species with an incubation period of 3-6 months
Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
Aphyosemion rubrolabiale RADDA, 1973

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
First Description: Aquaria 20, 187
Type Locality: "Lehmige Restwasserpfützen eines Sumpfgebietes 19 km nordwestlich Mbonge", western Cameroon
Synonyms: None
Meristics: D 17-18, A 18-19, S 27-28+2
Total Length: M 50 mm, F 45 mm;
Systematic Relationship: Very closely related to A. robertsoni and is also a member of the subgenus Paludopanchax
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Costal plains of the southern former West Cameroon
Variability: Medium
Syntopic Occurrence: E. grahami, A. schwoiseri
Habitat: Raphia swamps, temporary pools and swampy brooks in the coastal rainforest
Temperatures: 23-27 °C
Biology: An annual species with an incubation period of about 3 months
Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Aphyosemion robertsoni RADDA & SCHEEL, 1974

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: Paludopanchax RADDA, 1977

First Description: Aquarien-Journal (Wien) 4 (3) 37
Type Locality: "Sumpfgebiet in offenem Busch innerhalb der CDC Rubber Plantation Ekona, etwa 1 km nördlich Bolifamba, bzw. 5,6 km nördlich der Kreuzung der Straßen Buea-Douala-Victoria in Richtung Kumba", western Cameroon

Synonyms: None
Meristics: D 16-18, A 18, S 27-29+2-3
Total Length: M 50 mm, F 45 mm;
Systematic Relationship: Forms together with A. arnoldi, A. filamentosum and A. rubrolabiale the subgenus Paludopanchax

Subspecies: None
Distribution: Only known from its type locality, a swamplly area without outlet in a depression on volcanic soil
Variability: Low
Syntopic Occurrence: None
Habitat: Swamp in a rubber plantation forest
Temperatures: 23-27 °C
Biology: An annual species with an incubation period of 3-6 months
Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Aphyosemion sjoestedti (LÖNNBERG, 1895)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981

Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860
Subgenus: Fundulopanchax MYERS, 1924

Type Locality: "Rivulet near the waterfall of the river Ndian", western Cameroon

Synonyms: Fundulus gularis var. coerulea BOULENGER, 1915
Meristics: D 14-18, A 16-19, S 31-37

Total Length: M 60-140 mm, F 50-100 mm

Systematic Relationship: A. sjoestedti and the subgenus Fundulopanchax have no close relatives among the genus Aphyosemion

Subspecies: None
Distribution: Niger delta, southeastern Nigeria and southwestern part of the former West Cameroon

Variability: Very high

Syntopic Occurrence: E. grahami, A. deltaense, A. schwoiseri, A. rubrolabiale

Habitat: Temporary swamps, raphia swamps and swampy parts of slow flowing brooks in the coastal rainforest

Temperatures: 23-26 °C

Biology: An annual species with an incubation period of 2-6 months
Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
Aphyosemion gulare (BOULENGER, 1901)


Type Locality: "Agberi, in shallow creeks and flooded yam plantations", southwestern Nigeria
Synonyms: Fundulus gularis BOULENGER, 1901; Aphyosemion "fallax" non AHL, 1935
Meristics: D 15-16, A 16-18, S 30-32  Total Length: M 65 mm, F 55 mm
Systematic Relationship: Closely related to A. deltaense, A. schwoiseri and A. kribianum
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Border area between Benin and southwestern Nigeria and in the North of Lagos
Variability: Very high
Syntopic Occurrence: E. grahami, A. sjoestedti, A. filamentosum
Habitat: Pools, swamps and swampy brooks in the humid rainforest
Temperatures: 23-26 °C
Biology: An annual species with an incubation period of 3-6 months and even longer
Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
Aphyosemion deltaense  RADDA, 1976

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
First Description: Aquaria 21, 55
Type Locality: "200 yards südlich der Hauptstraße Sapele-Benin nach Warri im westlichen Nigerdelta, Midwestern State, Nigeria"
Synonyms: Aphyosemion NSC-7, "Deltafisch"
Meristics: D 16, A 18, S 33+2-3 Total Length: M 70 mm, F 60 mm
Systematic Relationship: Closely related to A. gulare, A. schwoiseri and A. kribianum
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Western Nigerdelta, Nigeria
Variability: Low?
Syntopic Occurrence: E. grahami, A. sjoestedti, A. arnoldi
Habitat: Swamps and swampy brooks in the rainforest
Temperatures: 23-26 °C
Biology: An annual species with an incubation period of 3-6 months and even longer
Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
**Aphyosemion schwoiseri** SCHEEL & RADDA, 1974

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981

Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981

First Description: Aquaria 21, 157

Type Locality: "Malende-Nyoke, nördlich von Muyuka, nahe der Straße von Buea nach Kumba in Westkamerun"; southwestern Cameroon

Synonyms: *Aphyosemion gulare schwoiseri* SCHEEL & RADDA, 1974

Meristics: D 16, A 18-19, S 36

Total Length: M 70-130 mm, F 60-90 mm

Systematic Relationship: Closely related to *A. gulare*, *A. deltaense* and *A. kribianum*

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Small distribution area around Mbonge and Malende

Variability: Low

Syntopic Occurrence: *E. grahami*, *A. rubrolabiale*, *A. calliurum*

Habitat: Swamps, pools and swampy brooks in the rainforest of the southern plains in the former West Cameroon

Temperatures: 23-26 °C

Biology: An annual species with an incubation period of one to six months

Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
Aphyosemion kribianum  RADDA, 1975

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: Gularopanchax RADDA, 1981
First Description: B. K. A. Publ., 4
Type Locality: "Waterholes of a swampy spring area of a brook about 3 km upstream in primeval rainforest; the brook crosses the Kribi-Campo road about 7 km south of Kribi, near the ferry across the Lobe river, East Cameroon"

Synonyms: None
Meristics: D 16-17, A 17, S 32-33  Total Length: M 80 mm, F 70 mm
Systematic Relationship: Very closely related to A. schwoiseri
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Coastal swampy rainforest area south of Kribi to Elonbatindi in southwestern Cameroon
Variability: Medium
Syntopic Occurrence: A. ahli
Habitat: Shallow pools of the spring regions of brooks
Temperatures: 24-28 °C
Biology: An annual species with an incubation period of 2-6 months
Maintenance and Breeding: Very difficult
Aphyosemion batesii (BOULENGER, 1911)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: Raddaella HUBER, 1977

First Description: Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. (8) 8, 261
Type Locality: "South Cameroon (Congo basin) from Ja and Boumba rivers, Bitye, Dja-Sangha-drainage"

Synonyms: Fundulus batesii BOULENGER, 1911; Fundulus beauforti AHL, 1924; F. gustavi AHL, 1924; Fundulus splendidus PELLEGRIN, 1930; A. (Fundulopanchax) schreineri AHL, 1935

Meristics: D 14-16, A 14-17, S 33-35
Total Length: 70 mm
Systematic Relationship: A. batesii and the very closely related A. kunzi are the only two species of the subgenus Raddaella

Subspecies: None
Distribution: Upper Sanaga, Nyong, Lobo, Dja, Doumé and Boumba rivers of the Sangha drainage in southeastern Cameroon and northwestern Congo

Variability: Low
Syntopic Occurrence: E. sangmelinensis, A. cameronense, A. exiguum, Aply. camerunensis
Habitat: Raphia swamps and swampy parts of shallow brooks in the rainforest of the inland plateau
Temperatures: 21-23 °C
Biology: An annual species with an incubation period of 3-6 months
Maintenance and Breeding: Very difficult
Aphyosemion kunzi  RADDA, 1975

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: Raddaella HUBER, 1977

First Description: B. K. A. Publ. 15
Type Locality: "Brook, right side of the road near the village Mboamo, Etakanyabé, 20 km east of the ferry across the Ivindo in Makokou on national road Nr. 15 to Okondja, northern Gabon"

Synonyms: None

Meristics: D 16-17, A 16-17, S 33-35  Total Length: M 70 mm, F 60 mm
Systematic Relationship: Very closely related to A. batesii (probably a subspecies)
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Area of the Ivindo drainage system in southern Cameroon (Miete, Ayina) and in northern Gabon
Variability: High
Syntopic Occurrence:  E. sangmelinensis, A. cameronense
Habitat: Pools of swampy brooks in the rainforest
Temperatures: 21-23 °C
Biology: An annual species with an incubation period of 3-6 months
Maintenance and Breeding: Very difficult
**Aphyosemion bitaeniatum** (AHL, 1924)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: *Chromaphyosemion* RADDA, 1971

First Description: Wochenschr. Aqu. u. Terr.-Kde. 27, 17

Type Locality: "Niger drainage"; exact locality unknown

Synonyms: *Fundulus bitaeniatus* AHL, 1924; *Fundulus rubrostictus* AHL, 1924; *Fundulopanchax multicolor* MEINKEN, 1930; *Aphyosemion (Fundulopanchax) nigri* AHL, 1935

Meristics: D 9-10, A 12, S 27-28  
Total Length: M 40 mm, F 35 mm

Systematic Relationship: A member of the subgenus *Chromaphyosemion*, containing,  
* A. bivittatum, A. volcanum, A. splendopleure, A. riggenbachi and A. loennbergi

Subspecies: None

Distribution: S of Togo, Benin, and SW of Nigeria

Variability: Low

Syntopic Occurrence: *E. sexfasciatus, E. grahami, E. bifasciatus, F. flavipinnis, A. calliurum, A. filamentosum, Aply. macrophthalmus* and *P. similis*

Habitat: Coastal plain brooks in forest regions with quaternary sediments of soil

Temperatures: 24-26 °C

Biology: An non-annual species with an incubation period of 10 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
**Aphyosemion splendopleure** (MEINKEN, 1930)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae R ADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: Chromaphyosemion R ADDA, 1971  

First Description: Wochenschr. Aqu. u. Terr.-Kde. 27, 17  
Type Locality: Tiko, western Cameroon  
Synonyms: *Fundulopanchax splendopleure* MEINKEN, 1930  
Meristics: D 10-13, A 12-15, S 25-28  
Total Length: M 45 mm, F 35 mm  
Systematic Relationship: A member of the subgenus Chromaphyosemion containing,  
A. bitaeniatum, A. bivittatum, A. volcanum, A. riggenbachi and A. loennbergi  

Subspecies: None  
Distribution: Southeastern Nigeria, western and southwestern Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea to northwestern Gabon  
Variability: Medium  
Syntopic Occurrence: *E. sexfasciatus, E. grahami, E. biafranus, A. calliurum, A. ahli, Aply. macrophthalmus, Aply. scheeli, P. similis, P. nototaenia*  
Habitat: Quiet parts of brooks in the coastal rainforest on tertiary and quarternary sedimentary soil  
Temperatures: 22-26 ºC  
Biology: Non-annual species with an incubation period of approximately 10 days  
Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
Aphyosemion bivittatum (LÖNNBERG, 1895)


First Description: Oefv. Kungl. Sv. Vet.-Akad. Forh. 52, 190
Type Locality: "Rivulet near the waterfall of River Ndian", western Cameroon
Synonyms: Fundulopanchax bivittatus coerulea MEINKEN, 1932; A. b. hollyi MYERS, 1933

Meristics: D 10-13, A 12-15, S 25-28  Total Length: M 45 mm, F 35 mm
Systematic Relationship: Closely related to the other representatives of the subgenus Chromaphyosemion

Subspecies: None
Distribution: Southeastern parts of the former Biafra, Nigeria and southwestern parts of the former West Cameroon

Variability: Medium
Syntopic Occurrence: E. sexfasciatus, A. garderi, A. scheeli

Habitat: Brooks of the coastal rainforest on soils with cretaceous sediments
Temperatures: 23-26 °C
Biology: Non-annual species with an incubation period of approximately 10 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
**Aphyosemion volcanum** RADDA & WILDEKAMP, 1977

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: *Chromaphyosemion* RADDA, 1971

First Description: D. K. G. Journ. 9 (9) 138  
Type Locality: "Bächlein im südwestlichen Stadtteil Kumbas", western Cameroon

Synonyms: None  
Meristics: D 11-14, A 13-16, S 25-28  
Total Length: M 50 mm, F 40 mm

Systematic Relationship: Closely related to *A. splendopleure* and to the other members of the subgenus *Chromaphyosemion*  
Subspecies: None  
Distribution: Endemic in the drainage of the Kaké river and in other brooks around Mount Cameroon

Variability: Low  
Syntopic Occurrence: E. sexfasciatus, *A. calliurum, P. similis*

Habitat: Small streams and swampy parts of brooks and rivers in the rainforest on volcanic soils  
Temperatures: 23-26 °C

Biology: Non-annual species with an incubation time of about 10 days  
Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
Aphyosemion riggenbachi (AHL, 1924)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
First Description: Zool. Anzeiger 61, 142
Type Locality: "Quelle bei Yabassi", western Cameroon
Synonyms: Fundulus riggenbachi AHL, 1924
Meristics: D 12-14, A 13-15, S 26-29
Total Length: M 70 mm, F 55 mm
Systematic Relationship: A member of the subgenus Chromaphyosemion which also contains A. bitaeniatum, A. splendopleure, A. bivittatum, A. volcanum and A. loennbergi

Subspecies: None
Distribution: Lower and middle Wouri, Dibamba and Sanaga drainages in western Cameroon
Variability: Medium
Habitat: Brooks of the coastal rainforest on basement complex soils
Temperatures: 24-26 °C
Biology: Non-annual species with an incubation period of 10 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
**Aphyosemion loennbergii** (BOULENGER, 1903)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: *Chromaphyosemion* RADDA, 1971  
Type Locality: "Kribi river", presently Kienke river, southwestern Cameroon  
Synonyms: *Fundulus loennbergii* BOULENGER, 1903; *Fundulus pappenheimi* AHL, 1924; *Aphyosemion (Fundulopanchax) unistrigatus* AHL, 1935  
Meristics: D 11-14, A 12-16, S 25-28  
Total Length: M 50 mm, F 40 mm  
Systematic Relationship: Representative of the subgenus *Chromaphyosemion*  
Subspecies: None  
Distribution: Drainage systems of the lower Nyong, Lokundje and Kienke rivers in southwestern Cameroon  
Variability: Medium  
Habitat: Brooks and small streams in the rainforest on basement complex soils  
Temperatures: 24-26 °C  
Biology: Non-annual species with an incubation period of about 10 days  
Maintenance and Breeding: Somewhat difficult
Aphyosemion georgiae  LAMBERT & GERY, 1968

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981

First Description: Biol. gabonica 4 (3) 306
Type Locality: "Marigot avant le camp de Bélinga, au futur terminus du chemin de fer, bassin de l'Ivindo, Gabon" northern Gabon

Synonyms: None

Meristics: D 11, A 11, S 27

Systematic Relationship: A member of the subgenus Diapteron, consisting of A. georgiae, A. cyanostictum, A. fulgens and A. abacinum

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Mvoung and northern Ivindo systems in northern Gabon

Variability: Low

Syntopic Occurrence: A. cyanostictum, A. fulgens, A. cameronense, A. maculatum, A. splendidum

Habitat: Small brooks in swampy rainforest
Temperatures: 21-24 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-15 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
**Aphyosemion cyanostictum** LAMBERT & GERY, 1968

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981  
First Description: Biol. gabonica 4 (3) 308

Type Locality: "Marigot du village de Bélinga, bassin de l'Ivindo, Gabon," northern Gabon

Synonyms: None

Meristics: D 11, A 11, S 27+3  
Total Length: 20-30 mm  
Systematic Relationship: The subgenus *Diapteron* contains the very closely but partially syntopic living species A. georgiae, A. cyanostictum, A. fulgens and A. abacinum

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Between Ovan and Bélinga in the Ivindo system of northern Gabon

Variability: Low

Syntopic Occurrence: A. georgiae, A. fulgens, A. cameronense, A. splendidum

Habitat: Small mostly swampy brooks in the rainforest

Temperatures: 21-24 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-15 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
**Aphyosemion fulgens** RADDA, 1975

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: *Diapteron* HUBER & SEEGERS, 1977

First Description: B. K. A. Publ. 18

Type Locality: "A brook in the rainforest near Esenkelle, 52 km west of Makokou" northern Gabon

Synonyms: *Aphyosemion georgiae fulgens* RADDA, 1975

Meristics: D 12-13, A 12, S 26-27+2  
Total Length: 20-35 mm

Systematic Relationship: A representative of the subgenus *Diapteron* which also contains *A. georgiae, A. cyanostictum and A. abacinum*

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Between Mintoum and Makokou, Ivindo drainage, northern Gabon

Variability: Low

Syntopic Occurrence: *A. georgiae, A. cyanostictum, A. kunzi*

Habitat: Swampy parts of small brooks in the rainforest

Temperatures: 21-24 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-15 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
**Aphyosemion abacinum** HUBER, 1976

Suborder: Aplocheilloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: *Diapteron* HUBER & SEEGERS, 1977

First Description: Rev. fr. Aquariol. 3, 79

Type Locality: "A environ 30 km au nord de Mékambo (région d’Ivindo, Gabon) sur la piste cyclable menant au Congo (piste d’Ego, Bouomo, Sèmbé)" northeastern most part of Gabon

Synonyms: None

Meristics: D 9-10, A 10-12, Sch 31-33  
Total Length: 30-35 mm

Systematic Relationship: An allopatric distributed member of the subgenus *Diapteron*

Subspecies: A. a. seegersi HUBER, 1980 (t.t.: Gouaneboum-Mékambo, NW Congo)

Distribution: Upper Djadié and Djoua drainages in northeastern Gabon

Variability: Low

Syntopic Occurrence: *E. sangmelinensis, A. kunzi*

Habitat: Small brooks in the rainforest

Temperatures: 20-23 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-15 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
**Aphyosemion calliurum** (BOULENGER, 1911)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: *Mesoaphyosemion* RADDA, 1977

First Description: Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. (8) 8, 265

Type Locality: "Liberia" (erroneously given as origine), southern Nigeria

Synonyms: *Haplochilus calliurus* BOULENGER, 1911; *Panchax vexillifer* MEINKEN, 1929

Meristics: D 8-10, A 12-15, S 29-32  
Total Length: M 45 mm, F 40 mm

Systematic Relationship: Together with *A. australis*, *A. pascheni*, *A. ahli*, *A. ciliae* and *A. franzwerneri* forms the *A. calliurum* group

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Southern Benin and Nigeria, southwestern Cameroon

Variability: High

Syntopic Occurrence: *E. sexfasciatus*, *A. bitaeniatum*, *A. splendopleure*, *A. bivittatum*, *P. similis*

Habitat: Quiet parts of brooks and pools in rainforest of the coastal plains

Temperatures: 23-26 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-20 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
**Aphyosemion celiae** SCHEEL, 1971

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: *Mesoaphyosemion* RADDA, 1977

First Description: Trop. Fish Hobbyist 19 (5) 52

Type Locality: "Source and adjacent small brook near John Epie's house in Mambanda near Kumba of West Cameroon"

Synonyms: None

Meristics: D 11-12, A 14-16, S 29-32  
Total Length: M 50 mm, F 40 mm

Systematic Relationship: Closely related to *A. calliurum* and the other species of the *A. calliurum* group

Subspecies: *A. c. winifredae* RADDA & SCHEEL, 1974 (t.t.: New Butu, western Cameroon)

Distribution: Relict-like distribution area of the central Moungo drainage in western Cameroon

Variability: Medium

Syntopic Occurrence: *E. sexfasciatus, P. similis*

Habitat: Brooks and small streams in the rainforest and secondary savanna

Temperatures: 23-25 °C

Biology: A semi-annual species with an average incubation period of about three weeks

Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
**Aphyosemion franzwerneri** SCHEEL, 1971

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae R ADDA, 1981
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860
Subgenus: *Mesoaphyosemion* R ADDA, 1977

First Description: Trop. Fish Hobbyist 19 (5) 61
Type Locality: "Small source, 15 km north of the road junction Douala-Edea-Yabassi, towards Yabassi of East Cameroon"

Synonyms: None

Meristics: D 9-10, A 13, S 29-30

Total Length: M 45 mm, F 40 mm

Systematic Relationship: Ancestral relative of the *A. calliurum* group

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Drainages of the lower Sanaga and Wouri in southwestern Cameroon

Variability: Low

Syntopic Occurrence: *A. splendopleure, A. riggenbachi, A. amieti, P. similis*

Habitat: Smallest pools and puddles of springs and brooks in the rainforest

Temperatures: 24-28 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Very difficult
Aphyosemion ahli  MYERS, 1933

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei  PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae  RADDA, 1981
First Description: Kalender f. Aqu.- u. Terr.-Freunde 66 (MEINKEN, 1932)
Type Locality: Not given (Aquarium material of unknown origin)
Synonyms:  Panchax (Aphyosemion) calliurus var. coeruleus MEINKEN, 1932; A. calliurum ahli MYERS, 1933 nom. nov.
Meristics: D 10-12, A 14-16, S 30-33
Systematic Relationship:  A. ahli is closely related to A. calliurum, A. celiae, A. pascheni and A. australi; A. franzwerner and A. herzogi are also belonging to the A. calliurum group
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Southwestern Cameroon south of Dibamba River to Equatorial Guinea
Variability: Medium
Habitat: Quiet parts of brooks and flood pools in rainforests of the coastal plains
Temperatures: 24-28 °C
Biology: A non-to semi-annual species with an incubation period of 10-30 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
**Aphyosemion pascheni** (AHL, 1928)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: *Mesoaphyosemion* RADDA, 1977

First Description: Zool. Anzeiger 79, 122

Type Locality: "Longji, Kamerun" southwestern Cameroon

Meristics: D 12, A 14, S 29-30  
Total Length: M 50 mm, F 40 mm

Systematic Relationship: Closely related to *A. ahli* and the other members of the *A. calliurum* group

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Relict-like distribution area at the M'polongwe drainage around Londji

Variability: Low

Syntopic Occurrence: *E. sexfasciatus*, *A. ahli*, *A. splendopleure*, *P. nototaenia*

Habitat: Sheltered parts of brooks in the rainforest of the coastal plain

Temperatures: 24-27 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of about 20 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
**Aphyosemion herzogi** Radda, 1975

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei Parenti, 1981

Family: Aplocheilidae Bleeker, 1860

Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae Radda, 1981

Subgenus: *Mesoaphyosemion* Radda, 1977

First Description: B. K. A. Publ. 5

Type Locality: "Fast running brook about 3 km north of Zomoko or 16 km north of Lalara on the road to Mitzic and Oyem in northern Gabon"

Synonyms: None

**Meristics:**

D 10–13, A 12–14, S 29–31+2  
Total Length: M 40 mm, F 35 mm

**Systematic Relationship:** A member of the *A. calliurum* group

**Subspecies:** *A. h. bochtleri* Radda, 1975; *U.:* Mintoum, northern Gabon

**Distribution:** From the Cristal Mountains to Makokou in northern Gabon

**Variability:** High

**Syntopic Occurrence:** *A. cameronense, A. maculatum, A. punctatum, A. georgiae, A. fulgens*

**Habitat:** Mountain brooks and spring regions of brooks in the rainforest

**Temperatures:** 20–24 °C

**Biology:** A non-annual species with an incubation period of approximately 14 days

**Maintenance and Breeding:** Difficult
Aphyosemion austral (RACHOW, 1921)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: Mesoaphyosemion RADDA, 1977  

First Description: Bibl. Aqu. Terr. Fr. 16, 26  
Type Locality: "Kap Lopez" presently Cap Gentil, northwestern Gabon  
Synonyms: Haplochilus calliurus var. australis RACHOW, 1921; Panchax polychromus AHL, 1924; Aphyosemion austral hjerreseni MEINKEN, 1953  

Meristics: D 9-11, A 14-16, S 29-32  
Total Length: 50 mm  

Systematic Relationship: A. austral is a member of the A. calliurum group  
Subspecies: None  
Distribution: From Cocobeach in the northwesternmost part of Gabon southwards along the coast to southwestern Congo  
Variability: Medium  
Syntopic Occurrence: None  
Habitat: Coastal swamps and swampy parts of small brooks in rainforest  
Temperatures: 24-26 °C  
Biologoy: A semi-annual species with an incubation period of 10-30 days  
Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
Aphyosemion scheeli  RADDA, 1970

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei  PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae  BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae  RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: Mesoaphyosemion  RADDA, 1977

First Description: Aquaria 17, 177
Type Locality: "Unknown" (Aquarium material of unknown origin)
Synonyms: Aphyosemion "burundi" nomen nudum  SCHEEL, 1966
Meristics: D 10-12, A 13-14, S 31-32  
Total Length: M 60 mm, F 55 mm
Systematic Relationship: Closely related with A. marmoratum and A. oeseri and belongs to the A. cameronense group
Subspecies: A. s. akamkpaense  RADDA, 1975; t.t.: Akamkpa, southeastern Nigeria
Distribution: Endemic to the lower Cross river system in Southeastern State, Nigeria
Variability: Medium
Syntopic Occurrence: E. sexfasciatus, A. bivittatum, A. gardneri, P. similis
Habitat: Brooks and small streams in the coastal rainforest
Temperatures: 22-25 °C
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of about 15 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
Aphyosemion marmoratum RADDA, 1973

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: Mesoaphyosemion RADDA, 1977

First Description: Aquaria 20, 184
Type Locality: "Bach 16 km nordöstlich von Mbonge an der Straße nach Kumba", southwestern Cameroon

Synonyms: None

Meristics: D 11, A 14-15, S 32-33+2

Total Length: 50 mm

Systematic Relationship: Closely related to A. scheeli and A. oeseri as well as to A. cameronense and A. raddai

Subspecies: None
Distribution: Relict-like distribution in the rainforest around Mbonge in southwestern Cameroon

Variability: Low

Syntopic Occurrence: A. splendidopleure, A. calliurum

Habitat: Swamps and swampy brooks
Temperatures: 23-26 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of about 15 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
**Aphyosemion oeseri** (SCHMIDT, 1928)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860
Subgenus: *Mesoaphyosemion* RADDA, 1977

First Description: Das Aquarium 2, 165

Type Locality: "West Africa" (Aquarium material of unknown origin)

Synonyms: *Aphyosemion santaisabellae* SCHEEL, 1968

Meristics: D 10-12, A 14-16, S 31-33
Total Length: M 60 mm, F 55 mm

Systematic Relationship: Closely related to *A. marmoratum* and *A. scheeli* and belonging to the *A. cameronense* group

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Surroundings of Santa Isabel (Malabo), in the North of Fernando Póo (Bioko) island, Equatorial Guinea

Variability: Low

Syntopic Occurrence: *A. sexfasciatus*, *A. volcanum*, *P. similis*

Habitat: Coastal rivers and brooks in the north of the island

Temperatures: 23-26 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of approximately 15 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Aphyosemion raddai SCHEEL, 1975

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: Mesoaphyosemion RADDA, 1977

First Description: Journ. Am. K. Ass. K. N. 8 (9) 259
Type Locality: "Brook just south of the Eseka-Edea-Yaounde road junction" western central Cameroon

Synonyms: Aphyosemion cf. meinkeni RADDA, 1973
Meristics: D 10-13, A 14-17, S 31-34 Total Length: M 45 mm, F 40 mm
Systematic Relationship: Closely related to A. cameronense and the three other members of the A. cameronense group

Subspecies: A. r. amoenum RADDA & PÜRZL, 1976; t.t.: Ndoupé near Sonbo
Distribution: Relict-like distribution area in the Ndjoya/Kelle tributaries of the Nyong and in the upper Djouel tributaries of the Sanaga

Variability: High
Syntopic Occurrence: E. sexfasciatus, A. esekanus, A. loennbergi
Habitat: Brooks in the rainforest at the rim of the inland plateau
Temperatures: 22-26 °C
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-15 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Aphyosemion cameronense (BOULENGER, 1903)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: Mesoaphyosemion RADDA, 1977

Type Locality: “Kribi River and Ja River” southern Cameroon
Synonyms: Panchax bellicauda AHL, 1924; P. microstomus AHL, 1924; P. preussi AHL, 1924; P. normani AHL, 1928
Meristics: D 11-13, A 15-17, S 31-33
Total Length: M 45 mm, F 40 mm
Systematic Relationship: Together with the closely related A. raddai, A. marmoratum, A. oeseri and A. scheeli forms the A. cameronense group
Distribution: Inland plateau of southern Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea and northern Gabon
Variability: Very high
Syntopic Occurrence: E. sangmelinensis, A. batesii, A. splendidum, A. exiguum, Aphyosemion camerunensis
Habitat: Quiet parts of brooks in the rainforest
Temperatures: 21-23 °C
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of approximately 15 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Very difficult
Aphyosemion maculatum  RADDA & PÜRZL, 1977

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: Mesoaphyosemion RADDA, 1977

First Description: Aquaria 24, 27
Type Locality: "Ein Bach im Regenwald an der Nationalstraße Nr. 4 von Koumameyong nach Ovan, 33 km östlich Koumameyong, bzw. 20 km westlich Ovan", northern Gabon

Synonyms: None
Meristics: D 12-14, A 16-17, S 30-32+2  
Total Length: M 45 mm, F 35 mm
Systematic Relationship: Closely related to A. cameronense

Subspecies: Aphyosemion m. mimbon HUBER, 1977; t.t.: Akoga, northern Gabon

Distribution: From the Cristal Mountains eastwards to the lower Mvoung drainage
Variability: High (different colour phases)

Syntopic Occurrence: E. sangmelinensis, A. cameronense, A. herzogi, A. georgiae

Habitat: Brooks in the rainforest
Temperatures: 21-24 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 15-20 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Aphyosemion striatum (BOULENGER, 1911)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
First Description: Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. (8) 266
Type Locality: "Abanga river, Ogowe, between 1st and 2nd rapids", northwestern Gabon
Synonyms: Haplochilus striatus BOULENGER, 1911; Panchax escherichi AHL, 1924
A. striatum ogoense ROMAN, 1972
Meristics: D 9-10, A 13, S 30-31
Total Length: M 50 mm, F 45 mm
Systematic Relationship: A member of the A. striatum group with the further relatives
A. microphthalmum, A. primigenium, A. exigoeideum and probably also A. gabunense
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Coastal plains of Equatorial Guinea and northeastern Gabon
Variability: Medium
Syntopic Occurrence: E. sexfasciatus, E. singa, A. microphthalmum
Habitat: Brooks and small streams of the coastal rainforest
Temperatures: 23-26 °C
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of about 14 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
**Aphyosemion microphthalmum** LAMBERT & GERY, 1968

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: Mesoaphyosemion RADDA, 1977

First Description: Biol. gabonica 3 (4) 299

Type Locality: "PK85 de la route Pointe Noire-Sunda", western Congo

Synonyms: *Aphyosemion striatum microphthalmum* LAMBERT & GERY, 1968

Meristics: D 11, A 14, S 31+3  
Total Length: M 50 mm, F 45 mm

Systematic Relationship: Together with *A. striatum, A. primigenium, A. exigoideum* forms the *A. striatum* group

Subspecies: *A. m. simulans* RADDA & HUBER, 1976; t.t.: near Cap Estérias, northern Gabon

Distribution: From Equatorial Guinea and northwestern Gabon southwards along the coast to Cabinda, Congo and Zaire

Variability: Medium

Syntopic Occurrence: *E. sexfasciatus, A. splendopleure, A. striatum, P. ngaensis, P. loemensis, P. cabindae*

Habitat: Small streams and brooks in the coastal rainforest

Temperatures: 22-24 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of about 10 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
**Aphyosemion gabunense** RADDA, 1975

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
First Description: B. K. A. Publ. 17

Type Locality: "Small and swampy brook in the rainforest between Lambarene and Fougamou along the national road Nr. 1, about 30 km southeast of Lambarene in direction to Mouila", western Gabon

Synonyms: None
Meristics: D 11-12, A 13, S 28+2-3 Total Length: M 50 mm, F 45 mm
Systematic Relationship: According to its karyotype A. gabunense belongs to the A. elegans group but distribution and colour pattern are similar to that of the *A. striatum* group

Subspecies: *A. g. marginatum* RADDA & HUBER 1977, t.t.: 9 km southwestwards of Bifoun; *A. g. boehmi* RADDA & HUBER, 1977, t.t.: Between Bigouenia and Mora

Distribution: Coastal plains between Lambarene and Fougamou

Variability: High
Syntopic Occurrence: *E. sexfasciatus, E. singa, E. berkenkampi*
Habitat: Brooks in secondary forest and brushwood
Temperatures: 23-25 °C
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
Aphyosemion exigoideum  RADDA & HUBER, 1977

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei  PARENTI, 1981
Family: Aplocheilidae  BLEEKER, 1860
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae  RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: Mesoaphyosemion  RADDA, 1977

First Description: Aquaria 24, 141
Type Locality: "Kleiner Bach im Regenwald nahe Mandilou", western central Gabon
Synonyms: None

Meristics: D 11-12, A 13-14, S 29-31+2  Total Length: M 45 mm, F 40 mm
Systematic Relationship: Very closely to A. primigenium and a member of the A. striatum group
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Middle N'Goumé river drainage between Mandilou and Ngoudoufala
Variability: Medium
Syntopic Occurrence: E. singa, E. berkenkampi, P. ngaensis
Habitat: Rivers and brooks in the rainforest of the plains
Temperatures: 23-25 °C
Biology: A semi-annual species with an incubation period of 10-20 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
Aphyosemion primigenium (RADDA & HUBER, 1977)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
First Description: Aquaria 24, 138

Type Locality: "Bach des Douano Subsystems (Nyanga) im Regenwald der Mayumbe-Berge bei Banyanga, Seehöhe 250 m, Gabun", southwestern Gabon

Synonyms: None

Meristics: D 12–13, A 14–15, S 29–31+2
Total Length: M 45 mm, F 40 mm

Systematic Relationship: Very closely related to A. exigoideum and a member of the A. striatum group

Subspecies: None
Distribution: Coastal plain and western rim of the Du Chaillu mountains between Mouila and Ndendé/Lébamba in southwestern Gabon

Variability: Medium
Syntopic Occurrence: E. berkenkampi, P. loemensis
Habitat: Brooks in the rainforest
Temperatures: 19–25 ºC

Biology: A semi-annual species with an incubation period of 10–20 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult

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Aphyosemion coeleste  HUBER & RADDA, 1977

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
First Description: Aquaria 24, 100
Type Locality: "Bach nahe Massango (Seehöhe etwa 400 m), 13 km NW Moanda, an der Straße nach Lastoursville", southeastern Gabon
Synonyms: None
Meristics: D 11-12, A 14-15, S 29-31+2-3 Total Length: M 45 mm, F 40 mm
Systematic Relationship: Forms together with A. ocellatum and A. citrineipinnis the A. coeleste group
Subspecies: None
Distribution: From Moanda, Lékedi system southwards to the upper Louesse drainage in southern Congo
Variability: High
Syntopic Occurrence: A. hanneloreae
Habitat: Swampy parts of brooks in the rainforest of the inland plateau and hills
Temperatures: 19-21 °C
Biology: A semi-annual species with an incubation period of 10-20 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
Aphyosemion ocellatum  HUBER & RADD, 1977

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADD, 1981
First Description: Aquaria 24, 102
Type Locality: "Ein schnellfließender Bach im Regenwald, 6 km w Mimongo an der Straße nach Lebamba zwischen Magagara and Lamadou, Seehöhe etwa 500 m, Migoto-Ogoulou-Subsystem des Ngounié", southern central Gabon

Synonyms: None
Meristics: D 11-12, A 15-16, S 31-33+2
Systematic Relationship: A. ocellatum is closely related to A. citrineipinnis and A. coeleste
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Central area of the Du Chaillu mountains in Gabon and southern Congo
Variability: High
Syntopic Occurrence: A. joergenscheeli, A. hanneloreae
Habitat: Fast running brooks and streams in mountainous rainforest
Temperatures: 19-21 °C
Biology: A semi-annual species with an incubation period of 2-3 weeks
Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
Aphyosemion citrineipinnis  HUBER & RADD&A, 1977

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860
Subgenus: Mesoaphyosemion RADD&A, 1977

First Description: Aquaria 24, 104
Type Locality: "Schnellfließender Gebirgsfluß nahe Yéno, Mogambi, Ogoudou/Ogoulou Subsystem des Ngounié; Seehöhe etwa 450 m", central Gabon

Synonyms: None
Meristics: D 11-12, A 15-16, S 29-30+2  
Total Length: M 45 mm, F 40 mm
Systematic Relationship: A close relative of A. ocellatum and A. coeleste

Subspecies: None
Distribution: Western slope of the Du Chaillu mountains in central Gabon
Variability: Low
Syntopic Occurrence: A. joergenscheeli
Habitat: Fast running streams and brooks in the rainforest
Temperatures: 19-21 ºC
Biology: A semi-annual species with an incubation period of 2-3 weeks
Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Aphyosemion joergenscheeli  HUBER & RADDA, 1977

Suborder: Aplocheioidae PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
First Description: Aquaria 24, 105

Type Locality: "Schnellfließender Bach im Regenwald, 6 km W Mimongo, an der Straße nach Lebamba, zwischen Magagara and Lamadou, Seehöhe etwa 500 m, Migoto/Ogoulou-Subsystem des Ngunié", central Gabon

Synonyms: None
Meristics: D 12-13, A 14-15, S 28-29+2-3 Total Length: M 45 mm, F 40 mm
Systematic Relationship: No close relationship to another species
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Central area of the Du Chaillu mountains
Variability: Low
Syntopic Occurrence: A. ocellatum, A. hanneloreae
Habitat: Brooks and small streams in the highlands of the Ngunié drainage
Temperatures: 19-21 °C
Biology: No experience
Maintenance and Breeding: Very difficult
Aphyosemion thysi  RADDA & HUBER, 1978

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981  
First Description: Aquaria 25, 173  
Type Locality: "Bach 500 m von Ngala, an der Straße Titi-Mossendjo, Provinz Niari, Louessé-System"; southern Congo

Synonyms: None  
Meristics: D 11-12, A 14-15, S 30+1-2  
Systematic Relationship: A member of the A. ogoense group  
Subspecies: None  
Distribution: Mossendjo-Komono area of the Louessé-Niari drainage in southern Congo  
Variability: Low  
Syntopic Occurrence: A. coeleste, A. ogoense  
Habitat: Brooks and small streams in the mountainous rainforest  
Temperatures: 18-21 °C  
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days  
Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
Aphyosemion ogoense (PELLEGRIN, 1930)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: Mesoaphyosemion RADDA, 1977

First Description: Bull. Soc. Zool. France 55, 201
Type Locality: "Riv. Léconi (Ht. Ogôoué), La Passa (Ht. Ogôoué)", southeastern Gabon
Synonyms: Haplochilus lujae var. ogoensis PELLEGRIN, 1930; Aphyosemion plagitaenium HUBER, 1980, nom. nud.

Meristics: D 10-11, A 14-15, S 29-31
Total Length: M 55 mm, F 45 mm
Systematic Relationship: Closely related to A. louessense
Subspecies: A. o. pyrophore HUBER & RADDA, 1979 (t.t.: Dorf Gnimi-Quartier Mbaya, Lékoumou, Congo)
A. o. caudofasciatum HUBER & RADDA, 1979 (t.t.: Ekoumou-Flüsschen beim Dorf Ogouéé, nördlich Zanaga, Congo)
Distribution: Upper Ogowe (M'Passa, Lekédi) drainage system in southeastern Gabon, and upper Niari (Louesse) system in southern Congo

Variability: High
Syntopic Occurrence: A. schluppi, H. zebra, H. catenatus
Habitat: Small streams and brooks in the rainforest and guinean savanna of the Batéké plateau highlands
Temperatures: 19-21 °C
Biology: A semi-annual species with an incubation period of 10-20 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
Aphyosemion louessense (PELLEGRIN, 1931)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: Mesoaphyosemion RADDA, 1977

First Description: Bull. Soc. Zool. France 56, 221
Type Locality: "Louesse (Kouilou)"; southern Congo


Meristics: D 12-14, A 15-16, S 31-32  
Total Length: M 60 mm, F 50 mm

Systematic Relationship: Very closely related to A. ottogartneri and A. ogoense

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Upper Kouilou, Louesse, Lelali, Buenza and Nyanga river drainages in southern Congo and in some Nyanza river tributaries in southern Gabon

Variability: Very high

Syntopic Occurrence: E. huberi, H. zebra

Habitat: Brooks and streams in the rainforest and guinean savanna

Temperatures: 17-20 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 14-20 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
Aphyosemion ottogartneri RADDA, 1980

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: Mesoaphyosemion RADDA, 1977

First Description: Aquaria 27, 197
Type Locality: "Lefini, Provinz Pool, Kongo-Brazzaville"; southern Congo
Synonyms: Aphyosemion ogoense ottogartneri RADDA, 1980; A. lujae (non BOULENGER) many authors

Meristics: D 10-11, A 14-15, S 29-32
Total Length: M 55 mm, F 50 mm
Systematic Relationship: Closely related to A. louessense
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Upper Lefini river drainage in southern Congo
Variability: Low
Syntopic Occurrence: Unknown
Habitat: Brooks and streams in the rainforest and derived savanna
Temperatures: 22-25 °C
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
Aphyosemion schluppi  RADDA & HUBER, 1978

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: Mesoaphyosemion RADDA, 1977

First Description: Aquaria 25, 176
Type Locality: "Bach an der Straße von Zanaga zum Ogooué; Congo", southern Congo
Synonyms: None
Meristics: D 11-12, A 13-14, S 29-31+1-2 Total Length: M 45 mm, F 40 mm
Systematic Relationship: Closely related to A. wachtersi and A. buytaerti
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Upper Louesse-Niari drainages between Mossendjo and Komono (Province Lékoumou) in southern Congo
Variability: Low
Syntopic Occurrence: A. ogoense, A. buytaerti, H. zebra
Habitat: Brooks in the mountainous rainforest
Temperatures: 18-21 °C
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
**Aphyosemion wachtersi** Radda & Huber, 1978

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae Radda, 1981  
Subgenus: Mesoaphyosemion Radda, 1977  
First Description: Aquaria 25, 179  
Type Locality: "Quellteich mit 4 m², im Dorf Voula 2, 9 km NO Zanaga, an der Straße zum Ogowe (Lésala-System)"; southern Congo  
Synonyms: None  
Meristics: D 12-13, A 13-15, S 28-29+1-2; Total Length: M and F 45 mm  
Systematic Relationship: Closely related to *A. buytaerti* and *A. schluppi*  
Subspecies: *A. w. mikeae* Radda, 1980 (t.t.: Gnimi, Quartier Mbaya, Mfoutoulou river)  
Distribution: Upper tributaries of the Ogowe river and upper Louesse drainage in southern Congo  
Variability: Medium  
Syntopic Occurrence: *A. ogoense*, *H. zebra*  
Habitat: Pools and brooks in mountainous rainforest  
Temperatures: 17-21 °C  
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of about 14 days  
Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Aphyosemion buytaerti  RADDA & HUBER, 1978

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: Mesoaphyosemion RADDA, 1977

First Description: Aquaria 25, 181
Type Locality: "Ekouma-Fluß beim Dorf Ogouéé, zwischen Zanaga and Voula 2"; southern Congo

Synonyms: None
Meristics: D 12-13, A 14-15, S 28-30+1-2 Total Length: M 40 mm, F 35 mm
Systematic Relationship: Closely related to A. wachtersi and A. schluppi
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Only known from its type locality in the upper Ogowe tributaries
Variability: Low
Syntopic Occurrence: A. ogoense, A. schluppi
Habitat: Brooks in the mountainous rainforest
Temperatures: 18-21 °C
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Aphyosemion labarrei  

POLL, 1951

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei  
PARENTI, 1981

Family: Aplocheilidae  
BLEEKER, 1860

Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae  
RADD, 1981

Subgenus: Mesoaphyosemion  
RADD, 1977


Type Locality: "20 km de Madimba (Inkisi) petit affl. de la riv. Ngufu, pres de Kiavo"; western Zaire

Synonyms:  
A. (Fundulopanchax) labarrei  
POLL, 1951

Meristics:  
D 12-14, A 14-17, S 30-32  
Total Length: M 55 mm, F 50 mm

Systematic Relationship: Probably related to  
A. zygaima

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Middle and lower Inkisi river drainage in eastern Bas Zaire

Variability: High

Syntopic Occurrence:  
A. cognatum

Habitat: Shallow brooks and streams in the rainforest

Temperatures: 20-22 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 14-20 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
**Aphyosemion zygaima** HUBER, 1981

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860

Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: *Mesoaphyosemion* RADDA, 1977

First Description: Trop. Fish Hob. 29 (8) 27

Type Locality: "Mindouli, some 100 km west of Brazzaville"; southern Congo

Synonyms: A. louessense (non PELLEGRIN) SCHEEL, 1968

Meristics: D 12-13, A 15-16, S 30-32+2-3 Total Length: M 45 mm, F 40 mm

Systematic Relationship: Closely related to A. louessense and A. *labarrei*

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Hitherto only known from its type locality

Variability: Low?

Syntopic Occurrence: None?

Habitat: The type locality is a brook in guinean savanna

Temperatures: No datas available

Biology: Most probably a non-annual species with an incubation period of about 10-14 days

Maintenance and Breeding: No experience
Aphyosemion ferranti (BOULENGER, 1910)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: Mesoaphyosemion RADDA, 1977

First Description: Bull. Soc. Nat. Luxembourg 285  
Type Locality: "Petit ruisseau limpide à fond de gravier dans la fôret tout pres de Kondoué, Bas-Congo" Kondue, Kasai Province, southern Zaire

Synonyms: Haplochilus ferranti BOULENGER, 1910; Panchax ferranti AHL, 1924

Meristics: D 10, A 13-14, S 30-32  
Total Length: M 50 mm, F 45 mm

Systematic Relationship: No close relationship to any other species of the subgenus Mesoaphyosemion

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Sankuru and middle and upper Kasai river drainages of West Kasai Province in southern Zaire

Variability: Low?

Syntopic Occurrence: E. multifasciatus, A. lujae

Habitat: Small rivers, brooks and streams in the rainforest and derived savanna

Temperatures: 22-25 °C

Biology: Unknown

Maintenance and Breeding: Not yet kept alive
Aphyosemion wildekampi BERKENKAMP, 1973

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
First Description: D. K. G. Journ. 4, 221

Type Locality: "Waldbach bei Diang, 40 km westlich von Bertoua, Ost-Kamerun", southeastern Cameroon

Meristics: D 10, A 17, S 24-25
Total Length: 45 mm
Systematic Relationship: According to its karyotype and meristics, A. wildekampi belongs to the A. elegans group

Subspecies: None
Distribution: Southeastern Cameroon, southwestern Central African Republic and northwestern Congo

Variability: Medium
Syntopic Occurrence: None?
Habitat: Small streams, brooks and swamps in the rainforest and guinean savanna
Temperatures: 21-25 °C
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-15 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Aphyosemion punctatum  RADDA & PÜRZL, 1977

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
First Description: Aquaria 24, 29
Type Locality: "Sumpfiger Bach nahe der katholischen Mission in Makokou", northern Gabon
Meristics: D 11-12, A 15-16, S 29-30+2
Systematic Relationship: Closely related to A. wildekampi and A. aureum
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Northeastern Gabon and northern Congo
Variability: High
Syntopic Occurrence: A. h. bochtleri
Habitat: Brooks in the rainforest, of the upper Ivindo drainage
Temperatures: 21-23 °C
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of approximately 10 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Aphyosemion aureum RADDA, 1980

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: Aphyosemion MYERS, 1924

First Description: Aquaria 27, 201
Type Locality: "47 km SW Koulamoutou an der Nationalstraße N 6 nach Mimongo, in einem kleinen Bach im Regenwald nahe dem Dorf Mouila (SH 470 m), Du Chaillu-Massiv, Provinz Ogooué-Lolo, Südgabun"

Synonyms: None
Meristics: D 13, A 16-17, S 30-32
Systematic Relationship: Closely related to A. punctatum
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Upper Lolo and Yaou river systems in southern central Gabon
Variability: Low
Syntopic Occurrence: None
Habitat: Small and fast running brooks in the mountainous rainforest
Temperatures: 19-21 °C
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Aphyosemion lamberti  RADDA & HUBER, 1977

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei  PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae  RADDA, 1981
First Description: Aquaria 24, 61
Type Locality: “Bach nahe dem Ogowe an einer Nebenstraße nach Achouka, westlich Booué”, central Gabon

Synonyms: Aphyosemion christyi  LAMBERT & GERY, 1968

Meristics: D 9-10, A 13-14, S 27-29+2

Total Length: M 45 mm, F 35 mm

Systematic Relationship: Closely related to A. rectogoense and to the other members of the A. elegans group

Subspecies: None
Distribution: Drainage of the middle Ogowe river in central and eastern Gabon
Variability: Medium
Syntopic Occurrence: None
Habitat: Brooks and small streams in the rainforest
Temperatures: 21-24 °C
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of approximately 10 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
**Aphyosemion rectogoense** RADDA & HUBER, 1977

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: *Aphyosemion* MYERS, 1924

First Description: Aquaria 24, 64  
Type Locality: "Bach des Djouele, Léconi-System, etwa 6 km W der Stadt Léconi, an der neuen Straße von Franceville über Bongoville", southeastern Gabon

Synonyms: None

Meristics: D 8-9, A 14, S 27-29+2  
Total Length: M 35 mm, F 30 mm

Systematic Relationship: Closely related to *A. lamberti* and to the other members of the *A. elegans* group

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Batéké plateau in southeastern Gabon and the bordering area in Congo  
Variability: Low

Syntopic Occurrence: *E. boulengeri*

Habitat: Springfed pool and swampy brooks in the savanna  
Temperatures: 21-25 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of about 10 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
Aphyosemion hofmanni  RADDA, 1980

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
First Description: Aquaria 27, 203

Type Locality: "55 km an der Straße von Mimongo (fiber Mokabou) nach Mbigou, nahe Iméno Mbila in kleinen Seitenarmen eines Bergbaches mit einem Wasserstand von nur wenigen Zentimetern, Seehöhe etwa 600 m, Du Chaillu-Massiv, Provinz Ngunié, Südgabun

Synonyms: None
Meristics: D 11-12, A 14-15, S 31-32  Total Length: M 40 mm, F 30 mm
Systematic Relationship: Closely related to A. hanneloreae
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Mbomi drainage of the Du Chaillu mountains
Variability: Low
Syntopic Occurrence: A. ocellatum (in other parts of the brooks)
Habitat: Smallest mountainous brooks
Temperatures: 19-21 °C
Biology: No experience
Maintenance and Breeding: Very difficult
Aphyosemion hanneloreae  RADDA & PÜRZL, 1985

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: ? Aphyosemion MYERS, 1924

First Description: Aquaria 32, 157
Type Locality: "Bei Malinga, nahe der Grenze zur Volksrepublik Kongo, Provinz Ngounié, Südgabun, and zwar in kleinsten Rinnsalen eines sumpfigen Baches im Regenwald des Berglandes in etwa 400 m Seehöhe, welcher in den Nyanga entwässert".

Synonyms: None
Meristics: D 11-12, A 14-15, S 30-31+1    Total Length: M 40 mm, F 30 mm
Systematic Relationship: Closely related to A. hofmanni
Subspecies: A. h. wuendschi RADDA & PÜRZL, 1985; t.t.: 50 km S Mbigou an der Straße nach Malinga
Distribution: Central area of the Du Chaillu mountains in Gabon and Congo (?)
Variability: Moderate
Syntopic Occurrence: A- coeleste, A. ocellatum, A. joergenscheeli (in other parts of the respective brooks)
Habitat: Small rivulets in swamps of the rainforest
Temperatures: 19-21 °C
Biology: No experience
Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Aphyosemion elegans (BOULENGER, 1899)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860

Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: Aphyosemion MYERS, 1924


Type Locality: "Bikoro et Coquilhatville" (Mbandaka); Zaire

Synonyms: Haplochilus elegans BOULENGER, 1899; Panchax elegans AHL, 1924

Meristics: D 8, A 14-15, S 30-32  
Total Length: M 50 mm, F 45 mm

Systematic Relationship: Closely related to the other members of the subgenus Aphyosemion s.s.

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Middle Zaire river drainage in western and central Zaire

Variability: Medium

Syntopic Occurrence: None?

Habitat: Brooks and swampy streams, pools and ponds, border region of lakes (L. Tumba)

Temperatures: 22-30 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Aphyosemion schioetzi HUBER & SCHEEL, 1981

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: Aphyosemion MYERS, 1924

First Description: Rev. fr. Aquariol. 8, 36
Type Locality: "Un petit ruisseau de savanne, pres, de Taba (Congo)"; southern central Congo
Synonyms: None

Meristics: D 9, A 15-17, S 28-30+1-2 Total Length: M 50 mm, F 45 mm

Systematic Relationship: A. schioetzi is a member of the A. elegans group
Subspecies: A. s. lefiniense WOELTJES, 1984 (t.t.: La Lefini, 200 km N Brazzaville)
Distribution: Middle Zaire, Djoué, middle and lower Lefini, Nkeni, Kouyou, Vouma and upper Likouala river drainages in southern to central Congo

Variability: Medium
Syntopic Occurrence: E. multifasciatus
Habitat: Brooks and streams in the forested savanna
Temperatures: 22-26 °C
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
*Aphyosemion chauchei* HUBER & SCHEEL, 1981

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981

Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981

First Description: Rev. fr. Aquariol. 8, 36

Type Locality: "20 km a Pest d'Etoumbi vers Makoua, dans un ruisseau peu courant en pleine forêt du Congo central"

Synonyms: None

Meristics: D 10-11, A 16, S 30+1-2  
Total Length: M 40 mm, F 35 mm

Systematic Relationship: *A. chauchei* belongs to the *A. elegans* group

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Likona river drainage in central Congo

Variability: Low

Syntopic Occurrence: *E. phoeniceps*

Habitat: Brooks in the rainforest

Temperatures: 22-25 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
**Aphyosemion decorsei** (PELLEGRIN, 1904)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860

Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: *Aphyosemion* MYERS, 1924


Type Locality: "Bessou, Oubanghi"; southeastern Central African Republic

Synonyms: None

Meristics: D 8-9, A 13-14, S 25-28  
Total Length: M 50 mm, F 45 mm

Systematic Relationship: *A. decorsei* belongs to the *A. elegans* group

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Oubangui drainage in southern Central African Republic and possibly in northern Zaire

Variability: Low?

Syntopic Occurrence: *E. mesogramma*

Habitat: Brooks and streams in the rainforest

Temperatures: 22-25 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
Aphyosemion christyi (BOULENGER, 1915)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADD, 1981
First Description: Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. 15, 46
Type Locality: "Bafwasende, Lindi River, Congo"; northeastern Zaire

Synonyms: Haplochilus christyi BOULENGER, 1915; H. schoutedeni BOULENGER, 1920;
A. castaneum MYERS, 1924; A. margaretae FOWLER, 1936

Meristics: D 9-11, A 14-16, S 27-30

Total Length: M 50 mm, F 45 mm

Systematic Relationship: Member of the A. elegans group

Distribution: Upper Zaire and Oubangui river drainages in northeastern and northern Zaire and probably also in the southern Central African Republic

Variability: Medium

Syntopic Occurrence: H. platysternus, H. stictopleuron

Habitat: Brooks and streams in the rainforest

Temperatures: 22-25 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
Aphyosemion cognatum MEINKEN, 1951

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RANNA, 1981  
Subgenus: Aphyosemion MYERS, 1924  

First Description: DATZ 4, 255  
Type Locality: "Leopoldville"; Kinshasa, western Zaire  

Synonyms: None  
Meristics: D 9-11, A 14-16, S 29-31  
Total Length: M 50 mm, F 45 mm  
Systematic Relationship: A. cognatum belongs to the A. elegans group  
Subspecies: None  
Distribution: Zaire river drainage southeast and north of Kinshasa and east of Brazzaville in southern Congo  

Variability: Medium  
Syntopic Occurrence: E. chevalieri  
Habitat: Brooks and streams in the rainforest and derived savanna  
Temperatures: 20-27 °C  
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days  
Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
Aphyosemion polli sp. nov.

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860  
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981  
Subgenus: Aphyosemion MYERS, 1924

First Description: Colour Atlas 9  
Type Locality: Near N’jili, international airport of Kinshasa, Zaire  

Synonyms: Aphyosemion schoutedeni (non BOULENGER) POLL, 1952  
Meristics: D 9, A 15, S 29-31  
Total Length: M 50 mm, F 45 mm

Systematic Relationship: Closely related to the other members of the A. elegans superspecies

Subspecies: None  
Distribution: Hitherto only known from the type locality  
Variability: Low?

Syntopic Occurrence: E. chevalieri  
Habitat: Swampy brook in derived savanna  
Temperatures: 22-26 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of about 10 days  
Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
Aphyosemion congicum (AHL, 1924)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
First Description: Zool. Anz. 61, 307
Type Locality: "Congo"; Zaire
Synonyms: Panchax congicus AHL, 1924; A. melanopteron GOLDSTEIN & RICCO, 1970
Meristics: D 9-10, A 13-15, S 29-31  Total Length: M 45 mm, F 40 mm
Systematic Relationship: This species belongs to the A. elegans group
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Lufini river system and Vue river in western Zaire (Kinshasa province)
Variability: Low
Syntopic Occurrence: None
Habitat: Fast running rivers and brooks in open grassland savanna
Temperatures: 21-24 °C
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
Aphyosemion lujae (BOULENGER, 1911)

Suborder: Aplocheilloidei PARENTI, 1981
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: Aphyosemion MYERS, 1924

First Description: Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. 8, 223
Type Locality: "Ruisseau limpide a fonds graveleux dans la forêt pres de Kondue"; Kasai province, southern Zaire

Synonyms: None
Meristics: D 13-15, A 15-17, S 29-31
Total Length: M 50 mm, F 45 mm

Systematic Relationship: A. lujae belongs to the A. elegans group
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Upper and middle Kasai river drainage in southern Zaire
Variability: Low?

Syntopic Occurrence: A. ferranti
Habitat: Brooks and streams in the rainforest and gallery forest
Temperatures: 22-25 °C

Biology: Most probably a non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Not yet introduced alive
Aphyosemion exiguum (BOULENGER, 1911)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Family: Aplocheilidae BLEEKER, 1860
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: Kathetys HUBER, 1977

Type Locality: "Nyong river, eastern Cameroon"
Synonyms: Haplochilus exigus BOULENGER, 1911; Panchax jaundensis AHL, 1924; P. loboanus AHL, 1924; P. (A.) jacobi AHL, 1928; P. (A.) loloensis AHL, 1928
Meristics: D 8-10, A 13-17, S 27-30
Systematic Relationship: Closely related to A. bualanum and A. bamilekorum
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Inland plateau of southern Cameroon, eastern Equatorial Guinea, northern Gabon and northeastern most parts of Congo
Variability: Medium
Syntopic Occurrence: E. sangmelinensis, A. cameronense, A. batesii, Aphyosemion camerunensis
Habitat: Brooks and small streams in the rainforest
Temperatures: 21-23 °C
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-15 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Aphyosemion bualanum (AHL, 1924)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
First Description: Zool. Anzeiger 60, 54
Type Locality: "O Sangha Uham, 1200 m, Buala, Grasland, Kamerun", presently in the western Central African Republic

Synonyms: Panchax bualanus AHL, 1924; P. elberti AHL, 1924; P. tessmanni AHL, 1924; Aphyosemion rubrifascium CLAUSEN, 1963

Meristics: D 10-12, A 15-17, S 28-31
Total Length: M 40 mm, F 40 mm

Systematic Relationship: Closely related to A. exiguum and A. bamilekorum
Subspecies: A. b. kekemense RADDA & SCHEEL, 1975 (t.t.: Petit N'kam, Kekem)
Distribution: Highlands of Nigeria, Cameroon and of the Central African Republic
Variability: Very high
Syntopic Occurrence: None
Habitat: Brooks, streams and swamps in the open highland and guinean savanna
Temperatures: 18-24 °C
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation time of 10-14 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
Aphyosemion bamilekorum  RADDA, 1971

First Description: Aquaria 18, 177
Type Locality: "Bach 9 km NW Bafoussam, an der Straße nach Bamenda, im Hochland des südwestlichen Ostkamerun", western Cameroon
Synonyms: None
Meristics: D 13-14, A 16-18, S 27-28  Total Length: 40 mm
Systematic Relationship: Forms together with A. exiguum and A. bualanum the subgenus Kathetys
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Relict-like distribution area between Bafoussam and Mbouda, Noun subsystem of the Sanaga
Variability: Low
Syntopic Occurrence: None
Habitat: Small and fast running brooks in the highland of southwestern former East Cameroon
Temperatures: 17-21 °C
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-15 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Adamas formosus HUBER. 1979

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
First Description: Rev. fr. Aquariol. 6, 6
Type Locality: "Village Ntokou pres des rives de la Likouala-Mossaka"; central Congo

Synonyms: None
Meristics: D 8-9, A 15, S 27-29+1-2
Total Length: M 30 mm, F 25 mm
Systematic Relationship: A swamp dwelling dwarf form, related to Aphyosemion
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Drainages of the Alima, Vouma and Likouala in eastern Congo and the middle Zaire system in western Zaire
Variability: Low
Syntopic Occurrence: E. duboisii, E. chevalieri (small specimen), A. (Raddaella) sp.
Habitat: Swamps, shallow parts of small brooks and streams with stagnant water in the rainforest
Temperatures: 22-25 °C
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of about 14 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
**Fundulosoma thierryi** AHL, 1924

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae Remma, 1981
Subgenus: **Fundulosoma** AHL, 1924

First Description: Zool. Anzeiger 60, 52
Type Locality: "Mangu-Gebiet, von Breite Kadjamba bis Bogo Moba and Panpamba bis Nacjaba, nördliches Togo"; northern Togo
Synonyms: Ghana-Aphyosemion MEINKEN, 1960
Meristics: D 11-12, A 14-16, S 26-27
Total Length: M 30 mm, F 20 mm
Systematic Relationship: Probably linked with A. *arnoldi* and the subgenus *Paludopanchax*
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Senegambia, Mali, Upper Volta, Togo and Ghana
Variability: Moderate
Syntopic Occurrence: *F. flavipinnis*
Habitat: Temporary pools and swamps in guinean and sudanian savanna habitats as well as in coastal savanna of southeastern Ghana and southwestern Togo
Temperatures: 24-30 °C
Biology: A annual species with an incubation period of 1-6 month

Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
Pronothobranchius kiyawensis (AHL, 1928)

Suborder: Aplocheiloidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Nothobranchiinae RADDA, 1981
Subgenus: Pronothobranchius RADDA, 1969

Type Locality: "Kiyawa river, close to Katagum, Nigeria"

Synonyms: Nothobranchius kiyawensis AHL, 1928; Fundulus gambiensis SVENSSON, 1933; Aphyosemion seymouri LOISELLE & BLAIR, 1971

Meristics: D 13-15, A 14-15, S 26
Total Length: M 50 mm, F 40 mm

Systematic Relationship: Probably linked with A. gulare and the subgenus Gularopanchax

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Senegambia, Mali, Upper Volta, Niger, Nigeria, Cameroon, Chad and Ghana
Variability: Moderate
Syntopic Occurrence: None

Habitat: Temporary pools and swamps in the dry and thorn savanna and in the coastal plains of Ghana

Temperatures: 23-30 °C
Biology: A annual species with an incubation period of 4-8 months
Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Aplocheilichthys spilauchen (DUMERIL, 1861)

Suborder: Cyprinodontiformes PARENTI, 1981
Family: Poeciliidae GARMAN, 1895
Subfamily: Aplocheilichthyinae MYERS, 1928
Subgenus: Aplocheilichthys BLEEKER, 1863

First Description: Arch. Mus. 10, 258
Type Locality: "Gabon"

Synonyms: A. typus BLEEKER, 1863; A. tschiloangensis AHL, 1928; Poecilia bensonii PETERS, 1864

Meristics: D 6-8, A 11-14, S 25-28
Systematic Relationship: A. spilauchen is the type species of the genus Aplocheilichthys, and probably not closely related to all other species

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Along the coast from the mouth of the Senegal river to the Zaire river
Variability: Low
Syntopic Occurrence: None

Habitat: Brackish water leading to lagoons and coastal estuaries
Temperatures: 22-28 °C

Biology: A schooling open water dweller with an incubation period of 10-14 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Easy
Aplocheilichthys nimbaensis (DAGET, 1948)

Suborder: Cyprinodontoiidei PARENTI, 1981
Family: Poeciliidae GARMAN, 1895
Subfamily: Aplocheilichthyinae MYERS, 1928
Subgenus: Aplocheilichthys BLEEKER, 1963

First Description: Cat. IFAN 3, 40

Type Locality: "Guinée française: Mt. Nimba, GA, alt 1100-1250 m"; eastern upper Guinea

Synonyms: Haplocheilichthys nimbaensis DAGET, 1948; Micropanchax nimbaensis HÜBER, 1981

Meristics: D 10-11, A 17-18, S 23-24
Total Length: M 45 mm, F 35 mm

Systematic Relationship: Probably related to A. schioetzi

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Southeastern upper Guinea and northeastern Liberia

Variability: Low

Syntopic Occurrence: E. hildegariae, E. lamottei, A. viride

Habitat: Mountainous brooks and small rivers under forest cover

Temperatures: 18-23 °C

Biology: No experience

Maintenance and Breeding: Not yet kept alive
Aplocheilichthys schioetzi SCHEEL, 1968

Suborder: Cyprinodontoidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Poeciliidae GARMAN, 1895  
Subfamily: Aplocheilichthyinae MYERS, 1928  
Subgenus: Aplocheilichthys BLEEKER, 1863


Type Locality: "Bobiri forest reserve, Kumasi" central Ghana


Meristics: D 6-9, A 12-15, S 24-27

Total Length: M 35 mm, F 30 mm

Systematic Relationship: Probably related to A. nimbaensis

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Sassandra, Comoé, Bandama, Cavally and St. John river drainages in Eastern Liberia and Ivory Coast, respectively; Volta and Dayi river systems in Ghana and Upper Volta

Variability: Medium

Syntopic Occurrence: None

Habitat: Small rivers and brooks in the rainforest and guinean savanna

Temperatures: 23-26 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Aplocheilichthys hutereaui (BOULENGER, 1913)

Suborder: Cyprinodontoidei PARENTI, 1981
Family: Poeciliidae GARMAN, 1895
Subfamily: Aplocheilichthyinae MYERS, 1928
First Description: Rev. Zool. Afr. 2, 159
Subgenus: Aplocheilichthys BLEEKER, 1863
Type Locality: "Uele river, Dungu"; northern Zaire
Synonyms: Haplocheilichthys hutereaui AHL, 1924; Micropanchax baudoni MYERS, 1924; Aplocheilus chobensis FOWLER, 1935
Meristics: D 8-11, A 11-14, S 22-24
Total Length: M 35 mm, F 30 mm
Systematic Relationship: Unknown
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Chad and Chari river systems in Chad, Ubangi, Bamingui, Gribangi drainages in Central Afr. Rep., White Nile in Sudan, Uele river in Northern Zaire, Mweru, Bangweulu, Lufira drainage in southeastern Zaire, upper Zambezi, Kasai, Chobe in Zambia, Angola, Namibia, lower Shire in Malawi
Variability: Low?
Syntopic Occurrence: Unknown
Habitat: Rivers, brooks, swamps and lakes in rainforest and derived savanna
Temperatures: 24-28 °C
Biology: No experience
Maintenance and Breeding: Not yet kept alive
**Aplocheilichthys normani** AHL, 1928

**Suborder:** Cyprinodontoidei PARENTI, 1981  
**Family:** Poeciliidae GARMAN, 1895  
**Subfamily:** Aplocheilichthyinae MYERS, 1928  
**Subgenus:** *Poropanchax* CLAUSEN, 1967

**First Description:** Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. 10, 600

**Type Locality:** Kiyawa River, Fort Katagum, northern Nigeria

**Synonyms:**  
*Aplocheilichthys gambiensis* SVENSSON, 1938;  
*Aplocheilichthys manni* SCHULTZ, 1942

**Meristics:** D 6-8, A 9-11, S 24-27  
**Total Length:** M 45 mm, F 40 mm

**Systematic Relationship:**  
*A. macrophthalmus*, *A. rancureli* and *A. camerunensis* are closely related with *A. normani*

**Subspecies:** None

**Distribution:** From Senegambia to Central Africa and also in the Upper Nile system

**Variability:** Moderate

**Syntopic Occurrence:** *Aply. rancureli* (Ivory Coast), *A. bualanum* (Cameroon)

**Habitat:** Brooks and streams of the coastal savanna and in dry savanna

**Temperatures:** 23-28 °C

**Biology:** Schooling in open waters, the incubation period of eggs is about 10 days

**Maintenance and Breeding:** Easy
**Aplocheilichthys rancureli** DAGET, 1964

Suborder: Cyprinodontoidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Poeciliidae GARMAN, 1895  
Subfamily: Aplocheilichthyinae MYERS, 1928  
Subgenus: *Poropanchax* CLAUSEN, 1967  

**Type Locality:** "Ruisseau du Banco, pres d'Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire"; southern Ivory Coast

**Synonyms:** *Micropanchax rancureli* HUBER, 1981

**Meristics:** D 6-8, A 11-15, S 27-29  
**Total Length:** M 40 mm, F 30 mm

**Systematic Relationship:** Closely related to the other members of the subgenus *Poropanchax*

**Subspecies:** None

**Distribution:** Lower Comoé, Banco, Boudo, Bia Me, lower Bandama, Sassandra and Cavally river drainages in Ivory Coast and lower Tano river in Ghana

**Variability:** Low

**Syntopic Occurrence:** *Aply. normani* (partially)

**Habitat:** Brooks and rivers of the coastal plains, covered with rainforest

**Temperatures:** 24-30 °C

**Biology:** A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days

**Maintenance and Breeding:** Moderately difficult
Aplocheilichthys macrophthalmus MEINKEN, 1932

Suborder: Cyprinodontoiidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Aplocheilichthyinae MYERS, 1928
First Description: Blätter f. Aqu. u. Terr.-Kde. 43
Type Locality: Surroundings of Lagos, Nigeria
Synonyms: Fundulus luxophthalmus BRUNING, 1929; Aplocheilichthys dispar GRAS, 1960
Meristics: D 6-8, A 10-13, S 27-30
Total Length: M 30 mm, F 25 mm
Systematic Relationship: A. macrophthalmus, is the type species of the subgenus Poropanchax and closely related to A. rancureli and A. camerunensis;
Subspecies: A. m. macrophthalmus: Togo, SW Nigeria; A. m. hannerzi SCHEEL, 1968 (t.t.: SE Nigeria)
Distribution: Southern Togo to the lower Sanaga and Nyong drainages in Cameroon
Variability: High
Syntopic Occurrence: P. similis
Habitat: Brooks and streams in swampy rainforest of the coastal plains
Temperatures: 23-26 °C
Biology: A schooling open water dweller with an incubation period of about 10 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Aplocheilichthys scheeli ROMAN, 1971

Suborder: Cyprinodontoidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Poeciliidae GARMAN, 1895  
Subfamily: Aplocheilichthyinae MYERS, 1928  
Subgenus: Poropanchax CLAUSEN, 1967  

First Description: Peces de Rio Muni 178  
Type Locality: "Rio Utonde", western Equatorial Guinea  
Synonyms: A. macrophthalmus scheeli ROMAN, 1970; Micropanchax scheeli HUBER, 1981  
Meristics: D 6-10, A 10-14, S 28-30  
Total Length: M 35 mm, F 30 mm;  
Systematic Relationship: Closely related to A. macrophthalmus  
Subspecies: None  
Distribution: Lower Lobe and Kienke river systems in southwestern Cameroon, Rio Utonde and Beni drainages in Equatorial Guinea  
Variability: Low  
Syntopic Occurrence: E. sexfasciatus, A. loennbergi, A. splendopleure  
Habitat: Small rivers and brooks in the coastal rainforest  
Temperatures: 24-28 °C  
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days  
Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Aplocheilichthys camerunensis  RADDA, 1971

Suborder: Cyprinodontoidei  PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Poeciliidae  GARMAN, 1895  
Subfamily: Aplocheilichthyinae  MYERS, 1928  
Subgenus: Poropanchax  CLAUSEN, 1967

First Description: Aquaria 18, 163
Type Locality: "Lobo-Einzugsgebiet, 8 km südlich Sangmelima an der Straße nach Olounou"; southeastern Cameroon

Synonyms: None
Meristics: D 7, A 13, S 27-28  
Total Length: M and F 30 mm
Systematic Relationship: Closely related to A. macrophthalmus and A. normani
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Southern inland plateau of Cameroon and northeastern Equatorial Guinea, probably also in northern Gabon.

Variability: Low
Syntopic Occurrence: E. sangmelinensis, A. camerone, A. exiguum
Habitat: Swampy brooks and streams in the rainforest
Temperatures: 21-23 °C
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Congopanchax myersi (POLL, 1952)

Suborder: Cyprinodontoidei PARENTI, 1981
Family: Poeciliidae GARMIN, 1895
Subfamily: Aplocheilichthyinae MYERS, 1928
Subgenus: Congopanchax POLL, 1971
Type Locality: "Ile Atena, Stanley Pool, Leopoldville"; Mbamu island of the Pool Malebe near Kinshasa, Zaire

Synonyms: Aplocheilichthys myersi POLL, 1952
Meristics: D 6-7, A 10-11, S 25-26
Systematic Relationship: Closely related to A. brichardi
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Pool Malebe and other islands of the Zaire river
Variability: Low
Syntopic Occurrence: Unknown
Habitat: Shallow and weedy parts of the banks
Temperatures: 24-28 °C
Biology: Unknown
Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
**Congopanchax brichardi** POLL, 1971

Suborder: Cyprinodontoidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Poeciliidae GARMAN, 1895  
Subfamily: Aplocheilichthyinae MYERS, 1928  
Subgenus: *Congopanchax* POLL, 1971  

Type Locality: "Liyeke, bras mort de la riv. Tshuapa, route Boende-Watsi, 2 km de Boende"; central Zaire  

Synonyms: None  
Meristics: D 6, A 9-10, S 26-28  
Total Length: M and F 20 mm  
Systematic Relationship: *C. brichardi* is very closely related to *C. myersi*  
Subspecies: None  
Distribution: Central Zaire river drainage including the shore region of lake Tumba  
Variability: Low?  
Syntopic Occurrence: No references  
Habitat: Weedy parts of small rivers, brooks and swamps  
Temperatures: 24-28 °C  
Biology: Unknown  
Maintenance and Breeding: Not yet kept alive
**Procatopus similis** AHL, 1927

Suborder: Cyprinodontoidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Poeciliidae GARMAN, 1895  
Subfamily: Aplocheilichthyinae MYERS, 1928  
Subgenus: *Procatopus* BOULENGER, 1904

First Description: Sitzungsber. Ges. naturf. Fr. 79

Type Locality: Logobaba, Cameroon

Synonyms: *P. abbreviatus* PELLEGRIN, 1929; *P. glaucicaudis* CLAUSEN, 1959; *P. lacustris* TREWAVAS, 1974

Meristics: D 9-13, A 15-19, S 27-31  
Total Length: M 70 mm, F 50 mm

Systematic Relationship: Closely related to *P. nototaenia* and *P. aberrans*

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Southern Nigeria and southwestern Cameroon in the north of Lokundje river

Variability: High

Syntopic Occurrence: *Aply. macrophthalmus, E. sexfasciatus, A. volcanum, A. splendopleure*

Habitat: Streaming parts of rivers and brooks of the primary and secondary rainforest

Temperatures: 23-25 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of about 10-14 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Moderately difficult
Procatopus aberrans AHL, 1927

Suborder: Cyprinodontoidei PARENTI, 1981    Family: Poeciliidae GARMAN, 1895

First Description: Sitzungsber. Ges. Naturf. Fr. 80
Type Locality: Ossidinge, Cameroon

Synonyms: P. roseipinnis CLAUSEN, 1959; P. nigromarginatus CLAUSEN, 1959; P. gracilis CLAUSEN, 1959; P. plumosus CLAUSEN, 1959; P. andreaseni CLAUSEN, 1959

Meristics: D 8-10, A 15-17, S 27-33           Total Length: M 55 mm, F 45 mm

Systematic Relationship: Closely related to P. nototaenia and P. similis

Subspecies: None?

Distribution: Southern Nigeria and southwestern Cameroon (Benue, Niger and Cross river systems)

Variability: High

Syntopic Occurrence: A. gardneri

Habitat: Fast running brooks and streams in the rainforest and highland savanna

Temperatures: 22-24 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Procatopus nototaenia  BOULENGER, 1904

Suborder: Cyprinodontoidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Aplocheilichthyinae MYERS, 1928
Subgenus: Procatopus BOULENGER, 1904

Type Locality: Streams of the Lobi river at Batanga, southern Cameroon

Synonyms: None
Meristics: D 8-10, A 15-18, S 27-29
Total Length: M 60 mm, F 50 mm

Systematic Relationship: Together with P. similis and P. aberrans forms the genus Procatopus

Distribution: Lowlands of southwestern Cameroon in the south of the Lokundje river

Variability: Low
Syntopic Occurrence: A. macrophthalimus
Habitat: Brooks and streams of the swampland rainforest of the coastal plains
Temperatures: 23-26 °C
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of approximately 10-14 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
**Plataplochilus ngaensis** (AHL, 1924)

Suborder: Cyprinodontoidae
Family: Poeciliidae

**Genus:** Plataplochilus

**Subgenus:** Plataplochilus

First Description: Zool. Anzeiger 61, 135

Type Locality: Nga-Zuflüsse bei Attongondema, Kamerun; northwestern Gabon

**Synonyms:** Haplochilichthys ngaensis AHL, 1924; *P. chalcopyrus* LAMBERT, 1963; *P. mimus* LAMBERT, 1967; *P. cabindae* ROMAN, 1971

**Meristics:** D 8-12, A 14-18, S 28-34

Total Length: M 50 mm, F 45 mm

**Systematic Relationship:** Closely related to the other species of this genus

**Subspecies:** None

**Distribution:** Coastal plains of Equatorial Guinea and northwestern Gabon until Mouila

**Variability:** Medium

**Syntopic Occurrence:** *P. miltotaenia, A. striatum, A. microphthalmum, A. gabunense*

**Habitat:** Fast running brooks and streams in the rainforest

**Temperatures:** 22-25 °C

**Biology:** A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days

**Maintenance and Breeding:** Difficult
**Plataplochilus miltotaenia** LAMBERT, 1963

Suborder: Cyprinodontoidei PARENTI, 1981
Subfamily: Aplocheilichthyinae MYERS, 1928
Type Locality: "PK 19 de la route Lambarene-Mouila", northwestern Gabon

**Synonyms:**
- *P. pulcher* LAMBERT, 1967

**Meristics:**
- D 12-15, A 14-17, S 28-30
- Total Length: M 50 mm, F 45 mm

**Systematic Relationship:** Closely related to *P. ngaensis*, *P. loemensis*, *P. cabindae* and *P. terveri*

**Subspecies:** None

**Distribution:** Coastal plains of northwestern Gabon

**Variability:** High

**Syntopic Occurrence:** *P. ngaensis*, *A. striatum*, *A. gabunense*

**Habitat:** Fast running brooks and streams in the forest

**Temperatures:** 22-25 °C

**Biology:** A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days

**Maintenance and Breeding:** Difficult
**Plataplochilus loemensis (PELLEGRIN, 1924)**

Suborder: Cyprinodontidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Poeciliidae GARMAN, 1895  
Subfamily: Aplocheilichthyinae MYERS, 1928  
Subgenus: *Plataplochilus* AHL, 1928

First Description: Bull. Soc. Zool. France 49, 289

Type Locality: "Riv. Lombo, affluent du Loémé", southwestern Congo

Synonyms: *Haplochilus loemensis* PELLEGRIN, 1924; *Apocheilichthys micrurus* AHL, 1928

Meristics: D 11-13, A 14-15, S 28-31  
Total Length: M 45 mm, F 40 mm

Systematic Relationship: Closely related or identical with *P. ngaensis*

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Coastal plains of southwestern Gabon, Congo, Cabinda and Zaire

Variability: Low

Syntopic Occurrence: *P. cabindae* (at Gamba, southeastern Gabon), *E. berkenkampi*, *A. primigenium*

Habitat: Fast running brooks and streams of the rainforest and guinean savanna

Temperatures: 22-25 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
**Plataplochilus cabindae** (BOULENGER, 1911)

Suborder: Cyprinodontoidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Poeciliidae GARMAN, 1895  
Subfamily: Aplocheilichthyinae MYERS, 1928  
Subgenus: *Plataplochilus* AHL, 1928  

First Description: Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. 8, 264  
Type Locality: "Lucola river near Cabinda", Cabinda  

Synonyms: *Haplochilus* cabindae BOULENGER, 1911;  
Meristics: D 8-10, A 14-17, S 29-33  
Total Length: M 50 mm, F 40 mm  
Systematic Relationship: Closely related to the four other members of the genus *Plataplochilus*  
Subspecies: None  
Distribution: Coastal plains of southwestern Gabon, Congo, Cabinda and Zaire  
Variability: Low  
Syntopic Occurrence: *P. loemensis, E. berkenkampi, A. primigenium*  
Habitat: Fast running brooks and streams of the rainforest and derived savanna  
Temperatures: 22-26 °C  
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days  
Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Plataplochilus terveri  HUBER, 1981

Suborder: Cyprinodontoidae PARENTI, 1981  Family: Poeciliidae GARMAN, 1895
Subfamily: Aplocheilichthyinae MYERS, 1928  Subgenus: Plataplochilus AHL, 1928

First Description: B. K. A. Publ. 39
Type Locality: Mpassa river, upper Ogowe, southeastern Gabon
Synonyms: Haplochilus loemensis PELLEGRIN, 1930; P. cabindae LAMBERT, 1967
Meristics: D 11-12, A 18-19, S 27-28+2-4 Total Length: M 45 mm, F 35 mm
Systematic Relationship: Closely related to the other members of this genus
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Inland plateau of the southeastern Gabon
Variability: Moderate
Syntopic Occurrence: A. coeleste
Habitat: Brooks and streams in the gallery forest
Temperatures: 20-22 °C
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Hypsopanchax platysternus (NICHOLS & GRISCOM, 1917)

Suborder: Cyprinodontoidae PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Poeciliidae GARMAN, 1895
Subfamily: Aplocheilichthyinae MYERS, 1928  
Subgenus: Hypsopanchax MYERS, 1924

First Description: Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist. 37, 724
Type Locality: "Stanleyville, in a small forest brook, affluent of the Tshopo"; Kisangani in northeastern Zaire

Synonyms: Haplochilus platysternus NICHOLS & GRISCOM, 1917

Meristics: D 9-16, A 15-19, S 28-30  
Total Length: M 60 mm, F 45 mm

Systematic Relationship: Closely related to the other members of the genus Hypsopanchax

Subspecies: H. p. zebra (PELLEGRIN, 1929; t.t.: Loula, Omoi, Lebagni, Zanaga, Congo)

Distribution: Southern Congo and central to eastern part of the Zaire basin

Variability: Medium

Syntopic Occurrence: A. ogoense, A. spec. from the A. elegans group

Habitat: Clear forest rivers and brooks

Temperatures: 22-25 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Hypsopanchax catenatus  RADDA, 1981

Suborder: Cyprinodontoidi PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Poeciliidae GARMAN, 1895
Subfamily: Aplocheilichthyinae MYERS, 1928  Subgenus: Hypsopanchax MYERS, 1924
First Description: DKG-Journal 13, 1
Type Locality: “61 km von Franceville an der Straße nach Boumango, zwischen Madziba and Mboki, Provinz Ogooué”; southeastern Gabon

Synonyms: None
Meristics: D 13-14, A 16-17, S 27-29+3-4  Total Length: M 55 mm, F 40 mm
Systematic Relationship: Closely related to H. zebra and the other members of this genus
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Hitherto only known from its type locality; most probably with a restricted distribution area

Variability: Moderate
Syntopic Occurrence: A. ogoense
Habitat: Brook in the rainforest
Temperatures: 20-22 °C
Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days
Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Hypsopanchax modestus (PAPPENHEIM & BOULENGER, 1914)

Suborder: Cyprinodontoidei PARENTI, 1981
Family: Poeciliidae GARMAN, 1895
Subfamily: Aplocheilichthyinae MYERS, 1928
Subgenus: Hypsopanchax MYERS, 1924
First Description: Wiss. Erg. d. Deutschen Zentralafrika Exp. 1907/08; Zool. 3, 225-260
Type Locality: "Urwaldbach bei Beni, Nilsystem"; northeastern Zaire
Synonyms: Haplochilus modestus PAPPENHEIM & BOULENGER, 1914; H. (Hypsopanchax) deprimozzi PELLEGRIN, 1928; Haplochilichthys analis WORTHINGTON, 1932
Meristics: D 12-13, A 20-22, S 31-32+2-3 Total Length: M 50 mm, F 40 mm
Systematic Relationship: Closely related to the other members of the genus Hypsopanchax
Subspecies: None
Distribution: Shore region of lake Edward and inflowing rivers, Semliki river above the falls and upper Ituri river system in northeastern Zaire and western Uganda
Variability: Low?
Syntopic Occurrence: None
Habitat: Lakes and rivers in the rainforest
Temperatures: 22-28 °C
Biology: No experience
Maintenance and Breeding: Not yet introduced alive
**Hylopanchax stictopleuron** (FOWLER, 1949)

Suborder: Cyprinodontoidei PARENTI, 1981  
Family: Poeciliidae GARMAN, 1895  
Subfamily: Aplocheilichthyinae MYERS, 1928  
Subgenus: *Hylopanchax* POLL & LAMBERT, 1965


Type Locality: "Oka, Congo basin"; central Congo

Synonyms: *Epiplatys strictopleuron* FOWLER, 1949; *Hypsopanchax stictopleuron* POLL, 1952  
*Micropanchax stictopleuron* HUBER, 1981; *Hypsopanchax silvestris* POLL & LAMBERT, 1958; *Hylopanchax silvestris*, POLL & LAMBERT, 1965

Meristics: D 7-8, A 17, S 24-25  
Total Length: M 40 mm, F 35 mm

Systematic Relationship: *H. stictopleuron* is related to the species of the genus *Hypsopanchax*

Subspecies: None

Distribution: Upper Ivindo system in northeastern Gabon and in the upper Ivindo, Alima, Lefini, Louna, Mossaka, Sangha and Zaire river drainages in northern and central Congo; Central Zaire river system in northern and central Zaire

Variability: Low

Syntopic Occurrence: None?

Habitat: Dark and acid forest creeks in the rainforest

Temperatures: 22-25 °C

Biology: A non-annual species with an incubation period of 10-14 days

Maintenance and Breeding: Difficult
Maintenance and Breeding

With the exception of some species the maintenance and breeding of killifish from the tropical rainforests of West Africa is quite simple and without problems. If kept in a tank with the same species these fishes will exhibit their beauty best while if kept in a community tank they will mostly remain shy and retiring rarely showing their gorgeous colours.

When furnishing a tank the needs of the inhabitants should be considered. The measurements of the tanks depend upon the size of the species, number and their natural swimming ability of the species to be kept therein. Because of the more or less strong rivalry among some males of *Aphyosemion* species it is necessary to provide the tank with hiding places in the form of plants, stones or pieces of wood but sufficient space for swimming and for shoaling must be given.

As the *Epiplatys* species dwell just below the water surface they prefer a light cover of floating aquatic plants or some floating leaves of water lilies which correspond to their natural environment. A bottom layer of dark sand or peat has also proven successful. Neutral to slightly acid water of medium hardness with a temperature between 18 and 25 degrees centigrade is suitable for both maintenance and spawning.

Every kind of living food of suitable size is taken, insects and insect larvae being preferred. Shoaling fish like to take dry food from the water surface.

If you do not insist on intensive breeding you may quite easily breed the non-annual species in tanks which have plenty of floating water plants provided that the aquarium is free from Planarian. If the breeding individuals are well fed they will seldom resort to chasing fry and eating spawn. Two or three weeks after putting the breeding individuals into the tank fry can be found among the floating plants and can be taken with a spoon from the water surface. The fry are then transferred to a separate container. The fishes will spawn on water plants, peat or nylon yarn. Especially *Procatopus* and *Plataplochilus* species place their spawn in holes of roots, slits of wood and cork bark.

The spawn can be removed from the substratum and hatched in suitable containers. The newly hatched fry are then fed with *Artemia* nauplii or slipper animacule. Because of the small size of the fry it is absolutely necessary to feed some *Aplocheillichthys* species on Rotifer and slipper animacule. Within one to three weeks you can make the change over to larger types of food. Thus the young fishes will thrive and grow fairly quickly especially in good water conditions and regular feeding. Therefore, it is recommended that the water be changed as often as possible to guarantee the good quality of the water.

The annual species are bred in thanks whose bottom should be covered with a layer of peat to a depth of not less than one inch. The breeding fishes will spawn in the peat which can be removed after ten days and dried. After the embryos have developed lukewarm water (15 to 18 degrees centigrade) is poured into the peat. The fry hatch within a day and will take *Artemia* nauplii at once. Further spawning will take place as previously described.

As we have observed, the reason why the breeding of some species is more difficult than others is partly because it is not easy to produce the conditions...
which are absolutely necessary for breeding. Water conditions and quality play an essential role and it is recommended to change half the water regularly once or twice a week in order that the nitrate content be kept low. This should assure the good growth and well being of the fish. Should the nitrate level exceed the certain values the fishes are discomforted at once, take less food and become sensitive to certain diseases like *Oodinium* and tuberculosis.

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