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Checklist of the Cichlid Fishes of Lake Malawi (Lake Nyasa/Niassa)

by Michael K. Oliver, Ph.D.

Updated 1 Nov 2016; corrected 1 Dec 2016

First posted June 1999

The cichlids of Lake Malawi constitute the largest vertebrate species flock (or complex of flocks), and largest lacustrine fish fauna, on earth. This list includes all cichlid species, and the few subspecies, that have been given formal scientific names. Many – several hundred – additional endemic cichlid species are known but still undescribed, and this fact must be considered in assessing the biodiversity of the lake. Recent estimates of the total size of the lake's cichlid fauna, counting both described and known but undescribed species, range from 700–843 species (Turner et al., 2001; Snoeks, 2001; Konings, 2007); more recently Konings (2016) estimates about 1000 species. Additional undescribed species are still frequently being discovered, particularly in previously unexplored locations and in deep water.

The entire Lake Malawi cichlid metaflock is composed of two, possibly separate, endemic assemblages, the "Hap" group and the Mbuna group. Neither has been convincingly shown to be monophyletic. Membership in one or the other, or nonendemic status, is indicated in the checklist below for each genus, as is the type species of each endemic genus. The classification and synonymies are primarily based on the Catalog of Fishes with a few deviations. All synonymized genera and species should now be listed under their senior synonym.

Nearly all species are endemic to L. Malawi, in some cases extending also into the upper Shiré River including Lake Malombe and even into the middle Shiré. The nonendemic species number only four or five — *Astatotilapia calliptera, Serranochromis robustus, Oreochromis shiranus* (which is, however, represented in the Lake by an endemic subspecies), *Coptodon rendalli,* and one probably occurring species, *Pseudocrenilabrus philander philander*.

Latest changes include the addition of a new genus *Chindongo* and seven newly described species – one of *Chindongo*, two of *Maylandia* (as the synonymous *Metriaclima*), three of *Tropheops*, and one of *Cynotilapia* – all from a paper by Li, Konings, and Stauffer (2016). Further changes are newly made in line with the Catalog of Fishes, which recently (Aug. 2016) took the unusual step of revising several generic assignments based not on taxonomic publications but rather on a popular book (Konings's *Malawi Cichlids in Their Natural Habitat*, 5th edition 2016) (R. van der Laan, personal commun. Aug. 2016). Therefore, *Eclectochromis* is synonymized with *Placidochromis*; *Iodotropheus declivitas* is synonymized with *I. sprengerae* (but retained as a subspecies under the latter); *Otopharynx walteri*, previously synonymized with *O. lithobates*, is considered a subspecies of the latter; *Sciaenochromis gracilis* and *S. spilostichus* are moved to *Mylochromis*; several mbuna species are shifted to a different genus. Importantly, Catalog of Fishes continues to recognize *Maylandia* and not its junior synonym *Metriaclima* as valid, despite the contrary claims by Stauffer and Konings. The now **58 genera** and the **404 formally named species** are numbered separately; the few subspecies recognized are indented under the nominate subspecies. Newly (Oct 2016), a species in each genus is now illustrated herein. Photographs of many others of these fishes, and complete bibliographic citations of the taxonomic publications, are available on the author's Web site at MalawiCichlids.com. Thanks to George Turner for several corrections.

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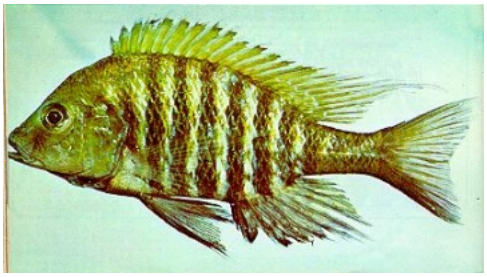
1. ***Abactochromis*** Oliver & Arnegard, 2010 — Endemic: Mbuna group

1. *Abactochromis labrosus* (Trewavas, 1935) **type species**

Abactochromis labrosus. Photo © M. K. Oliver

2. ***Alticorpus*** Stauffer & McKaye, 1988 — Endemic: "Hap" group

2. *Alticorpus geoffreyi* Snoeks & Walapa, 2004
3. *Alticorpus macrocleithrum* (Stauffer & McKaye, 1985)
4. *Alticorpus mentale* Stauffer & McKaye, 1988 **type species**
5. *Alticorpus pectinatum* Stauffer & McKaye, 1988
6. *Alticorpus peterdaviesi* (Burgess & Axelrod, 1973)
7. *Alticorpus profundicola* Stauffer & McKaye, 1988



Alticorpus peterdaviesi. Photo © H. R. Axelrod

3. ***Aristochromis*** Trewavas, 1935 — Endemic: "Hap" group

8. *Aristochromis christyi* Trewavas, 1935 **type species**

Aristochromis christyi. Photo © Frank Panis

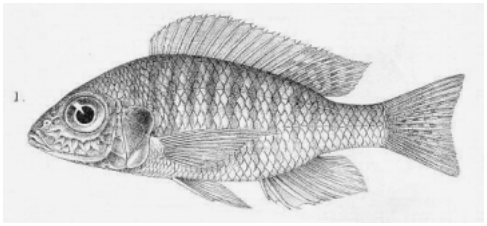
4. ***Astatotilapia*** Pellegrin, 1904 — Nonendemic

9. *Astatotilapia calliptera* (Günther**,** 1894)

Astatotilapia calliptera. Photo © M. K. Oliver

5. ***Aulonocara*** Regan, 1922 — Endemic: "Hap" group

10. *Aulonocara aquilonium* Konings, 1995
11. *Aulonocara auditor* (Trewavas, 1935)
12. *Aulonocara baenschi* Meyer & Riehl, 1985
13. *Aulonocara brevinidus* Konings, 1995
14. *Aulonocara brevirostre* (Trewavas, 1935)
15. *Aulonocara ethelwynnae* Meyer, Riehl, & Zetzsche, 1987
16. *Aulonocara gertrudae* Konings, 1995
17. *Aulonocara guentheri* Eccles, 1989
18. *Aulonocara hansbaenschi* Meyer, Riehl, & Zetzsche, 1987
19. *Aulonocara hueseri* Meyer, Riehl, & Zetzsche, 1987
20. *Aulonocara jacobfreibergi* (Johnson, 1974)
21. *Aulonocara koningsi* Tawil, 2003



Aulonocara nyassae. From Regan (1922)

22. *Aulonocara korneliae* Meyer, Riehl, & Zetzsche, 1987
23. *Aulonocara maylandi maylandi* Trewavas, 1984
24. *Aulonocara maylandi kandeensis* Tawil & Allgayer, 1987
25. *Aulonocara nyassae* Regan, 1922 **type species**
26. *Aulonocara rostratum* Trewavas, 1935 [synonym: *A. macrochir* Trewavas, 1935]
27. *Aulonocara saulosi* Meyer, Riehl, & Zetzsche, 1987
28. *Aulonocara steveni* Meyer, Riehl, & Zetzsche, 1987
29. *Aulonocara stonemani* (Burgess & Axelrod, 1973)
30. *Aulonocara stuartgranti* Meyer & Riehl, 1985
31. *Aulonocara trematocephalum* (Boulenger, 1901)

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6. *Buccochromis* Eccles & Trewavas, 1989 — Endemic: "Hap" group

32. *Buccochromis atritaeniatus* (Regan, 1922)
33. *Buccochromis heterotaenia* (Trewavas, 1935)
34. *Buccochromis lepturus* (Regan, 1922)
35. *Buccochromis nototaenia* (Boulenger, 1902) **type species**
36. *Buccochromis oculatus* (Trewavas, 1935)
37. *Buccochromis rhoadesii* (Boulenger, 1908)
38. *Buccochromis spectabilis* (Trewavas, 1935)

Buccochromis rhoadesii. Photo © M. K. Oliver

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7. *Caprichromis* Eccles & Trewavas, 1989 — Endemic: "Hap" group

39. *Caprichromis liemi* (McKaye & Mackenzie, 1982)
40. *Caprichromis orthognathus* (Trewavas, 1935) **type species**

Caprichromis orthognathus. Photo © M. K. Oliver

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8. *Champsochromis* Boulenger, 1915 — Endemic: "Hap" group

41. *Champsochromis caeruleus* (Boulenger, 1908) **type species**
42. *Champsochromis spilorhynchus* (Regan, 1922)

Champsochromis caeruleus. Photo © F. Panis

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9. *Cheilochromis* Eccles & Trewavas, 1989 — Endemic: "Hap" group

43. *Cheilochromis euchilus* (Trewavas, 1935) **type species**

Cheilochromis euchilus. Photo © M. K. Oliver

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10. *Chilotilapia* Boulenger, 1908 — Endemic: "Hap" group

44. *Chilotilapia rhoadesii* Boulenger, 1908 **type species**

Chilotilapia rhoadesii. Photo © M. K. Oliver

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11. *Chindongo* Li, Konings, & Stauffer, 2016 — Endemic: Mbuna group

45. *Chindongo ater* (Stauffer, 1988)
46. *Chindongo bellicosus* Li, Konings, & Stauffer, 2016 **type species**
47. *Chindongo cyaneus* (Stauffer, 1988)
48. *Chindongo demasoni* (Konings, 1994)
49. *Chindongo elongatus* (Fryer, 1956)
50. *Chindongo flavus* (Stauffer, 1988)
51. *Chindongo heteropictus* (Staeck, 1980)
52. *Chindongo longior* (Seegers, 1996)
53. *Chindongo minutus* (Fryer, 1956)
54. *Chindongo saulosi* (Konings, 1990)
55. *Chindongo socolofi* (Johnson, 1974)

Chindongo bellicosus. Photo © M. K. Oliver

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12. *Copadichromis* Eccles & Trewavas, 1989 — Endemic: "Hap" group

56. *Copadichromis atripinnis* Stauffer & Sato, 2002
57. *Copadichromis azureus* Konings, 1990
58. *Copadichromis borleyi* (Iles, 1960)
59. *Copadichromis chizumuluensis* Stauffer & Konings, 2006
60. *Copadichromis chrysonotus* (Boulenger, 1908)

Copadichromis chrysonotus. Photo © M.K. Oliver

61. *Copadichromis cyaneus* (Trewavas, 1935)
62. *Copadichromis cyanocephalus* Stauffer & Konings, 2006
63. *Copadichromis diplostigma* Stauffer & Konings, 2006
64. *Copadichromis geertsi* Konings, 1999
65. *Copadichromis ilesi* Konings, 1999
66. *Copadichromis insularis* Stauffer & Konings, 2006
67. *Copadichromis jacksoni* (Iles, 1960)
68. *Copadichromis likomae* (Iles, 1960)
69. *Copadichromis mbenjii* Konings, 1990
70. *Copadichromis melas* Stauffer & Konings, 2006
71. *Copadichromis mloto* (Iles, 1960)
72. *Copadichromis nkatae* (Iles, 1960)
73. *Copadichromis parvus* Stauffer & Konings, 2006
74. *Copadichromis pleurostigma* (Trewavas, 1935)
75. *Copadichromis pleurostigmoides* (Iles, 1960)
76. *Copadichromis quadrimaculatus* (Regan, 1922) **type species**
77. *Copadichromis trewavasae* Konings, 1999
78. *Copadichromis trimaculatus* (Iles, 1960)
79. *Copadichromis verduyni* Konings, 1990
80. *Copadichromis virginalis* (Iles, 1960)

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13. *Coptodon* Gervais, 1853 — Nonendemic

81. *Coptodon rendalli* (Boulenger, 1897)

Coptodon rendalli. Photo © M. K. Oliver

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14. *Corematodus* Boulenger, 1897 — Endemic: “Hap” group

82. *Corematodus shiranus* Boulenger, 1897 **type species**
83. *Corematodus taeniatus* Trewavas, 1935

Corematodus shiranus. Photo © M. K. Oliver

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15. *Ctenopharynx* Eccles & Trewavas, 1989 — Endemic: "Hap" group

84. *Ctenopharynx intermedius* (Günther, 1864) **type species**
85. *Ctenopharynx nitidus* (Trewavas, 1935)
86. *Ctenopharynx pictus* (Trewavas, 1935)

Ctenopharynx intermedius. Photo © Adele Rotherham

16. *Cyathochromis* Trewavas, 1935 — Endemic: Mbuna group

87. *Cyathochromis obliquidens* Trewavas, 1935 **type species**

Cyathochromis obliquidens. Photo © M. K. Oliver

17. *Cynotilapia* Regan, 1922 [Synonym: *Microchromis* Johnson, 1975] — Endemic: Mbuna group

88. *Cynotilapia afra* (Günther, 1894) **type species**
89. *Cynotilapia aurifrons* (Tawil, 2011)
90. *Cynotilapia axelrodi* Burgess, 1976
91. *Cynotilapia chilundu* Li, Konings, & Stauffer, 2016
92. *Cynotilapia zebroides* (Johnson, 1975)

Cynotilapia zebroides. Photo © M. K. Oliver

18. *Cyrtocara* Boulenger, 1902 — Endemic: "Hap" group

93. *Cyrtocara moorii* Boulenger, 1902 **type species**

Cyrtocara moorii. Photo © M. K. Oliver

19. *Dimidiochromis* Eccles & Trewavas, 1989 — Endemic: "Hap" group

94. *Dimidiochromis compressiceps* (Boulenger, 1908)
95. *Dimidiochromis dimidiatus* (Günther, 1864)
96. *Dimidiochromis kiwinge* (Ahl, 1926)
97. *Dimidiochromis strigatus* (Regan, 1922) **type species**

Dimidiochromis strigatus. Photo © M. K. Oliver

20. *Diplotaxodon* Trewavas, 1935 — Endemic: "Hap" group

98. *Diplotaxodon aeneus* Turner & Stauffer, 1998
99. *Diplotaxodon apogon* Turner & Stauffer, 1998
100. *Diplotaxodon argenteus* Trewavas, 1935 **type species**
101. *Diplotaxodon ecclesi* Burgess & Axelrod, 1973
102. *Diplotaxodon greenwoodi* Stauffer & McKaye, 1986
103. *Diplotaxodon limnothrissa* Turner, 1994
104. *Diplotaxodon macrops* Turner & Stauffer, 1998

Diplotaxodon argenteus. Photo © M. K. Oliver

21. *Docimodus* Boulenger, 1897 — Endemic: "Hap" group

105. *Docimodus evelynae* Eccles & Lewis, 1976
106. *Docimodus johnstoni* Boulenger, 1897 **type species**

Docimodus johnstoni. Photo © M. K. Oliver

22. *Exochochromis* Eccles & Trewavas, 1989 — Endemic: "Hap" group

107. *Exochochromis anagenys* Oliver, 1989 **type species**

Exochochromis anagenys. Photo © M. K. Oliver

23. *Fossorochromis* Eccles & Trewavas, 1989 — Endemic: "Hap" group

108. *Fossorochromis rostratus* (Boulenger, 1899) **type species** [synonym: *Haplochromis macrorhynchus* Regan, 1922]

Fossorochromis rostratus. Photo © M. K. Oliver

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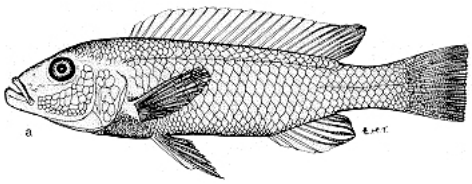
24. *Genyochromis* Trewavas, 1935 — Endemic: Mbuna group

109. *Genyochromis mento* Trewavas, 1935 **type species**



Genyochromis mento. From Ribbink et al. (1983)

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25. *Gephyrochromis* Boulenger, 1901 [Synonym: *Christyella* Trewavas, 1935] — Endemic: Mbuna group

110. *Gephyrochromis lawsi* Fryer, 1957
111. *Gephyrochromis moorii* Boulenger, 1901 **type species** [synonym: *Christyella nyasana* Trewavas, 1935]

Gephyrochromis lawsi. Photo © Ad Konings

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26. *Hemitaeniochromis* Eccles & Trewavas, 1989 — Endemic: "Hap" group

112. *Hemitaeniochromis brachyrhynchus* Oliver, 2012
113. *Hemitaeniochromis urotaenia* (Regan, 1922) **type species**

Hemitaeniochromis urotaenia.
Photo © M. K. Oliver

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27. *Hemitilapia* Boulenger, 1902 — Endemic: "Hap" group

114. *Hemitilapia oxyrhyncha* Boulenger, 1902 **type species**

Hemitilapia oxyrhyncha. Photo © M. K. Oliver

28. *Iodotropheus* Oliver & Loiselle, 1972 — Endemic: Mbuna group

115. *Iodotropheus sprengerae sprengerae* Oliver & Loiselle, 1972 **type species**
115a. *Iodotropheus sprengerae declivitas* Stauffer, 1994
116. *Iodotropheus stuartgranti* Konings, 1990

Iodotropheus sprengerae. Photo © M. K. Oliver

29. *Labeotropheus* Ahl, 1926 — Endemic: Mbuna group

117. *Labeotropheus chlorosiglos* Pauers, 2016
118. *Labeotropheus fuelleborni* Ahl, 1926 **type species** [synonym: *L. curvirostris* Ahl, 1926]
119. *Labeotropheus simoneae* Pauers, 2016
120. *Labeotropheus trewavasae* Fryer, 1956

Labeotropheus fuelleborni. Photo © M. K. Oliver

30. *Labidochromis* Trewavas, 1935 — Endemic: Mbuna group

121. *Labidochromis caeruleus* Fryer, 1956
122. *Labidochromis chisumulae* Lewis, 1982
123. *Labidochromis flavigulis* Lewis, 1982
124. *Labidochromis freibergi* Johnson, 1974
125. *Labidochromis gigas* Lewis, 1982
126. *Labidochromis heterodon* Lewis, 1982
127. *Labidochromis ianthinus* Lewis, 1982
128. *Labidochromis joanjohnsonae* Johnson, 1974 [synonym: *Melanochromis exasperatus* Burgess, 1976]
129. *Labidochromis lividus* Lewis, 1982
130. *Labidochromis maculicauda* Lewis, 1982
131. *Labidochromis mathotho* Burgess & Axelrod, 1976
132. *Labidochromis mbenjii* Lewis, 1982
133. *Labidochromis mylodon* Lewis, 1982

Labidochromis heterodon. Photo © M. K. Oliver

134. *Labidochromis pallidus* Lewis, 1982
135. *Labidochromis shiranus* Lewis, 1982
136. *Labidochromis strigatus* Lewis, 1982
137. *Labidochromis textilis* Oliver, 1975
138. *Labidochromis vellicans* Trewavas, 1935 **type species**
139. *Labidochromis zebroides* Lewis, 1982

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31. *Lethrinops* Regan, 1922 — Endemic: "Hap" group

Lethrinops mylodon. Photo © George Turner

140. *Lethrinops albus* Regan, 1922
141. *Lethrinops altus* Trewavas, 1931
142. *Lethrinops argenteus* Ahl, 1926
143. *Lethrinops auritus* (Regan, 1922)
144. *Lethrinops christyi* Trewavas, 1931
145. *Lethrinops furcifer* Trewavas, 1931
146. *Lethrinops gossei* Burgess & Axelrod, 1973
147. *Lethrinops leptodon* Regan, 1922
148. *Lethrinops lethrinus* (Günther, 1894) **type species**
149. *Lethrinops longimanus* Trewavas, 1931
150. *Lethrinops longipinnis* Eccles & Lewis, 1978
151. *Lethrinops lunaris* Trewavas, 1931
152. *Lethrinops macracanthus* Trewavas, 1931
153. *Lethrinops macrochir* (Regan, 1922)
154. *Lethrinops macrophthalmus* (Boulenger, 1908)
155. *Lethrinops marginatus* Ahl, 1926
156. *Lethrinops micrentodon* (Regan, 1922)
157. *Lethrinops microdon* Eccles & Lewis, 1977
158. *Lethrinops microstoma* Trewavas, 1931
159. *Lethrinops mylodon mylodon* Eccles & Lewis, 1979
159a. *Lethrinops mylodon borealis* Eccles & Lewis, 1979
160. *Lethrinops oculatus* Trewavas, 1931
161. *Lethrinops parvidens* Trewavas, 1931
162. *Lethrinops stridei* Eccles & Lewis, 1977
163. *Lethrinops turneri* Ngatunga & Snoeks, 2003

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32. *Lichnochromis* Trewavas, 1935 — Endemic: "Hap" group

Lichnochromis acuticeps. Photo © M. K. Oliver

164. *Lichnochromis acuticeps* Trewavas, 1935 **type species**

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33. ***Maylandia*** Meyer & Foerster, 1984 [Synonym: *Metriaclima* Stauffer, Bowers, Kellogg, & McKaye (1997); see the Catalog of Fishes. Originally proposed as a subgenus of *Pseudotropheus*. Gender of *Metriaclima* is neuter but that of *Maylandia* is feminine, hence the different endings of adjectival species names originally described under the former genus name.] — Endemic: Mbuna group

Maylandia zebra. From Ribbink et al. (1983)

165. *Maylandia aurora* (Burgess, 1976)
166. *Maylandia barlowi* (McKaye & Stauffer, 1986)
167. *Maylandia benetos* (Stauffer, Bowers, Kellogg, & McKaye, 1997)
168. *Maylandia callainos* (Stauffer & Hert, 1992)
169. *Maylandia chrysomallos* (Stauffer, Bowers, Kellogg, & McKaye, 1997)
170. *Maylandia cyneusmarginata* (Stauffer, Bowers, Kellogg, & McKaye, 1997)
171. *Maylandia emmiltos* (Stauffer, Bowers, Kellogg, & McKaye, 1997)
172. *Maylandia estherae* (Konings, 1995)
173. *Maylandia fainzilberi* (Staeck, 1976)
174. *Maylandia flavicauda* (Li, Konings, & Stauffer, 2016)
175. *Maylandia flavifemina* (Konings & Stauffer, 2006)
176. *Maylandia glaucos* (Ciccotto, Konings, & Stauffer, 2011)
177. *Maylandia greshakei* (Meyer & Foerster, 1984) **type species**
178. *Maylandia hajomaylandi* (Meyer & Schartl, 1984)
179. *Maylandia lombardoi* (Burgess, 1977)
180. *Maylandia lundoensis* (Stauffer, Black, & Konings, 2013)
181. *Maylandia mbenjii* (Stauffer, Bowers, Kellogg, & McKaye, 1997)
182. *Maylandia midomo* (Stauffer, Black, & Konings, 2013)
183. *Maylandia mossambica* (Ciccotto, Konings, & Stauffer, 2011)
184. *Maylandia nigrodorsalis* (Stauffer, Black, & Konings, 2013)
185. *Maylandia nkhunguensis* (Ciccotto, Konings, & Stauffer, 2011)
186. *Maylandia pambazuko* (Stauffer, Black, & Konings, 2013)
187. *Maylandia phaeos* (Stauffer, Bowers, Kellogg, & McKaye, 1997)
188. *Maylandia pulpican* (Tawil, 2002)
189. *Maylandia pura* (Stauffer, 1991)
190. *Maylandia pyrsonotos* (Stauffer, Bowers, Kellogg, & McKaye, 1997) [synonym: *M. sandaracinos* (Stauffer, Bowers, Kellogg, & McKaye, 1997)]
191. *Maylandia sciasma* (Ciccotto, Konings, & Stauffer, 2011)
192. *Maylandia tarakiki* (Stauffer, Black, & Konings, 2013)
193. *Maylandia thapsinogen* (Stauffer, Bowers, Kellogg, & McKaye, 1997)
194. *Maylandia usisyae* (Li, Konings, & Stauffer, 2016)
195. *Maylandia xanstomachus* (Stauffer & Boltz, 1989)
196. *Maylandia xanthos* (Ciccotto, Konings, & Stauffer, 2011)
197. *Maylandia zebra* (Boulenger, 1899) [synonym: *M. melabranchion* (Stauffer, Bowers, Kellogg, & McKaye, 1997)]

34. ***Mchenga*** Stauffer & Konings, 2006 — Endemic: "Hap" group

198. *Mchenga conophoros* (Stauffer, LoVullo, & McKaye, 1993)
199. *Mchenga cyclicos* (Stauffer, LoVullo, & McKaye, 1993) **type species**
200. *Mchenga eucinostomus* (Regan, 1922)
201. *Mchenga flavimanus* (Iles, 1960)
202. *Mchenga inornata* (Boulenger, 1908)
203. *Mchenga thinos* (Stauffer, LoVullo, & McKaye, 1993)

Mchenga conophoros. Photo © M. K. Oliver

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35. ***Melanochromis*** Trewavas, 1935 — Endemic: Mbuna group (included species after Konings & Stauffer, 2012)

204. *Melanochromis auratus* (Boulenger, 1897)
205. *Melanochromis baliodigma* Bowers & Stauffer, 1997 [synonym: *M. xanthodigma* Bowers & Stauffer, 1997]
206. *Melanochromis chipokae* Johnson, 1975
207. *Melanochromis dialeptos* Bowers & Stauffer, 1997
208. *Melanochromis heterochromis* Bowers & Stauffer, 1993
209. *Melanochromis kaskazini* Konings-Dudin, Konings, & Stauffer, 2009
210. *Melanochromis lepidiadaptes* Bowers & Stauffer, 1997
211. *Melanochromis loriae* Johnson, 1975 [synonym: *M. parallelus* Burgess & Axelrod, 1976]
212. *Melanochromis melanopterus* Trewavas, 1935 **type species** [synonym: *Melanochromis mellitus* Johnson, 1976]
213. *Melanochromis mossambiquensis* Konings-Dudin, Konings, & Stauffer, 2009
214. *Melanochromis mpoto* Konings & Stauffer, 2012
215. *Melanochromis robustus* Johnson, 1986
216. *Melanochromis simulans* Eccles, 1973
217. *Melanochromis vermivorus* Trewavas, 1935
218. *Melanochromis wochepa* Konings-Dudin, Konings, & Stauffer, 2009

Melanochromis auratus. Photo © M. K. Oliver

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36. ***Mylochromis*** Regan, 1922 [Synonyms: *Maravichromis* Eccles & Trewavas, 1989; *Platygnathochromis* Eccles & Trewavas, 1989] — Endemic: "Hap" group

219. *Mylochromis anaphyrmus* (Burgess & Axelrod, 1973)
220. *Mylochromis balteatus* (Trewavas, 1935)
221. *Mylochromis chekopae* Turner & Howarth, 2001
222. *Mylochromis ensatus* Turner & Howarth, 2001
223. *Mylochromis epichorialis* (Trewavas, 1935)
224. *Mylochromis ericotaenia* (Regan, 1922)
225. *Mylochromis formosus* (Trewavas, 1935)
226. *Mylochromis gracilis* (Trewavas, 1935)

Mylochromis lateristriga. Photo © M. K. Oliver

227. *Mylochromis guentheri* (Regan, 1922)
228. *Mylochromis incola* (Trewavas, 1935)
229. *Mylochromis labidodon* (Trewavas, 1935)
230. *Mylochromis lateristriga* (Günther, 1864) **type species**
231. *Mylochromis melanonotus* (Regan, 1922)
232. *Mylochromis melanotaenia* (Regan, 1922)
233. *Mylochromis mola* (Trewavas, 1935)
234. *Mylochromis mollis* (Trewavas, 1935)
235. *Mylochromis obtusus* (Trewavas, 1935)
236. *Mylochromis plagiotaenia* (Regan, 1922)
237. *Mylochromis semipalatus* (Trewavas, 1935)
238. *Mylochromis sphaerodon* (Regan, 1922)
239. *Mylochromis spilostichus* (Trewavas, 1935)

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37. *Naevochromis* Eccles & Trewavas, 1989 — Endemic: "Hap" group

240. *Naevochromis chrysogaster* (Trewavas, 1935) **type species**

Naevochromis chrysogaster. Photo © M.K. Oliver

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38. *Nimbochromis* Eccles & Trewavas, 1989 — Endemic: "Hap" group

241. *Nimbochromis fuscotaeniatus* (Regan, 1922)
242. *Nimbochromis linni* (Burgess & Axelrod, 1974)
243. *Nimbochromis livingstonii* (Günther, 1894) **type species**
244. *Nimbochromis polystigma* (Regan, 1922) [synonyms: *N. maculimanus* (Regan, 1922); *N. pardalis* (Trewavas, 1935)]
245. *Nimbochromis venustus* (Boulenger, 1908) [synonym: *Haplochromis simulans* Regan, 1922]

Nimbochromis livingstonii. Photo © M. K. Oliver

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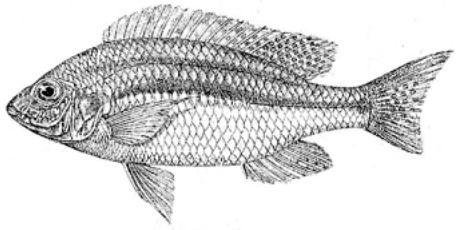
39. *Nyassachromis* Eccles & Trewavas, 1989 — Endemic: "Hap" group

246. *Nyassachromis boadzulu* (Iles, 1960)
247. *Nyassachromis breviceps* (Regan, 1922) **type species**
248. *Nyassachromis leuciscus* (Regan, 1922)
249. *Nyassachromis microcephalus* (Trewavas, 1935)
250. *Nyassachromis nigritaeniatus* (Trewavas, 1935)
251. *Nyassachromis prostoma* (Trewavas, 1935)



Nyassachromis breviceps. From Regan (1922)

252. *Nyassachromis purpurans* (Trewavas, 1935)
253. *Nyassachromis serenus* (Trewavas, 1935)

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40. *Oreochromis* Günther, 1889 — Nonendemic. [Except for *O. shiranus*, all L. Malawi species have been placed in the subgenus *Nyasalapia*, which also includes species not found in L. Malawi]

254. *Oreochromis* (*Nyasalapia*) *karongae* (Trewavas, 1941) [synonym: *Oreochromis saka* (Lowe, 1953)] — Endemic species
255. *Oreochromis* (*Nyasalapia*) *lidole* (Trewavas, 1941) — Endemic species, except also occurs in the crater lakes L. Kingiri and L. Chungruru in the Rungwe Mtns. in Tanzania some 50 km north of L. Malawi
256. *Oreochromis* (*Nyasalapia*) *squamipinnis* (Günther, 1864) — Endemic species

Oreochromis cf. *squamipinnis.* Photo © M.K. Oliver

257. *Oreochromis* (*Oreochromis*) *shiranus shiranus* Boulenger, 1897 — Endemic subspecies of a nonendemic species. *O. shiranus* is composed of two subspecies: *O. s. shiranus*, endemic to the Lake Malawi basin (including inflowing rivers and the upper Shiré River), and *O. s. chilwae*, endemic to Lakes Chilwa and Chiuta.

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41. *Otopharynx* Regan, 1920 — Endemic: "Hap" group

258. *Otopharynx antron* Cleaver, Konings, & Stauffer, 2009
259. *Otopharynx argyrosoma* (Regan, 1922)
260. *Otopharynx auromarginatus* (Boulenger, 1908) **type species**
261. *Otopharynx brooksi* Oliver, 1989
262. *Otopharynx decorus* (Trewavas, 1935)
263. *Otopharynx heterodon* (Trewavas, 1935)
264. *Otopharynx lithobates lithobates* Oliver, 1989
264a. *Otopharynx lithobates walteri* Konings, 1990
265. *Otopharynx ovatus* (Trewavas, 1935)
266. *Otopharynx pachycheilus* Arnegard & Snoeks, 2001
267. *Otopharynx selenurus* Regan, 1922
268. *Otopharynx speciosus* (Trewavas, 1935)
269. *Otopharynx spelaeotes* Cleaver, Konings, & Stauffer, 2009
270. *Otopharynx tetraspilus* (Trewavas, 1935)
271. *Otopharynx tetrastigma* (Günther, 1894)

Otopharynx auromarginatus. Photo © Ad Konings

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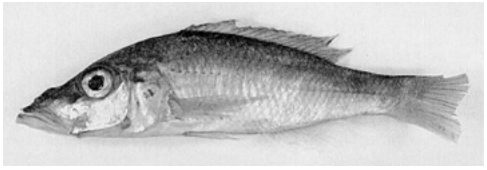
42. *Pallidochromis* Turner, 1994 — Endemic: "Hap" group

272. *Pallidochromis tokolosh* Turner, 1994 **type species**



Pallidochromis tokolosh. Photo © George Turner

43. *Petrotilapia* Trewavas, 1935 — Endemic: Mbuna group

273. *Petrotilapia chrysos* Stauffer & van Snik, 1996
274. *Petrotilapia flaviventris* Lundeba, Stauffer, & Konings, 2011
275. *Petrotilapia genalutea* Marsh, 1983
276. *Petrotilapia microgalana* Ruffing, Lambert, & Stauffer, 2006
277. *Petrotilapia mumboensis* Lundeba, Stauffer, & Konings, 2011
278. *Petrotilapia nigra* Marsh, 1983
279. *Petrotilapia palingnathos* Lundeba, Stauffer, & Konings, 2011
280. *Petrotilapia pyroscelos* Lundeba, Stauffer, & Konings, 2011
281. *Petrotilapia tridentiger* Trewavas, 1935 **type species**
282. *Petrotilapia xanthos* Lundeba, Stauffer, & Konings, 2011

Petrotilapia tridentiger. Photo © M. K. Oliver

44. *Placidochromis* Eccles & Trewavas, 1989 [synonym: *Eclectochromis* Eccles & Trewavas, 1989] — Endemic: "Hap" group

283. *Placidochromis acuticeps* Hanssens, 2004
284. *Placidochromis acutirostris* Hanssens, 2004
285. *Placidochromis argyrogaster* Hanssens, 2004
286. *Placidochromis boops* Hanssens, 2004
287. *Placidochromis borealis* Hanssens, 2004
288. *Placidochromis chilolae* Hanssens, 2004
289. *Placidochromis communis* Hanssens, 2004
290. *Placidochromis domirae* Hanssens, 2004
291. *Placidochromis ecclesi* Hanssens, 2004
292. *Placidochromis electra* (Burgess, 1979)
293. *Placidochromis elongatus* Hanssens, 2004
294. *Placidochromis fuscus* Hanssens, 2004
295. *Placidochromis hennydaviesae* (Burgess & Axelrod, 1973)
296. *Placidochromis intermedius* Hanssens, 2004
297. *Placidochromis johnstoni* (Günther, 1894) [synonym: *Haplochromis sexfasciatus* Regan, 1922]
298. *Placidochromis koningsi* Hanssens, 2004
299. *Placidochromis lineatus* Hanssens, 2004
300. *Placidochromis lobochilus* (Trewavas, 1935)
301. *Placidochromis longimanus* (Trewavas, 1935) **type species**

Placidochromis macrognathus. Photo © M.K. Oliver

302. *Placidochromis longirostris* Hanssens, 2004
303. *Placidochromis longus* Hanssens, 2004
304. *Placidochromis lukomae* Hanssens, 2004
305. *Placidochromis macroceps* Hanssens, 2004
306. *Placidochromis macrognathus* Hanssens, 2004
307. *Placidochromis mbunoides* Hanssens, 2004
308. *Placidochromis milomo* Oliver, 1989
309. *Placidochromis minor* Hanssens, 2004
310. *Placidochromis minutus* Hanssens, 2004
311. *Placidochromis msakae* Hanssens, 2004
312. *Placidochromis nigribarbis* Hanssens, 2004
313. *Placidochromis nkhatae* Hanssens, 2004
314. *Placidochromis nkhotakotae* Hanssens, 2004
315. *Placidochromis obscurus* Hanssens, 2004
316. *Placidochromis ordinarius* Hanssens, 2004
317. *Placidochromis ornatus* (Regan, 1922) [synonym: *E. festivus* (Trewavas, 1935)]
318. *Placidochromis orthognathus* Hanssens, 2004
319. *Placidochromis pallidus* Hanssens, 2004
320. *Placidochromis phenochilus* (Trewavas, 1935)
321. *Placidochromis platyrhynchos* Hanssens, 2004
322. *Placidochromis polli* (Burgess & Axelrod, 1973)
323. *Placidochromis rotundifrons* Hanssens, 2004
324. *Placidochromis subocularis* (Günther, 1894)
325. *Placidochromis trewavasae* Hanssens, 2004
326. *Placidochromis turneri* Hanssens, 2004
327. *Placidochromis vulgaris* Hanssens, 2004

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45. ***Protomelas*** Eccles & Trewavas, 1989 [Synonym: *Eclectochromis* Eccles & Trewavas, 1989] — Endemic: "Hap" group

328. *Protomelas annectens* (Regan, 1922)
329. *Protomelas dejunctus* Stauffer, 1993
330. *Protomelas fenestratus* (Trewavas, 1935)
331. *Protomelas insignis* (Trewavas, 1935)
332. *Protomelas kirkii* (Günther, 1894) **type species**
333. *Protomelas labridens* (Trewavas, 1935)
334. *Eclectochromis lobochilus* (Trewavas, 1935)
335. *Protomelas macrodon* Eccles, 1989
336. *Protomelas marginatus marginatus* (Trewavas, 1935)

Protomelas kirkii. Photo © George Turner

336a. *Protomelas marginatus vuae* (Trewavas, 1935)
337. *Protomelas ornatus* (Regan, 1922) [synonym: *E. festivus* (Trewavas, 1935)]
338. *Protomelas pleurotaenia* (Boulenger, 1901) [synonym: *Haplochromis microstoma* Regan, 1922]
339. *Protomelas similis* (Regan, 1922)

340. *Protomelas spilonotus* (Trewavas, 1935)
341. *Protomelas spilopterus* (Trewavas, 1935)
342. *Protomelas taeniolatus* (Trewavas, 1935) [synonym: *Haplochromis cancellus* Greenwood, 1963]
343. *Protomelas triaenodon* (Trewavas, 1935)
344. *Protomelas virgatus* (Trewavas, 1935)

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46. *Pseudocrenilabrus* Fowler, 1934 — Nonendemic

Note: This genus and species is listed as occurring in L. Malawi by CLOFFA, *Checklist of the Freshwater Fishes of Africa* (1991, Vol. IV: 396). No literature or specimen citation was provided in support of this listing. However, FishBase states that it occurs in "…lagoons and rivers associated with Lake Malawi, but not the lake itself," citing Snoeks & Hanssens (2004). The occurrence of this species in Lake Malawi is doubtful and should be substantiated by a museum specimen. It has, however, been collected from a swampy lakeside backwater, Kampambe Lagoon, at Nkhota Kota, Malawi (Jackson, 1961).

345. *Pseudocrenilabrus philander philander* (Weber, 1897)

Pseudocrenilabrus philander philander. Photo © George Turner

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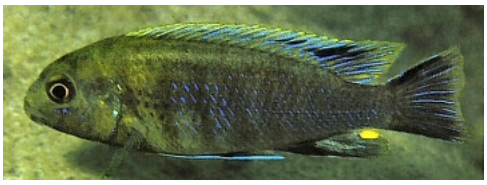
47. *Pseudotropheus* Regan, 1922 — Endemic: Mbuna group.

Note: Many additional species were formerly placed in *Pseudotropheus* within two groups originally proposed as subgenera, *Maylandia* and *Tropheops*, both now recognized as full genera (which see). Other species formerly in *Pseudotropheus* have been removed to a new genus *Chindongo*.

346. *Pseudotropheus benetos* (Bowers & Stauffer, 1997)
347. *Pseudotropheus brevis* (Trewavas, 1935)
348. *Pseudotropheus crabro* (Ribbink & Lewis, 1982)
349. *Pseudotropheus cyaneorhabdos* (Bowers & Stauffer, 1997)
350. *Pseudotropheus elegans* Trewavas, 1935
351. *Pseudotropheus fuscus* Trewavas, 1935 [synonym: *Pseudotropheus fuscoides* Fryer, 1956]
352. *Pseudotropheus galanos* Stauffer & Kellogg, 2002
353. *Pseudotropheus interruptus* (Johnson, 1975) [synonym: *Melanochromis elastodema* Bowers & Stauffer, 1997]
354. *Pseudotropheus johannii* Eccles, 1973
355. *Pseudotropheus lanisticola* Burgess, 1976
356. *Pseudotropheus livingstonii* (Boulenger, 1899)
357. *Pseudotropheus lucerna* Trewavas, 1935
358. *Pseudotropheus perileucos* (Bowers & Stauffer, 1997)
359. *Pseudotropheus perspicax* (Trewavas, 1935)
360. *Pseudotropheus purpuratus* Johnson, 1976



Pseudotropheus lucerna. Photo © Ad Konings

361. *Pseudotropheus tursiops* Burgess & Axelrod, 1975
362. *Pseudotropheus williamsi* (Günther, 1894) **type species**

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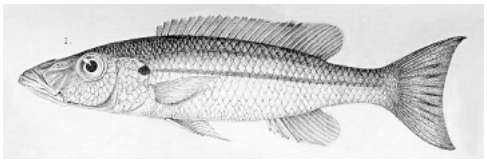
48. *Rhamphochromis* Regan, 1922 — Endemic: "Hap" group

363. *Rhamphochromis esox* (Boulenger, 1908) [synonyms: *R. leptosoma* Regan, 1922; *R. melanotus* Ahl, 1926]
364. *Rhamphochromis ferox* Regan, 1922
365. *Rhamphochromis longiceps* (Günther, 1864) **type species**
366. *Rhamphochromis macrophthalmus* Regan, 1922
367. *Rhamphochromis woodi* Regan, 1922 [synonyms: *R. brevis* Trewavas, 1935; *R. lucius* Ahl, 1926]



Rhamphochromis macrophthalmus. From Regan (1922)

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49. *Sciaenochromis* Eccles & Trewavas, 1989 — Endemic: "Hap" group

368. *Sciaenochromis ahli* (Trewavas, 1935) **type species** [synonym: *Haplochromis serranoides* Ahl, 1926]
369. *Sciaenochromis benthicola* Konings, 1993
370. *Sciaenochromis fryeri* Konings, 1993
371. *Sciaenochromis psammophilus* Konings, 1993

Sciaenochromis fryeri. Photo © Paul V. Loiselle

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50. *Serranochromis* Regan, 1920 — Nonendemic

372. *Serranochromis robustus robustus* (Günther**,** 1864)

Serranochromis robustus. Photo © M.K. Oliver

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51. *Stigmatochromis* Eccles & Trewavas, 1989 — Endemic: "Hap" group

373. *Stigmatochromis macrorhynchos* Stauffer, Cleaver-Yoder, & Konings, 2011
374. *Stigmatochromis melanchros* Stauffer, Cleaver-Yoder, & Konings, 2011
375. *Stigmatochromis modestus* (Günther, 1894)
376. *Stigmatochromis pholidophorus* (Trewavas, 1935)
377. *Stigmatochromis pleurospilus* (Trewavas, 1935)
378. *Stigmatochromis woodi* (Regan, 1922) **type species**

Stigmatochromis woodi. Photo © M.K. Oliver

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52. *Taeniochromis* Eccles & Trewavas, 1989 — Endemic: "Hap" group

379. *Taeniochromis holotaenia* (Regan, 1922) **type species** [synonym: *Haplochromis bodyi* Ahl, 1926]

Taeniochromis holotaenia. Photo © Mark Smith

53. *Taeniolethrinops* Eccles & Trewavas, 1989 — Endemic: "Hap" group

380. *Taeniolethrinops cyrtonotus* (Trewavas, 1931)
381. *Taeniolethrinops furcicauda* (Trewavas, 1931)
382. *Taeniolethrinops laticeps* (Trewavas, 1931)
383. *Taeniolethrinops praeorbitalis* (Regan, 1922) **type species** [synonyms: *Lethrinops fasciatus* Ahl, 1926; *L. macrorhynchus* Regan, 1922]

Taeniolethrinops praeorbitalis. Photo © M.K. Oliver

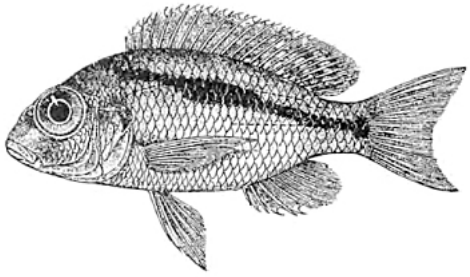
54. *Tilapia* Smith, 1840 — Nonendemic

384. *Tilapia sparrmanii* Smith, 1840 **type species** [Note: G. Bell-Cross (*The Fishes of Rhodesia*. National Museums and Monuments of Rhodesia, Salisbury, 1976: 236) reported this tilapia to occur in L. Malawi and the same statement was repeated by Bell-Cross and J. L. Minshull in the revised edition of the same book (*The Fishes of Zimbabwe*. National Museums and Monuments of Zimbabwe, Harare, 1988: 271). B. Marshall (*The Fishes of Zimbabwe and their Biology*. *Smithiana* Monograph 3, 2011: 235) also states that it occurs in Lake Malawi and includes a dot for it just below the lake's southeast arm in the distribution map. No supporting details or literature citation are provided in any of these books. However, I was finally persuaded that **this species should be listed as part of the Lake Malawi fauna** by an email from Denis Tweddle (pers. commun. 27-Feb-2012); Denis wrote that "I have never seen it in the lake itself but it occurs right on the edge and must occasionally get into the lake. It is abundant (or at least was in 1976) around the gabions of the bridge over the entrance to Chia Lagoon and that could be regarded as an inlet of the lake." I agree; the road bridge over the Chia Lagoon inlet (which I have also driven over) is only 600 m from Lake Malawi proper, as can be measured in Google Earth. The channel between the lagoon and the lake proper appears quite uniform; *T. sparrmanii* would be expected to occur along its entire length.]

Tilapia sparrmanii from Lake Chilingali. Photo © George Turner

55. *Tramitichromis* Eccles & Trewavas, 1989 — Endemic: "Hap" group

385. *Tramitichromis brevis* (Boulenger, 1908) **type species**
386. *Tramitichromis intermedius* (Trewavas, 1935)
387. *Tramitichromis lituris* (Trewavas, 1931)
388. *Tramitichromis trilineatus* (Trewavas, 1931)
389. *Tramitichromis variabilis* (Trewavas, 1931)



Tramitichromis brevis. From Boulenger (1915)

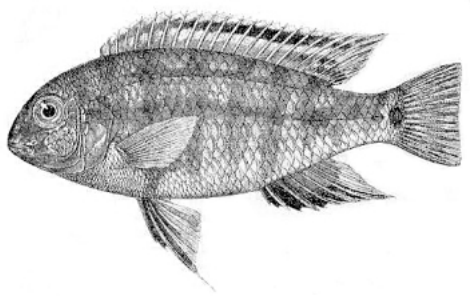
56. *Trematocranus* Trewavas, 1935 — Endemic: "Hap" group

390. *Trematocranus labifer* (Trewavas, 1935)
391. *Trematocranus microstoma* Trewavas, 1935 **type species**
392. *Trematocranus placodon* (Regan, 1922)

Trematocranus placodon. Photo © M.K. Oliver

57. *Tropheops* Trewavas, 1984 — Endemic: Mbuna group **[**Note: Originally proposed as a subgenus of *Pseudotropheus*]

393. *Tropheops biriwira* Li, Konings, & Stauffer, 2016
394. *Tropheops gracilior* (Trewavas, 1935)
395. *Tropheops kamtambo* Li, Konings, & Stauffer, 2016
396. *Tropheops kumwera* Li, Konings, & Stauffer, 2016
397. *Tropheops macrophthalmus* (Ahl, 1926)
398. *Tropheops microstoma* (Trewavas, 1935)
399. *Tropheops modestus* (Johnson, 1974)
400. *Tropheops novemfasciatus* (Regan, 1922)
401. *Tropheops romandi* (Colombe, 1979)
402. *Tropheops tropheops* (Regan, 1922) **type species**



Tropheops tropheops. From Regan (1922)

58. *Tyrannochromis* Eccles & Trewavas, 1989 — Endemic: "Hap" group

403. *Tyrannochromis macrostoma* (Regan, 1922) **type species**
[synonyms: *T. maculiceps* (Ahl, 1926); *T. polyodon* (Trewavas, 1935)]
404. *Tyrannochromis nigriventer* Eccles, 1989

Tyrannochromis macrostoma. Photo © M.K. Oliver