

Rec. zool. Surv. India, 95 (3-4) : 129-146, 1996

ON THE FISH COLLECTIONS FROM KERALA, DEPOSITED IN SOUTHERN
REGIONAL STATION, ZOOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA
BY NRM STOCKHOLM

K. REMA DEVI, T. J. INDRA AND K. G. EMILIYAMMA

Zoological Survey of India
Southern Regional Station
Madras 600 028.

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the request of the Department of Environment, the Scientists of the Swedish Museum Natural History, Erick Ahlander and Suzanne Wejland, working in collaboration with Dr. K. C. Jayaram, then Emeritus Scientist, S. R. S., deposited representative samples of their collections in S. R. S. in two lots made from different parts of Kerala during December, 1987 and March-April, 1990. The areas surveyed include Vembanad Lake, Meenachil River ; Kumarakom and Padiramanal in Kottayam District ; Peermad, and Kallar, Pambar and Deyiyar Rivers in Idukki District ; Achenkoil River in Pattanamthitta and Attingal and Kallar Rivers and Connemara fish market in Trivandrum.

The collections comprise 1018 specimens belonging to 56 species included under 37 genera, 22 families and 9 orders. The systematic list of the species is provided here following Menon (1993). Under each species is included the material examined (including number of specimens, length range, registration number and locality and distribution). The present collections are from southern ranges of the Western Ghats. In his comprehensive check list of the fishes of India Menon (1993) listed 188 species from Western Ghats of which 108 species are endemic to this region.

SYSTEMATIC ACCOUNT

Order : CLUPEIFORMES
 Family : CLUPEIDAE
 Subfamily : PELLONULINAE

1. *Dayella malabarica* (Day)

4 exs., 40.0-60.0 mm SL, F. 3399, 18.4.90, Vembanad lake at fish landing Kumarakam Dec. 87, ditch near Kottayam Rly. Stn.

Distribution : South Western India.

Order : CYPRINIFORMES
 Family : CYPRINIDAE
 Subfamily : CULTRINAE

2. *Chela dadyburjori* (Menon)

2 exs., 20.0 & 20.5 mm. SL, F. 3493, 22.3.90, Meenachil River, 1 Km. from Kottayam Railway Station.

Distribution : India : West Coast : Nagercoil to Goa.

3. *Salmostoma boopis* (Day)

1 ex., 87.0 mm, F. 3444, 4. 4.90, Pambar River at border of Chinnar Sanctuary, Idukki ; 12 exs., 13.00-35.0, F. 3481, 28.3.90, Pamba drainage, Kallar river at Vadasserikara bridge, Idukki.

Distribution : Peninsular India : Western Ghats : Karnataka South Canara and Maharashtra & Kerala.

Subfamily : RASBORINAE

4. *Amblypharyngodon melettinus* (Valenciennes)

1 ex., 64.0 mm, F. 3397, 18.4.90, Vembanad lake, from fish landing at

Kumarakom, Kottayam ; 1 ex., 58.0 mm, F. 1253, 6.12.87, Minachil River, N. W. Kottayam.

Distribution : India : Bombay along the west face of Western Ghats to Manavala-kurichi, Kanyakumari Dist., Tamilnadu. Sri Lanka.

5. *Barilius bendelisis* (Hamilton-Buchanan)

70 exs., (54 juveniles), 13.0-59.0 mm, F. 3445, 4.4.90, Pambar river at border of Chinnar sanctuary. Body with 7-10 vertical bands on sides.

Distribution : Throughout India. Pakistan. Nepal and Bangladesh.

6. *Barilius gatensis* (Valenciennes)

84 exs., 19.0-27.0 mm, F. 3426, 10.4.90, Attingal drainage, Kallar river ; 39 exs., 34.00-72.00 mm, F. 3438, 4.4.90, Pambar river at border of Chinnar Sanctuary ; 3 exs., 11.0-15.0, 21.3.90, Meenachil river system, Meenamthara, Kottayam.

Distribution : Peninsular India : Western Ghats, Southern Karnataka, Tamilnadu (Nilgiri Hills) and Kerala.

7. *Danio malabaricus* (Jerdon)

1 ex., 35.0 mm, F. 1250, 9.12.87, stagnant canal adjacent to Minachil river near Kottayam ; 3 exs., 46.0-60.0 mm, F. 3430, 24.3.90, a ditch near Kottayam Rly. Stn. ; 1 ex., 62.0 mm, F. 3421, 25.3.90, Achankoil River, Pathanamthitta ; 7 exs., 27.0-61.0 mm, F. 3489, 26.3.90, Achenkoil River ; 8 exs., 22.0-52.0 mm, F. 3484, 28.3.90, Pambar drainage, Kallar River ; 48 exs., 18.0-65.0, F. 3457, 3.4.90, Karimutty River, Mayoor : 19.0-79.0 mm, F. 3439, 4.4.90, Pambar River at border of Chinnar Sanctuary, 8 exs., 28.0-61.0 mm, F. 3429, 10.4.90, Attingal drainage creek, a tributary of Kallar River ; 2 exs., 17.0-36.0 mm., 12.4.90, Attingal drainage.

Distribution : India : Peninsular India : From headwaters of Krishna river in Maharashtra to Kerala. Sri Lanka.

8. *Horadandia atukorali* Deraniyagala.

3 exs., 13.8-14.0 mm. 17.4.90, Vembanad Lake, artificial lake at Kumarakom tourist complex ; 8 exs., 12.0-14.0 mm, 18.14.90, Vembanad Lake (Padiramnal Island) ; 141 exs., 12.0-17.0 mm, F. 3491, 24.3.90, ditch near paddy field, 3 km. from Kumarakom.

Remarks : Menon (1993) has synonymised *H. atukorali brittani* Rema Devi & Menon with *H. atukorali* Deraniyagala.

Distribution : India : Kerala. Sri Lanka.

9. *Parluciosoma daniconius* (Hamilton-Buchanan)

1 ex., 60.0 mm., F. 1252, 5.12.87, Minachil River and rivelet, N. W. Kottayam ; 7 exs., 56.0-71.0 mm, F. 3432, 24.3.90 a ditch near Kottayam Rly. Stn ; 3 exs. , 56.0-57.0 mm, F. 3419, 25.3.90, Achenkoil River, Pathanamthitta, near valamchizhi temple ; 1 ex., 77.0 mm ; F. 3486, 26.3.90, Achenkoil River ; 4 exs., 30.0-48.0 mm, F. 3482, 28.3.90, Pamba drainage, Kallar River at Vadasserri Kara Bridge ; 1 ex., 25.0 mm., 4.4.90, Pambar River at border of Chinnar Sanctuary ; 5 exs., 59.0-74.0 mm., F. 3434, 6.4.90, Mannam-bandam at Deviyar ; 1 ex., 36.0 mm., 10.4.90, Attingal drainage, Kallar River and 27 exs., 64.0-77.0 mm, F. 3469, Attingal drainage, creek, Kallar River.

Distribution : Throughout India. Sri Lanka. Pakistan. Nepal. Bangladesh. Burma and Thailand.

Subfamily : CYPRININAE

10. *Barbodes sarana subnasutus* (Valenciennes)

1 ex., 115.0 mm, F. 1246, 14.12.87, Vembanad lake, Allepey.

Distribution : India : Krishna and Cauvery river systems, and Kerala, in Peninsular India.

11. *Hypselobarbus kurali* Menon and Rema Devi

7 exs., 36.0-51.0 mm, F. 3427, Attingal drainage, Kallar River, 2 pairs of well developed barbals, L. 1. 41-42 ;

Remarks : A dark band behind opercle and caudal dark tipped. Recently described as a new species and its relationship with *H. curmuca* and *H. kolus* discussed (Paper Menon and Rema Devi, 1995).

Distribution : India : Dakshina Kannada (South Canara) to Travancore hills.

12. *Puntius amphibius* (Valenciennes)

1 ex., 46.0 mm, F. 1260, 6.12.87, Minachil River, N. W. Kottayam ; 2 exs., 55.0-66.0 mm, F. 1261, 14.12.87 Minachil River, 10 km. N. W. from Kottayam ; 2 exs., 55.0-60.0 mm, F. 3454, 16.3.90, Meenamthara River, Kottayam ; 19 exs., 38.0-46.0 mm, F. 3465, 23.3.90, Meenachil River ; 4 exs., 43.0-64.0, F. 3450, 7.4.90, Achenkoil River at Mavelikara canal and river side ; 5 exs., 54.0-63.0 mm, F. 3428, 10. 4. 90, Attingal drainage, Kallar River.

13. *Puntius arulius arulius* (Jerdon)

1 ex., 23.0 mm, 14.12.87, a ditch near Kottayam Railway Station.

Remarks : One pair of minute barbels ; body with three dark vertical stripes ; dorsal and caudal black tipped.

Distribution : Peninsular India : Tamilnadu : Nilgiri (Cauvery drainage). Kerala : Wynaad, Kottayam, Tenmalai, Kulathupuzha and Periyar Lake.

14. *Puntius chola* (Hamilton)

1 ex., 54.0 mm., F. 1262, 14.12.87, Minachil River, 10 Km. N. W. of Kottayam.

Distribution : Throughout India. Pakistan. Nepal. Bangladesh. Burma and Sri Lanka.

15. *Puntius mahecola* (Valenciennes)

2 exs., 52.0-57.0 mm, F. 1242, 14.12.87, ditch near Kottayam Rly. Stn. ; 2 exs., 65.0 mm., F. 3449, 7. 4.90, Achenkoil River, Madikara canal and River side.

Distribution : Peninsular India : Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh. Sri Lanka.

16. *Puntius melanampyx melanampyx* (Day)

2 exs., 29.0-33.0 mm, F. 1248, 15.12.87, Pirmad River, close to Kottayam town ; 2 exs., 29.0-47.0 mm, F. 3487, 26.3.90, Achenkoil River ; 8 exs., 31.0-38.0 mm, F. 3480, 1.4.90, Periyar drainage, Kallar River, Munnar ; 2 exs. 25.0-37.0 mm, F. 3442, 4.4.90, Pambar River at border of Chinnar Sanctuary ; 2 exs., 25.00 mm, 10.4.90, Attingal drainage, Kallar River ; 8 exs., 13.0-43.0 mm ; F. 3470, 11.4.90, Attingal drainage.

Distribution : Peninsular India : Western Ghats : South Canara to Travancore hills. Also Nilgiris, Cauvery drainage.

17. *Puntius parrah* Day

2 exs., 111.0-113.0 mm, F. 3407, 14.4.90, Connemara fish market, Trivandrum.

Distribution : India : Kerala, Karnataka, Tamilnadu and Andhra Pradesh.

18. *Puntius punctatus* Day

12 exs., 36.0-47.0 mm. F. 1257, 5.12.87, Minachil River system, N. W. Kottayam ; 1 ex., 34.0 mm., F. 1251, 9.12.87, Canal adjacent to Minachil River, 2 exs., 40.0-46.0 mm, F. 1263, 14.12.87, Minachil River, 10 km. N. W. of Kottayam, 19 exs., 38.0-46.0 mm, F. 3466, 23.3.90, Minachil River, close to Kottayam.

Remarks : Predorsal 8 ; D $3\frac{1}{8}$ strong osseous, no barbel, L, tr. $4\frac{1}{2}/3\frac{1}{2}$; L.1. 22-24, L.1. pores, discontinuous, mostly complete, dorsal in some with 2 rows of spots, a blotch on caudal peduncle, sometimes this is band like encircling the caudal peduncle with blotches in the centre on either sides ; a spot on 3rd or 4th scale behind opercle.

Distribution : Throughout India. Pakistan. Bangladesh. Burma. Thailand. Sri Lanka.

19. *Puntius vittatus* Day

1 ex., 23.0 mm, Dec., 1988, Vembanad lake, Allepey ; 1 ex., 17.0 mm, 17.4.90, Vembanad artificial lake at Kumarakom tourist complex and 1 ex., 17.0 mm ; 18.4.90, Padiramanal island pond.

Distribution : India : Peninsular India : Goa, Cutch, Karnataka, Tamilnadu. Sri Lanka.

20. *Neolissochilus wynaadensis* (Day)

14 exs., 13.0-31.0 mm, 4.4.90, Pambar River at Border of Chinnar Sanctuary.

Remarks : These juveniles collected from the eastern drainage have been tentatively identified as *P. wynaadensis* ; known to attain a size of 25.0 cm TL.

Distribution : India : Kerala.

21. *Garra mullya* (Sykes)

7 exs., 59.0-68.0 mm, F. 3418, 25.3.90, Achenkoil, Pathanamthitta. river near Valamchizhi temple ; 1 ex., 63.0 mm, F. 3485, 26.3.90, Achenkoil River ; 1 ex., 42.0 mm, F. 3458, 3.4.90, Karimutty River, Mayoore ; 9 exs., 23.0-37.0 mm, F. 3443, 4.4.90, Pambar River at border of Chinnar Sanctuary. 9 exs., 36.0-75.0 mm., F. 3433, 6.4.90, Deviyar River, Mannambandam ; 3 exs., 64.0-72.0 mm, F. 3467, 11.4.90, Attingal drainage creek, tributary of Kallar River.

Distribution : Throughout Peninsular India.

Family : BALITORIDAE
Subfamily : BALITORINAE

22. *Bhavana australis* (Jerdon)

1 ex., 14.0 mm, 11.4.90, Attingal drainage, tributary of Kallar River.

Distribution : India : Southern Western Ghats : Nilgiris, Karnataka & Kerala.

Subfamily : NOEMACHEILINAE

23. *Noemacheilus pambarensis* Rema Devi and Indra

30 exs., 15.5-45.0 mm, F. 3496 & 4095 : Pambar River, at border of Chinnar Sanctuary, Idukki (Rema Devi & Indra).

Distribution : India : Western Ghats : Kerala : Idukki District, Pambar River.

24. *Noemacheilus triangularis triangularis* Day

5 exs., 24.0-44.0 mm, F. 3425, 10.4.90, Attingal drainage, Kallar River ; 1 ex., 30.0 mm, F. 3492, 12.4.90, Attingal drainage.

Distribution : India : Western Ghats : Kerala.

Family ; COBITIDAE

25. *Lepidocephalus thermalis* (Valenciennes)

1 ex., 46.0 mm., F. 3488, 26.3.90, Achenkoil River ; 1 ex., 37.0 mm, 28.3.90. 7 km. Upstream, Achenkoli River ; 30 exs., 22.0-50.0 mm, F. 3441, 4.4.90, Pambar River at border of Chinnar Sanctuary and 2 exs., 40.0-43.0 mm, F. 3435, 6.4.90, Deviyar River at Mannambandam.

Distribution : Peninsular India and Sri Lanka.

Order : SILURIFORMES

Family : BAGRIDAE

26. *Batasio travancoria* Hora and Law

1 ex., 65.0 mm, F. 3436, 6.4.90, Deviyar River at Mannambandam.

Distribution : India : Western Ghats : Kerala.

27. *Mystus armatus* (Day)

1 ex., 57.0 mm, F. 1258, 5.12.87, Minachil River, N. W. Kottayam ; 1 ex., 70.0 mm, F. 3404, 16.3.90, Meenamthara River, Kottayam ; 1 ex., 56.0 mm, F. 3452, 7.4.90, Achenkoil River at Mavelikara canal.

Distribution : Peninsular India : Kerala, Wynaad Hill ranges and Nagaland and probably also lower Burma.

28. *Mystus cavasius* (Hamilton)

1 ex., 38.0 mm, 4.4.90, Pambar River at border of Chinnar Sanctuary.

Distribution ; India. Pakistan. Nepal. Bangladesh. Burma. Malaya. Thailand. Java. Borneo. Sumatra.

29. *Mystus gullo* (Hamilton)

4 exs., 138.0-163.0 mm, F. 3401, 14.4.90, Cannemara fish market, Trivandrum and 2 exs., 116.0-135.0 mm, F. 3392, 18.4.90, Vembanad lake, fish landing centre, Kumarakom.

Distribution : India. Pakistan. Nepal. Bangladesh. Burma. Sri Lanka. Malaya. Thailand. Java. Sumatra, Borneo.

30. *Mystus malabaricus* (Jerdon)

4 exs., 57·0-75·0 mm, F. 1245, Minachil River, 10 km. N. W. of Kottayam.

Distribution : Peninsular India : Western Ghats of Kerala, Karnataka and Maharashtra.

31. *Mystus montanus* (Jerdon)

1 ex., 71·0 mm, F. 3423, 25.3.90, Achenkoil River, Pathanamthitta near Valamchizhi Temple.

Distribution : India : Kerala : Wynaad range of hills, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Assam.

32. *Mystus oculatus* (Valenciennes)

1 ex., 71·0 mm., F. 3422, 25.3.90. Achenkoil River near Pathanamthitta ; 3 exs., F, 3437, 6.4.90, Deviyar River, Mannambandam ; 1 ex., 62·0 mm, F. 3451, 7·4·90, Achenkoil River, at Mavelikara Canal and 1 ex., 65·0 mm, F. 3393, 18.4.90, Vembanad Lake, at fish landing centre, Kumarakom.

Distribution : India : Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

33. *Pseudobagrus chryseus* Day

2 exs., 148·0-155·0 mm, F. 3390, 18.4.90, Vembanad Lake, at fish landing Centre Kumarakom.

Distribution : India : Western Ghats ; South Canara down along the western face of Western Ghats as far as Southern Kerala.

Family : SILURIDAE

34. *Ompok bimaculatus* (Bloch)

1 ex., 170.0 mm, F. 3391, 18.4.90, Vembanad lake, at fish landing centre, Kumarakom.

Distribution : Throught India. Pakistan. Nepal. Bangladesh. Sri Lanka. Burma Thailand, Java. Sumatra. Borneo. China.

Family : HETEROPNEUSTIDAE

35. *Heteropneustes fossilis* (Bloch)

3 exs., 132.0-185.0, F. 1236, 14.12.87, small ditch near Kottayam Rly. Stn.;
3 exs., 101.0-133.0 mm, 15.12.87, Kottayam.

Distribution : India. Pakistan. Sri Lanka. Nepal. Bangladesh. Burma. Thailand and Laos.

Order : CYPRINODONTIFORMES

Sub Order : EXOCOEATOIDEI

Family : HEMIRAMPHIDAE

36. *Hyporhamphus limbatus* (Valenciennes)

2 exs., 116.0 and 170.0 mm, F. 3396, 18.4.90, Vembanad Lake, fish landing centre, Kumarakom.

Distribution : Persian Gulf. Pakistan. India, Sri Lanka. Burma to Thailand and China.

Family : BELONIDAE

37. *Xenentodon cancila* (Hamilton-Buchanan)

1 ex., 175.0 mm, F. 3456, 24.3.90, Vembanad lake, near Kumarakom.

Distribution : India. Pakistan. Bangladesh. Sri Lanka. Burma and Thailand.

Suborder : CYPRINODONTOIDEI

Family : APLOCHEILIDAE

38. *Aplocheilus blocki* (Arnold)

1 ex., 17.0 mm., Meenamthara River (Part of Meenachil River), 21.3.90, Kottayam ; 5 exs., 17.0-18.0 mm, 23.3.90 ; Meenachil River, close to Kottayam ; 4 exs., 16.0-17.0 mm, 24.3.90, Ditch near a paddy field, 3 km. from Kumarakom ; 1 ex., 16.0 mm, 28.3.90, 7 km. upstream Meenachil River ; 7 exs., 16.0-22.0 mm., F. 3475, 17.4.90, Vembanad lake, near Kumarakom tourist complex and 3 exs., 14.0-26.0 mm, 18.4.90, Padiramanal Island, pond.

Distribution : Peninsular India : West Coast, from Kutch Southwards along the coast to south Kerala.

39. *Aplocheilus lineatus* (Valenciennes)

5 exs., 39.0-58.0 mm., F. 1259, 5.12.87, Minachil River and rivulet, N. W. Kottayam ; 4 exs., 16.0-47.0 mm., F. 1249, 9.12.87, Canal-still water, adjacent to Minachil River ; 11 exs., 30.0-54.0 mm, F. 1243, 14.12.87, small ditch near Kottayam Rly Stn., 1 ex., 41.0 mm, F. 1264, 15.12.87, Minachil River, 10 km., N. W. of Kottayam, 3 exs., 26.0-41.0 mm, F. 3478, 21.3.90, Meenamthara River (Part of Meenachil River), Kottayam ; 4 exs., 25.0-30.0 mm, F. 3460, 22.3.90, Meenachil drainage, 1 km. from Kottayam Rly. Stn. ; 9 exs., 23.0-37.0 mm, F. 3464, 23.3.90, Meenachil River, close to Kottayam Rly. Stn. ; 1 ex., 35.0 mm, F. 3483, 28.3.90, Pamba drainage, Kallar River at Vadasserikara Bridge ; 1 ex. 13.0 mm, 10.4.90, Attingal drainage, Kallar River and 5 exs., 16.0-36.0 mm., F. 3474, 17.4.90, Vembanad Lake near Kumarakom tourist complex.

Distribution : Widely distributed in peninsular India.

Family : ORYZIIDAE

40. *Oryzias melastigma* (McClelland)

1 ex., 24.0 mm, 24.3.90, ditch near Kottayam Rly. Stn.,

Distribution : India. Bangladesh. Burma. Sri Lanka.

Family : POECILIDAE

41. *Xiphophorus helleri* Heckel

6 exs., 35.0-47.0 mm, F. 1247, 5.12.87 Peermed River.

Distribution : Eastern Mexico, introduced into India.

Order : CHANNIFORMES

Family : CHANNIDAE

42. *Channa marulius* (Hamilton-Buchanan)

2 exs., 175.0-230.0 mm., F. 3394, 18.4.90, Vembanad lake, fish landing centre at Kumarakom.

Distribution : India. Pakistan. Sri Lanka. Bangladesh. Nepal. Burma. Thailand and China.

43. *Channa orientalis* Bloch and Schneider

1 ex., 46.0 mm, F. 1266, 14.12.87, Minachil River, 10 km. N. W. of Kottayam ; 2 exs., 65.0 mm, F. 3431, 24.3.90, ditch near Kottayam Rly Stn. ; 1 ex., 51.0 mm, F. 3490, 26.3.90, Achenkoil River and 11 exs., 24.0-62.0 mm, F. 3459, 28.3.90, Pamba drainage, Kallar River.

Distribution : India. Afghanistan, Iran. Pakistan. Nepal, Sri Lanka. Bangladesh and Burma.

44. *Channa punctatus* (Bloch)

1 ex., 83.0 mm, F. 1240, 14.12.87, near Kottayam Rly. Stn. ; 1 ex., 18.0 mm, F. 3421, 25.3.90, Achenkoil River, Pathanamthitta, near Valamchizhi temple ; 15 exs., 17.0-29.0 mm, F. 3440, 4.4.90, Pambar River at border of Chinnar Sanctuary ; 1 ex., 172.0 mm, F. 3405, 14.4.90, Connemara fish market, Trivandrum.

Distribution : India. Afganistan. Pakistan. Sri Lanka. Nepal. Bangladesh. Burma and Yunnan.

45. *Channa striatus* (Bloch)

4 exs., 111.0-130.0 mm, F. 3403, Apr. '90, fish pond near Paddy field Kumarakom.

Distribution : India. Pakistan. Sri Lanka. Bangladesh. Nepal. Burma. Malay Archipelago. Thailand and South China.

Order : PERCIFORMES

Family : CICHLIDAE

46. *Eetroplus maculatus* (Bloch)

1 ex., 43.0 mm, F. 1256, 5.12.87. Minachil River N. W. Kottayam ; 15 exs., 33.0-57.0 mm, F. 1238, Dec., '87, small ditch near Kottayam Rly. Stn. ; 3 exs., 42.0-51.0 mm, F. 3453, 16.3.90, Meenamthara River, Minachil River system, Kottayam, 2 exs., 41.0-50.0 mm, F. 3477, 21.3.90, Meenamthara River ; 3 exs., 34.0-65.0 mm, F. 3471, 7.4.90, Vembanad lake, Padiramanel Island ; 4 exs., 43.0-54.0 mm, F. 3446, 7.4.90, Achenkoil River at Mavelikara Canal ; 1 ex., 53.0 mm, F. 3409, 14.4.90, Connemara fish market, Trivandrum.

Distribution : Peninsular India : Tamilnadu, Kerala and South Karnataka. Sri Lanka.

47. *Eetroplus suratensis* (Bloch)

4 exs., 53.0-73.0 mm, F. 1237, Dec. '87, small ditch near Kottayam Rly. Station ; 1 ex., 17.0 mm, 22.3.90, Minachil drainage, 1 Km. from Kottayam Rly. Stn. ; 2 exs.

23·0-45·0 mm, F. 3472, 7.4.90, Vembanad Lake, Padiramanal Island and 2 exs., 50·0-55·0 mm, F. 3403, 14.4.90, Connemara fish market, Trivandrum.

Distribution : India : Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Tamilnadu and Kerala, Sri Lanka.

48. Oreochromis mossambica (Peters)

5 exs., 20·0-25·0 mm, 4.4.90, Pambar River at border of Chinnar Sanctuary.

Distribution : East Africa. Introduced in India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka.

Family : AMBASSIDAE

49. Parambassis thomassi (Day)

1 ex., 46·0 mm, F. 1241, Dec. '87, small ditch near Kottayam Rly. Stn. ; 1 ex., 75·0 mm, F. 1255, 5.12.87, Minachil River' N. W. Kottayam ; 6 exs., 26·0-41·0 mm, F. 3455, 24.3.90, Vembanad lake near Kumarakom ; 11 exs., 26·0-41·0 mm, F. 3473, 7.4.90, Vembanad lake, Padiramanal Island ; 5 exs., 37·0-96·0 mm, F. 3398, 18.4.90, Vembanad lake, fish landing, Kumarakom.

Family : NANDIDAE

50. Nandus nandus (Hamilton-Buchanan)

2 exs., 22·0 & 25·0 mm., F. 1267, 14.12.87, Minachil River, 10 Km. N. W. of Kottayam ; 3 exs., 53·0-65·0 mm, F. 3448, 7.4.90, Achenkoil River, Mavelikara.

Distribution : India. Pakistan. Nepal. Bangladesh. Burma. Thailand.

Family : TERAPONIDAE

51. Terapon jarbua (Forsskal)

2 exs., 85·0-91·0 mm, F. 3408, 14.4.90, Connemara fish market, Trivandrum.

Distribution : Indo-west Pacific.

Family : ANABANTIDAE

52. *Anabas testudineus* (Bloch)

1ex., 50·0 mm, F. 1239, Dec. '87, ditch near Kottayam Rly. Stn. ; 3 exs. 60·0-75·0 mm, F. 3447, Achenkoil River at Mavelikara.

Distribution : India. Pakistan. Bangladesh. Sri Lanka. Burma. Malay Archipelago. Singapore. Philippines.

Family : BELONTIIDAE

53. *Pseudosphromenus cupanus* (Valenciennes)

4 exs., 22·0-34·0 mm, Dec., 87, small ditch near Kottayam Rly. Stn. ; 2 exs., 35·0-41·0 mm, F. 3479, 21.3.90, Meenamthara River, Minachil River system, Kottayam ; 2exs., 21·0 & 24·0 mm, F. 3461, 22.3.90, Meenachil River, 1 km. from Kottayam Rly. Stn. ; 1 ex., 30·0 mm, 23.3.90, Meenachil River, close to Kottayam ; 2 exs., 29·0-30·0 mm, F. 3424, 25.3.90, Achenkoil River, Pathanamthitta & 2 exs., 20·0 mm, 17.4.90, Vembanad lake at Kumarakom.

Distribution : India. Sri Lanka. Western Burma. Malay. Peninsular Sumatra.

Order : MASTACEMBELIFORMES

Family : MASTACEMBELIDAE

54. *Macrogathus malabaricus* (Jerdon)

2 exs., 215·0-268·0 mm, F. 3395, 18.4.90, Vembanad Lake, Fish Landing centre at Kumarakom.

Distribution : India : Kerala.

Order : TETRAODONTIFORMES

Family : TETRAODONTIDAE

55. *Tetraodon (Monotretus) travancoricus* Hora & Nair

5 exs., 13.0-15.0 mm, F. 1278, Dec. '87, a ditch near Kottayam Rly. Stn. ; 2 exs., 13.0-15.0 mm, F. 1277, 5.12.87, Minachil River, N. W. Kottayam ; 1 ex., 12.0 mm, 7.4.90, Vembanad Lake, Padiramanal Island.

Distribution : India : Kerala : Pamba River and Vembanad Lake ; Minachil River and Shertallai.

Order : PLEURONECTIFORMES

Family : SOLEIDAE

56. *Euryglossa orientalis* (Bloch & Schneider)

1 ex., 103.0 mm, F. 3400, 18.4.90, Vembanad Lake, from fish landing centre at Kumarakom.

Distribution : Red Sea. Persian Gulf. Pakistan. India. Sri Lanka, through the East Indies to China and Australia.

DISCUSSION

The collections comprise 56 species of which 2 species, *Xiphophorus helleri* Heckel and *Oreochromis mossambica* (Peters) are exotic, and four viz. *Dayella malabarica* (Day) *Hyporhamphus limbatus* (Val.), *Terapon jarbua* (Forsskal) and *Euryglossa orientalis* (Bloch & Schneider) are euryhaline. The remaining 50 are primary freshwater species (Menon, 1993), 24 species are endemic to India of which 23 are endemic to Peninsular India. Among these 15 species are endemic to the Western Ghats and 3 to the Western coastal plains. Nine species are common to India and Sri Lanka and the remaining 21 species are widespread in their distribution.

Though the collections cover the Districts of Kottayam, Idukki, Pathanamthitta and Trivandrum, most of the collections are from Meenachil River and Vembanad

Lake and adjoining water bodies in Kottayam, 18 species from Idukki, 16 spp. from Pathanamthitta and 10 spp. from Trivandrum. The typical hill stream loaches *Bhavana australis* (Jerdon) and the stone loach *Noemacheilus* (*t.*) *triangularis* (Day) are from Kallar River. One new species of *Noemacheilus* was described from the Pamber drainage near Chinnar Sanctuary, Idukki District (Rema Devi and Indra, 1994). *Garra mullya* (Sykes) was identified from Achenkoil River, Pambar River and Kallar River. *Horadandia atukorali* Deraniyagala was represented in good numbers from ditches and ponds near Vembanad Lake and Kumarakom, Kottayam. This Sri Lankan species was only recently reported as a subspecies from Shertallai (Rema Devi and Menon, 1992).

SUMMARY

The fish specimens collected from Kerala by Scientists of the Swedish Museum of Natural History and deposited in the Southern Regional Station, Zoological Survey of India, Madras, have been identified as 56 species and a systematic list of the species is provided. This includes one new species of *Noemacheilus* and a Sri Lankan species *Horadandia atukorali* Deraniyagala reported only recently from Shertallai, Kerala.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are grateful to the Director, Zoological Survey of India and Dr. P. T. Cherian, Officer-in-Charge, Southern Regional Station, Madras for providing all the necessary facilities and placing the fish material at our disposal. We also thank him for going through the manuscript critically. Our thanks are due to a great extent, to Dr. A. G. K. Menon, Scientist emeritus for his valuable suggestion and for providing his checklist.

REFERENCES

1. Menon, A. G. K. 1993. Check List—Freshwater Fishes of India. 457 pp. Z. S. I., Madras. *Dept. of Environment, Govt. of India.*
2. Menon, A. G. K. and Rema Devi, K. 1995. *Hyselobarbus kuvali* (Pisces : Cyprinidae) a new large barb from the South Western Rivers of Peninsular India. *J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.*, 92 (3) : 389-893.

3. Rema Devi, K. and Indra, T. J. 1994. *Noemacheilus pambarensis*, a new loach (Cyprinoidei : Balitoridae) : Noemacheilinae), from Western Ghats, Idukki, Kerala, India. *Rec. Zool. Surv. India*, 94 (2-4) : 207-210.
 4. Rema Devi, K. and Menon, A. G. K. 1992. *Horadandia atukorali brittani*, a new subspecies of Rasborinae (Pisces : Cyprinidae) from Kerala, South India. *Tropical Fish Hobbyist*, New Jersey, June, 1992. 175-176.
-