

***Marcusenius desertus* sp. nov. (Teleostei: Mormyridae), a mormyrid fish from the Namib desert**

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**Table S1:** Other fish species collected from the Cunene River mouth (\* denotes marine/backwater/brackish water). Collection method: 1 = 90 mm stretched mesh gillnets; 2 = 40 mm stretched mesh gillnets; 3 = fyke or tunnel nets; 4 = hook-and-line; 5 = castnets

Species	Common name	Authority	Collection method
<i>*Arius latiscutatus</i>	Rough-head sea catfish	Günther, 1864	1
<i>Barbus matozzi</i>	Papermouth	Guimaraes, 1884	3
<i>B. trimaculatus</i>	Threespot barb	Peters, 1852	3, 5
<i>Coptodon rendalli</i>	Redbreast tilapia	(Boulenger, 1896)	1, 2, 5
<i>Glossogobius callidus</i> <sup>1</sup>	River goby	(Smith, 1973)	3
<i>Labeo ansorgii</i>	Cunene labeo	Boulenger, 1907	1, 4
<i>Micralestes acutidens</i>	Silver robber	(Peters, 1852)	3, 5
<i>Mormyrus lacerda</i> <sup>2</sup>	Western bottlenose	Castelnau, 1861	1
<i>*Mugil cephalus</i>	Flathead grey mullet	Linnaeus, 1758	4
<i>Oreochromis andersonii</i>	Threespot tilapia	(Castelnau, 1861)	1
<i>O. macrochir</i>	Greenhead tilapia	(Boulenger, 1912)	1, 5
<i>Pomadasys jubelini</i>	Atlantic spotted grunter	(Cuvier, 1830)	5
<i>Sargochromis coulteri</i>	Cunene bream	(Bell-Cross, 1975)	2, 5
<i>Schilbe intermedius</i>	Silver catfish	Rüppell, 1832	1–5
<i>Thoracochromis buysi</i>	Namib river bream	(Penrith, 1970)	2, 4
<i>Tilapia sparrmanii</i>	Banded tilapia	A Smith, 1840	3, 5

<sup>1</sup> First occurrence reported for the Cunene River (Barcode Of Life Database, iBOLD Process ID numbers: HVDBF248-11, 253-11 and 265-11)

<sup>2</sup> ZSM 43812

**Table S2:** The first seven principal components on correlations for morphological characters of four *Marcusenius* samples from various locations in southern Africa ( $N = 84$ )

Eigenvalue	6.4787	3.6116	1.7010	0.9544	0.6557	0.5451	0.4928
Percent	40.492	22.573	10.631	5.965	4.098	3.407	3.080
Cum. percent	40.492	63.065	73.696	79.661	83.759	87.166	90.246
Component loadings							
	PC1	PC2	PC3	PC4	PC5	PC6	PC7
PDL/SL	0.10326	-0.81324	0.37973	-0.13936	-0.07874	0.26919	-0.00486
PAL/SL	0.55376	-0.71398	0.21356	-0.00803	-0.02899	0.22235	0.03661
LD/SL	0.62665	0.54262	0.09627	-0.22022	0.39527	0.14404	0.08479
LA/SL	0.72277	0.49382	0.10724	-0.25064	-0.00223	-0.05348	-0.16849
pD/SL	0.12664	0.77769	-0.41008	-0.09085	0.23086	0.20474	0.10927
CPL/SL	-0.62106	0.18500	-0.60386	0.06407	-0.24136	0.23261	-0.05091
CPD/CPL	0.78878	0.03092	0.36776	-0.23911	-0.03613	-0.23044	0.13550
LS <sub>o</sub> /HL	-0.86643	0.15513	0.36665	0.07947	0.02080	0.12386	0.09758
LS <sub>c</sub> /HL	-0.76623	0.27219	0.35984	0.04741	-0.06785	0.12081	0.19789
HL/SL	-0.43714	-0.60617	-0.04922	0.29971	0.49233	-0.14624	0.12262
HL/Na	0.75181	0.15004	-0.12792	0.20948	-0.30117	-0.25377	0.26899
BD/SL	0.89371	-0.09433	0.04583	-0.04957	-0.02582	0.31052	0.01275
nD	0.45973	0.50126	0.26246	0.49255	-0.08303	0.17009	0.28806
nA	0.33655	0.44655	0.41664	0.52379	0.05033	0.00760	-0.44299
SP <sub>c</sub>	-0.73833	0.35648	0.43198	-0.17690	0.04866	-0.09634	0.06592
SLS	-0.67811	0.43300	0.32932	-0.24711	-0.17013	0.00720	-0.05607

Cunene River (escarpment specimens,  $n = 15$ ): *M. multisquamatus*; Cunene River mouth specimens ( $n = 15$ ): *M. desertus* sp. nov.; Okavango ( $n = 32$ ): *M. altisambesi*; Mokolo River ( $n = 22$ ): *M. krameri*