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ARAŞTIRMA MAKALESİ

RESEARCH PAPER

Length-Weight Relationships of Ten Fish Species From Lake Eğirdir, Turkey

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*Corresponding author's: Meral APAYDIN YAĞCI Sheep Breeding Research Institute, Republic of Turkey Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Bandırma, Balıkesir, Turkey ⊠t meralyagci@gmail.com Abstract: In this study, length-weight relationship for 10 fish species (*Cyprinus carpio* (common and mirror carp), *Anatolichthys iconii, Atherina boyeri, Carassius gibelio, Pseudophoxinus egridiri, Pseudorasbora parva, Sander lucioperca, Seminemacheilus ispartensis* and *Vimba* vimba) in Lake Eğirdir were assessed. Samples were obtained monthly from January 2010 to June 2011 of Lake Eğirdir, in Turkey. Moreover, for 3 Anatolian endemics species (*A. iconii, S. ispartensis and P. egridiri*) determined for the first time new maximum lengths are recorded.

Keywords: Endangered fish, fishbase, growth type, lake Eğirdir, red list, Turkey.

Eğirdir Gölü'nden 10 Balık Türünün Boy-Ağırlık İlişkisi

*Sorumlu yazar:

Meral APAYDIN YAĞCI Koyunculuk Araştırma Enstitüsü Müdürlüğü, T.C. Tarım ve Orman Bakanlığı, Bandırma, Balıkesir, Türkiye. : meralyagci@gmail.com **Öz:** Bu çalışmada; Eğirdir Gölü'nde 10 balık türünde (*Cyprinus carpio* (pullu ve aynalı sazan), *Anatolichthys iconii, Atherina boyeri, Carassius gibelio, Pseudophoxinus egridiri, Pseudorasbora parva, Sander lucioperca, Seminemacheilus ispartensis* ve Vimba vimba) boyağırlık ilişkisi değerlendirilmiştir. Türkiye'de Eğirdir Gölü'nden Ocak 2010'dan Haziran 2011'e kadar aylık olarak numuneler alınmıştır. Ayrıca ilk kez belirlenen 3 Anadolu endemik türü (A. *iconii, S. ispartensis* ve *P. egridiri*) için yeni maksimum uzunluklar kaydedilmiştir.

Anahtar kelimeler: Büyüme tipi, Eğirdir gölü, fishbase, kırmızı liste, nesli tükenmekte olan balık, Türkiye.

INTRODUCTION

Eğirdir Lake, which is a tectonic lake, is located at about 924 m from sea level with a total surface area of 500 km² and the second largest freshwater in Turkey (Lahn, 1948; Numann, 1958). Information of length-weight relationships are principal in fisheries sustainability and population dynamics (Tarkan & Vilizzi, 2016). In addition, length-weight relationship with the expressed fish growth is isometric or allometric (Le Cren, 1951; Ricker, 1975; Pe'rez-Bote & Roso, 2012).

Length-weight relationship parameters (a and b), gives the possibility to estimate the size of fish by weight, the calculation of the index condition, in different habitats populations of morphology and to compare their life cycle (Britton & Davies, 2007; Yılmaz et al., 2007; Yılmaz et al., 2010; Pe'rez-Bote & Roso, 2012; Giosa et al., 2014; Alagoz Erguden, 2015; Yoğurtçuoğlu & Ekmekçi, 2015; Saç & Okgerman, 2016; Sungur Birecikligil et al., 2016; İlhan & İlhan, 2018). Up to now, several studies regarding the fish fauna in Eğirdir Lake were conducted (Küçük et al., 2009; Güçlü, 2012; Yerli et al., 2013; Yağcı et al., 2016). The present study decribes the length-weight relationships for ten fish species (3 native, 4 introduced and 3 endemic) inhabiting the Lake Eğirdir. This resarch reports the new length-weight relationships for two endemic (*S.ispartensis* and *P.egridiri*) species for Lake Eğirdir in Turkey.

MATERIAL AND METHOD

Fish specimens were collected monthly from January 2010 to June 2011 in Lake Eğirdir. Fish measured for total length (TL) to the nearest centimeter and weighed (W) to the nearest gram. Fish were collected using different mesh size (10x10, 16x16, 20x20, 25x25, 30x30, 35x35, 40x40, 45x45, 50x50, 55x55, 60x60, 65x65, 70x70, 80x80, 100×100 mm) gillnets that one of them length (10×10 mm) were 25 meters, fifteen of them length were 100 meters and seine-net (mesh size: 0.9 mm). For each species, the lengthweight relationship was calculated using the expression: LogW = Log a + b Log L, where "W" is the weight (g) and "L" the total length (cm), "a" is the intercept of the regression and "b" is the slope or regression coefficient (i.e, "a"is a coefficient related to body form and "b" is an exponent indicating isometric growth when equal to 3 and indicating allometric growth when significantly different from 3) (Le Cren, 1951; Froese, 2006). Whether the b values obtained from the length-weight relationship of the samples were different from 3 was determined using the t-test. The t-test results of b values were taken into account while determining the growth types of the species. In addition, 95% confidence intervals (95%CI) of a and b values for species were also calculated (Zar, 1999). The ethics committee report of the project was obtained from the Süleyman Demirel University (SDU) Animal Experiments Local Ethics Committee and was approved by the SDU Animal Experiments Local Ethics Committee (Date 25.12.2018 and Decision No: 01).

RESULTS

A total of 7670 specimens from ten fish species (Table 1), each belonging to a different family, were analyzed. *A. boyeri* was caught with the seine-net and gillnet, other fish species were caught with the gillnets. The parameters of the LWR of the ten fish species are presented. Also, according to the information in FishBase length-weight relationships and maximum total lengths for three endemic species are reported here for the first time (Table 1). The most abundant species included *Carassius gibelio* and *Atherina boyeri*. Length and weight data were plotted for each species (Figures 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1e, 1f, 1g, 1h, 1i, 1j).

 Table 1. The length-weight relationship parameters for ten fish species from Lake Eğirdir, Turkey

	IUCN	N												t _H	Growth
Family/species	Category		Length (TL, cm)		Weight (g)		Parameters		aCL95%		bCL95%		r^2		type
			Min	Max	Min	Max	а	b	Min	Max	Min	Max			
Cyprinidae															
Cyprinus carpio (Common carp/native)	VU	305	9.3	65.7	12.4	5622	0.0140	3.0834	0.0120	0.0160	3.0507	3.1173	.9907	3,02ª	A+
Cyprinus carpio (Mirror carp/ introduced)	VU	30	15	53	55.9	2633	0.0110	3.1580	0.0069	0.0151	3.0518	3.2642	.9924	4,85 ^b	A+
Carassius gibelio (Prussian carp/introduced)	LC	3987	6.9	38.2	3.7	1266	0.0108	3.1711	0.0110	0.0110	3.1573	3.1847	.9793	23,44°	A+
Pseudophoxinus egridiri (Eğirdir minnow/endemic)	EN	551	4.7	10	2.4	17.4	0.0182	2.9425	0.0141	0.0219	2.8579	3.0421	.8808	1,24 ^d	A-
Pseudorasbora parva (Topmouth gudgeon/introduced)	LC	88	6.1	11.1	3.5	25.5	0.0080	3.3215	0.0060	0.0010	3.1652	3.4788	.9530	4,04e	A+
Vimba vimba (Vimba bream/native)	LC	334	12.2	35.9	18.2	576.5	0.0057	3.2116	0.0060	0.0060	3.1748	3.2492	.9891	11,42 ^f	A+
Atherinidae															
Atherina boyeri (Big-scale sand smelt/ introduced)	LC	2098	2.7	10.4	0.12	9.42	0.0048	3.1729	0.0040	0.0040	3.1886	3.2474	.9663	14,47 ^g	A+
Cyprinodontidae															
Anatolichthys iconii (Icon toothcarp/endemic)	NE	47	4.3	6.1	2.25	3.2	0.2086	1.6168	0.0918	0.3262	1.2694	1.9646	.6630	8,05 ^h	A-
Percidae															
Sander lucioperca (Pike-perch/introduced)	LC	166	16.3	66.4	105	3091	0.0055	3.136	0.0051	0.0129	2.8871	3.0909	.9872	4,89 ⁱ	A+
Balitoridae															
Seminemacheilus ispartensis (Southern pond loach/endemic)	VU	64	6.7	12.2	4.43	17.3	0.0286	2.5398	0.2763	0.3037	2.3185	2.7615	.8900	4,06 ^j	A-

j, (t-test, t_H>t_{T 0,05, 64}=1,67)

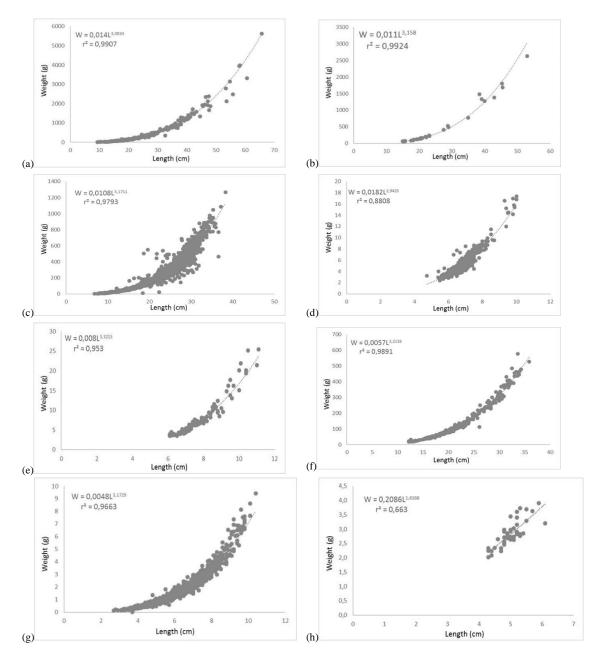
N, number of individuals; a, intercept of the relationship; b, slope of the relationship; r², coefficient of determination; CL, confidence limits;

A+, allometric positive; A-, allometric negative. New maximum lengths data in bol

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The "a" value in the length-weight relationship equation in fish shows the average condition of the individuals, while the "b" value shows the shape of the fish according to the conditions it is in (Avşar, 2005). In general, for all species estimated "b" values, fell within expected range of 2.7-3.4 (Froese, 2006). It has been reported that the length-weight relationship was strong ($r^2=0.988$) in *Carassius gibelio* samples captured from Lake Ladik, and the calculated b value was different from 3 (b>3) and the result was positive allometric (Yazıcıoğlu et al., 2013). In the present study, the correlation coefficient (r^2) was found to be 0.990 while for *Cyprinus carpio* (common carp), Zencir Tanır (2020) recorded a correlation coefficient 0.972 in Tercan Dam Lake

(Turkey). The value of growth coefficient (b) was estimated as 3.083 which not differed significantly from value of 3, indicating a positive allometric growth for the C. carpio. Saylar & Şanlı Benzer, (2014) have informed negative allometric growth for C.carpio in Mogan Lake, with b values 2.8. However, positive allometric growth for C.carpio has been reported by Karataş et al., (2007) who reported b value 3.31 in Almus Dam Lake. The exponent of the length-weight relationship for Sander lucioperca indicate positive allometric growth (b=3,13) in this study. While S. lucioperca showed positive allometric growth in 2004 (b= 3,14 ; Balık et al., 2004) in Lake Eğirdir in Turkey, it showed negative allometric growth in another study conducted in 2006 (İzci & Kuşat, 2006). Lengthweight relationship in Turkey (Ablak & Yılmaz, 2004) (b=3,07), in Tunisia (M'Hetli et al., 2011) (b=3,06) indicate isometric growth. *Atherina boyeri* is found in freshwater, lagoon and marine environments. With the b value obtained in this study, *A. boyeri* showed positive allometric (b=3.17) growth. With previous studies in the lake (b=3.25, Bostanci et al., 2014; b=2.78, İnnal & Engin, 2020) and studies conducted in different ecosystems in Turkey (b=3.29, Gençoğlu and Ekmekçi 2016; b= 3.20, Özeren 2009; b=2.90, İlhan & Sarı, 2015; b=2.94, İnnal & Engin, 2020) showed similar growth. The b value of *Pseudorasbora parva* fish was determined as 3.32 in this study (positive allometric). It was reported as 3.03-2.97 in Hirfanlı dam lake (Benzer & Benzer, 2020), 2.83-2.94 in Mogan lake (Benzer et al., 2016) 3.1 in Tajan River (Aazami et al., 2015) and 3.047 in Island ecosystem (Gökçeada) (Ağdamar and Gaygusuz, 2021).



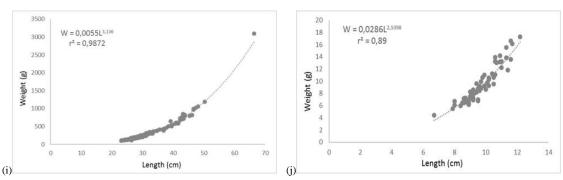


Figure 1. Total length and weight plotted for: *Cyprinus carpio* (common carp) (1a); *Cyprinus carpio* (mirror carp) (1b); *Carassius gibelio* (1c); *Pseudophoxinus egridiri* (1d); *Pseudorasbora parva* (1e); *Vimba vimba* (1f); *Atherina boyeri* (1g); *Anatolichthys iconii* (1h); *Sander lucioperca* (1i); *Seminemacheilus ispartensis* (1j)

The lowest "b" value found for the species Anatolichthys iconii could be attributed, among others, to the narrow length range of captured specimens (4.3-6.1 cm). All regressions were strong relationship (with $r^2 \ge$ 0.890, only except A.iconii (with $r^2 \ge 0.663$). According to one way t-test of specimens, P. egridiri, isometric; A.iconii, and S.ispartensis, negative allometric; other species showed positive allometric growth type (Table 1). A.iconii, S.ispartensis and P. egridiri were listed in the Turkey species Red list in 2014 categorized as an Near Threatened, Vulnerable and Endangered in Fishbase. In conclusion, this research provides new information on the biology of freshwater fish belonging to Anatolian endemics on this Red list species in Turkey and information on the length-weight relationships of 10 fish species from the Lake Eğirdir. Finally, our study will be contribute for endemic species, especially S.ispartensis and P. egridiri, A.iconii, awareness, management and conservation.

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