

## LISTS OF SPECIES

### Fish, Lajeado Reservoir, rio Tocantins drainage, State of Tocantins, Brazil

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#### Abstract

The Lajeado HR is the fourth hydroelectric power plant constructed in the rio Tocantins. The implementation of hydroelectric plants in the rio Tocantins basin is of high environmental concern because they may result in severe damage to the ichthyofauna. A species list of the area of influence of the Lajeado HR is provided, in the hope that it will contribute to the knowledge of this potentially threatened ichthyofauna. A few comments on the ichthyofauna of the rio Tocantins drainage are also provided.

#### Introduction

The Lajeado Hydroelectric Reservoir (HR) is the fourth hydroelectric power plant constructed in the rio Tocantins, and the first one built upstream of the Tucuruí reservoir. It is located in an area dominated by natural savanna-like Cerrado vegetation. Deforestation in the region has accelerated in the last few years due to agriculture and cattle raising and has contributed to changes in the aquatic environment.

Prior to damming, the area occupied by the Lajeado HR was in the middle and upper portions of the rio Tocantins channel and characterized by a lotic environment with many rapids and falls. Therefore, after the dam was finished in October 2001, the hydrological environment was permanently changed with severe consequences for the ichthyofauna.

Information about the fish fauna in this region is rare. The ichthyofauna of the rio Tocantins drainage is badly known, especially for the middle and upper portions. The area contains a large proportion of endemic species for several groups of fishes (Géry 1969; Kullander 1983; Vari 1988). Several new species have been described from this basin in the last decades (*e.g.* Lucena 1987; Menezes and Lucena 1998; Malabarba and Vari 2000; Littmann *et al.* 2001; Bertaco and Lucinda 2005, 2006). Nonetheless, many species remain unknown to science, exhibit serious taxonomic problems or await formal description. Many studies on faunal composition have been published in technical reports (*e.g.* Santos *et al.* 1985; Zuanon *et al.* 2004), or are restricted to small taxonomic groups (*e.g.* Santos and Jégu 1990). Thus, the knowledge of this fauna is incomplete.

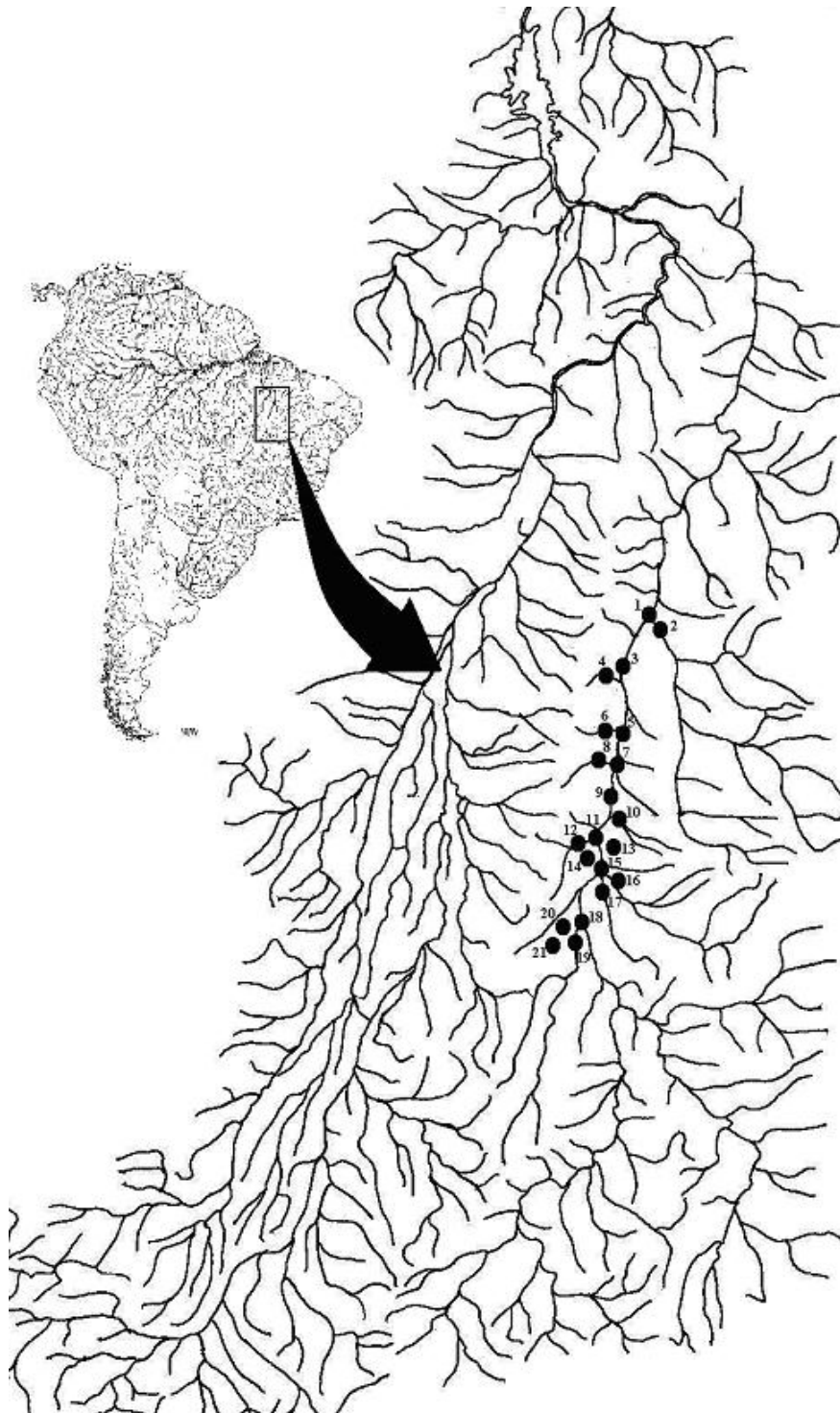
Nevertheless, the middle and upper rio Tocantins basin is suffering severe alterations from the installation of hydroelectric plants. Energy production initiatives have been promoting constant alterations causing the disappearance of many microhabitats within the drainage as well as modifying fish assemblages. Therefore, information on the biodiversity of this drainage is being lost and it is possible that some species are being extirpated before they are formally described.

The aim of this paper is to provide a species list of the area influenced by the Lajeado HR.

#### Material and methods

The area influenced by the Lajeado HR was sampled at the locations illustrated in Figure 1. Sample environments included: (1) rivers (upstream from the reservoir: rio Santa Tereza, rio São Valério, rio Manoel Alves; tributaries to the reservoir: rio Crixás, rio Areias, rio Mangues, rio Santa Luzia, and rio Lajeadozinho; and downstream the reservoir: rio Sono); (2) lagoons: Água Branca, Dionísio, Capivara, and Feia; (3) the reservoir itself, in the rio Tocantins; (4) the rio Tocantins upstream the reservoir; and (5) the rio Tocantins downstream the reservoir.

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**Figure 1.** Sampling points: 1. Rio Tocantins, near the confluence with rio Sono; 2. Rio Sono; 3. Rio Tocantins downstream the Lajeado HR (Tocantins, Funil); 4. Rio Lajeado; 5. Rio Tocantins, near its confluence with rio Santa Luzia; 6. Rio Santa Luzia; 7. Rio Tocantins, near its confluence with rio Mangues; 8. Rio Mangues; 9. Rio Tocantins near Porto Nacional; 10. Rio Areias; 11. Rio Tocantins near Brejinho de Nazaré; 12. Rio Crixás; 13. Lagoa Feia; 14. Lagoa Capivara; 15. Rio Tocantins, near its confluence with rio Manoel Alves; 16. Rio Manoel Alves; 17. Rio São Valério; 18. Rio Tocantins, near its confluence with rio Santa Tereza; 19. Rio Santa Tereza; 20. Lagoa Dionísio; and 21. Lagoa Água Branca.

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Fish species were collected from October 1999 to September 2004, using gill nets, seine nets, cast nets, and electro-fishing equipment. Fishes were collected under IBAMA (Instituto Brasileiro do Meio Ambiente e dos Recursos Naturais Renováveis) permits (# 01/1999, 01/2000, 01/2001, 01/2002, 01/2003, 01/2004). Standardized samplings were carried out monthly with the aid of (1) gill-nets mesh with 2.4 to 16 cm between-knot mesh sizes, with approximately 20 m total length (total effort = 490,370 m<sup>2</sup>); (2) seine nets with approximately 20 m total length and 0.5 cm mesh (total effort 272,484 m<sup>2</sup>); (3) long lines with 20 fish hooks and *pindas* with a single fish hook (total effort 23,000 hooks); and (4) electro-fishing (total effort 2,614 m<sup>2</sup>) in several places at streams. The sampling totalized 770 days with the fish gear in the water in different places, during the sampling period.

Voucher specimens are in the UNT (Coleção de Peixes do Laboratório de Ictiologia Sistemática, Universidade Federal do Tocantins, Porto Nacional). The classification of fishes mostly followed Reis *et al.* (2003), which is based on current phylogenetic knowledge on Neotropical freshwater fishes, except the allocation of the genus *Chalceus* in the family Alestidae, which follows Zanata and Vari (2005).

### Results and discussion

This inventory yielded 343 species distributed in 42 families and 12 orders (Appendix 1).

The Characiformes represented 50.2 % of the total number of specimens, whereas the Siluriformes represented 30.7 %. Perciformes, Gymnotiformes, and remaining orders represented 8.3 %, 5.0 %, and < 2.0 % of the total number of specimens, respectively. The dominant characiform families were Characidae (31.6 %), Anostomidae (6.8 %), and Curimatidae (4.1 %). Among the Siluriformes, the most abundant families were Loricariidae (12.4 %), Pimelodidae (5.0 %), Doradidae, Auchenipteridae, and Trichomycteridae (2.6 % each). The Gymnotiformes included representatives of the families Sternopygidae (six species), Rhamphichthyidae (three species), Gymnotidae (two species), and Hypopomidae (one species).

The perciform family Cichlidae corresponded to 6.5 % of the total number of specimens. The number of species within families in the remaining fish orders were: Potamotrygonidae (10 species), Pristigasteridae, Engraulidae, and Rivulidae (three species each), Poeciliidae, Arapaimatidae, Belonidae, Synbranchidae, Tetraodontidae, and Achiridae (one species each). Among listed species 4.4 % (15 species) are provisionally identified, and 29-38 % of the total number of species corresponds to undescribed species. 38 species (about 11 %), are endemic to the rio Tocantins drainage.

The rio Tocantins drainage is an area of endemism for several Neotropical freshwater fish groups as identified by several authors (*e.g.* Vari 1988; Menezes and Lucena 1998; Lima and Moreira 2003). Especially in its upper portions, it appears also as a highly endemic center for the Ancistrini, as shown by the presence of three recently described species of *Hemiancistrus* (Cardoso and Lucinda 2003), and four endemic species of *Ancistrus* (Fisch-Muller *et al.* 2001; 2005).

Moreover, new species have been described at an accelerating pace in the last few years, *e.g.* *Cetopsis arcana*, *C. caiapo*, *C. sarcodes*, and *Denticetopsis epa* (Vari *et al.* 2005), *Astyanax elachylepis* (Bertaco and Lucinda 2005), *Hypostomus ericae* (Carvalho and Weber 2005), *Hyphessobrycon hamatus* (Bertaco and Malabarba 2005), and *Moenkhausia pankilopteryx* (Bertaco and Lucinda 2006). Several species are unknown or exhibit serious taxonomic and nomenclatural difficulties (*e.g.* *Potamotrygon* spp., *Leporinus* spp., *Hemigrammus* spp., *Knodus* spp., *Moenkhausia* spp., *Metynnis* spp., *Myleus* spp., *Serrasalmus* spp., *Hoplias* spp., *Pimelodus* spp., *Hypostomus* spp., *Gymnotus cf. carapo*, *Eigenmannia cf. macrops*, *Crenicichla* spp.). Others are rarely captured (*e.g.* *Astronotus crassipinis*, *Otocinclus hoppei*, *Sartor tucuruense*).

All these facts indicate the poor level of taxonomic knowledge of this ichthyofauna. Actually, the situation is alike for Neotropical freshwater fishes as a whole (Vari and Malabarba 1998). Hydroelectric projects have caused serious

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alterations of several kinds of microenvironments inside the basin, and some are disappearing along with their ichthyofaunas. Thus, a substantial amount of information about fish diversity on the rio Tocantins is disappearing. Migratory species may be the most affected component of fish communities by damming. Several migratory species inhabit the rio Tocantins drainage, among which 32 species were recorded during this study.

Our knowledge of Neotropical freshwater fishes is limited by two main obstacles: (1) the scarcity of information on phylogenetic relationships among and between several fish groups from these areas, and (2) incomplete information on species-level diversity. It is therefore imperative to sample and document the diversity of areas such as the middle

and upper rio Tocantins, where industrial and agricultural activities are rapidly modifying natural communities.

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**Appendix 1.** Fish species collected in the area of influence of the Lajeado HR region from October 1999 to September 2004.

Class CHONDRICHTHYES

Subclass ELASMOBRANCHII

Superorder EUSELACHI

Order MYLIOBATIFORMES

Sub-order MYLIOBATOIDEI

Superfamily DASYATOIDEA

Family POTAMOTRYGONIDAE

*Paratrygon aiereba*

*Potamotrygon orbignyi*

*Potamotrygon sp. A*

*Potamotrygon sp. B*

*Potamotrygon sp. C*

*Potamotrygon sp. D*

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*Potamotrygon* sp. E  
*Potamotrygon* sp. F  
*Potamotrygon* sp. G

### Class ACTINOPERYGII

#### Subclass NEOPTERYGII

#### Division TELEOSTEI

#### Superorder OSTEOGLOSSOMORPHA

#### Order OSTEOGLOSSIFORMES

#### Sub-order OSTEOGLOSSOIDEI

#### Family ARAPAIMATIDAE

*Arapaima* *gigas*

#### Subdivision CLUPEOCEPHALA

#### Superorder CLUPEOMORPHA

#### Order CLUPEIFORMES

#### Sub-order CLUPEOIDEI

#### Family PRISTIGASTERIDAE

*Pellona* *flavipinnis*

*Pristigaster* *cayana*

#### Family ENGRAULIDAE

*Anchoviella* *cf. carrikeri*

*Lycengraulis* *batesii*

#### Superorder OSTARIOPHYSI

#### Series OTOPHYSI

#### Order CHARACIFORMES

#### Family ACESTRORHYNCHIDAE

*Acestrorhynchus* *falcatus*

*Acestrorhynchus* *microlepis*

#### Family ALESTIDAE

*Chalceus* *epakros*

#### Family ANOSTOMIDAE

*Abramites* *hypselsonotus*

*Anostomus* *ternetzi*

*Laemolyta* *fernandezi*

*Leporellus* *vittatus*

*Leporinus* *affinis*

*Leporinus* *desmotes*

*Leporinus* *aff. friderici*

*Leporinus* *cf. granti*

*Leporinus* *maculatus*

*Leporinus* *octomaculatus*

*Leporinus* *pachycheilus*

*Leporinus* sp. A

*Leporinus* sp. B

*Leporinus* sp. C

*Leporinus* sp. D

*Leporinus* sp. E

*Leporinus* sp. F

*Leporinus* *taeniofasciatus*

*Leporinus* *tigrinus*

*Leporinus* *trifasciatus*

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*Sartor tucuruense*  
*Schizodon vittatus*  
Family CHARACIDAE  
GENERA INCERTAE SEDIS  
*Astyanax cf. goyacensis*  
*Astyanax elachylepis*  
*Astyanax sp.*  
*Bryconops sp. A*  
*Bryconops sp. B*  
*Bryconops sp. C*  
*Bryconops sp. D*  
*Caiapobrycon tucurui*  
*Creagrutus atrisignum*  
*Creagrutus britskii*  
*Creagrutus cracentis*  
*Creagrutus figueiredoi*  
*Creagrutus menezesi*  
*Creagrutus mucipu*  
*Ctenobrycon hauxwellianus*  
*Exodon paradoxus*  
*Hemigrammus sp. A*  
*Hemigrammus sp. B*  
*Hemigrammus sp. C*  
*Hemigrammus sp. D*  
*Hyphessobrycon sp. A*  
*Hyphessobrycon sp. B*  
*Hyphessobrycon sp. C*  
*Hyphessobrycon sp. D*  
*Hyphessobrycon sp. E*  
*Jupiaba apenima*  
*Jupiaba polylepis*  
*Jupiaba sp. A*  
*Jupiaba sp. B*  
*Knodus sp. A*  
*Knodus sp. B*  
*Knodus sp. C*  
*Knodus sp. D*  
*Knodus sp. E*  
*Knodus sp. F*  
*Knodus sp. G*  
*Knodus sp. H*  
*Leptobrycon sp.*  
*Microschemobrycon sp.*  
*Moenkhausia cf. sanctaefilomenae*  
*Moenkhausia aff. dichrourea*  
*Moenkhausia loweae*  
*Moenkhausia pankilopteryx*  
*Moenkhausia pyrophthalma*  
*Moenkhausia sp. A*  
*Moenkhausia sp. B*  
*Moenkhausia sp. C*

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- Moenkhausia sp. D*  
*Moenkhausia sp. E*  
*Moenkhausia sp. F*  
*Moenkhausia sp. G*  
*Moenkhausia sp. H*  
*Moenkhausia sp. I*  
*Moenkhausia sp. L*  
*Moenkhausia tergimacula*  
*Roeboexodon geryi*  
*Salminus hilarii*  
*Triportheus albus*  
*Triportheus auritus*  
*Triportheus trifurcatus*  
*Tyttobrycon sp. A*  
*Tyttobrycon sp. B*  
Sub-family AGONIATINAE  
*Agoniates halecinus*  
Sub-family APHYOCHARACINAE  
*Aphyocharax sp.*  
Sub-family BRYCONINAE  
*Brycon falcatus*  
*Brycon gouldingi*  
*Brycon sp. A*  
*Brycon sp. B*  
Sub-family CHARACINAE  
*Acestrocephalus sardina*  
*Charax leticiae*  
*Galeocharax gulo*  
*Phenacogaster sp.*  
*Roebooides affinis*  
Sub-family CHEIRODONTINAE  
*Serrapinnus sp. A*  
*Serrapinnus sp. B*  
*Serrapinnus sp. C*  
*Serrapinnus sp. D*  
*Serrapinnus sp. E*  
Sub-family CLUPEACHARACINAE  
*Clupeocharax anchoveoides*  
Sub-family SERRASALMINAE  
*Acnodon normani*  
*Colossoma macropomum*  
*Metynnis hypsauchen*  
*Metynnis sp. A*  
*Metynnis sp. B*  
*Mylesinus paucisquamatus*  
*Myleus cf. torquatus*  
*Myleus setiger*  
*Myleus sp. A*  
*Myleus sp. B*  
*Myleus sp. C*  
*Myleus sp. D*



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*Myleus sp. E*  
*Myloplus sp.*  
*Mylossoma duriventre*  
*Piaractus brachypomus*  
*Piaractus mesopotamicus*  
*Pygocentrus nattereri*  
*Serrasalmus eigenmanni*  
*Serrasalmus maculatus*  
*Serrasalmus rhombeus*  
*Serrasalmus sp.*

*Tometes sp.*

Sub-family STETHAPRIONINAE

*Brachychalcinus copei*  
*Poptella compressa*

Sub-family TETRAGONOPTERINAE

*Tetragonopterus argenteus*  
*Tetragonopterus chalceus*  
*Tetragonopterus sp. A*  
*Tetragonopterus sp. B*

Family CHILODONTIDAE

*Caenotropus labyrinthicus*  
*Chilodus punctatus*

Family CRENUCHIDAE

*Characidium sp.*  
*Melanocharacidium dispilomma*

Family CTENOLUCIIDAE

*Boulengerella cuvieri*

Family CURIMATIDAE

*Curimata acutirostris*  
*Curimata cyprinoides*  
*Curimata inornata*  
*Curimatella dorsalis*  
*Curimatella immaculata*  
*Cyphocharax festivus*  
*Cyphocharax gouldingi*  
*Cyphocharax plumbeus*  
*Cyphocharax signatus*  
*Cyphocharax spilurus*  
*Psectrogaster amazonica*  
*Steindachnerina amazonica*  
*Steindachnerina gracilis*  
*Steindachnerina sp.*

Family CYNODONTIDAE

*Cynodon gibbus*  
*Hydrolycus armatus*  
*Hydrolycus tatauaia*  
*Rhaphiodon vulpinus*

Family ERYTHRINIDAE

*Hoplerythrinus unitaeniatus*  
*Hoplias cf. malabaricus*  
*Hoplias cf. lacerdae*

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- Family GASTEROPELECIDAE  
*Thoracocharax stellatus*
- Family HEMIODONTIDAE  
*Argonectes robertsi*  
*Bivibranchia fowleri*  
*Bivibranchia velox*  
*Hemiodus microlepis*  
*Hemiodus ternetzi*  
*Hemiodus unimaculatus*
- Famila LEBIASINIDAE  
*Pyrrhulina brevis*
- Family PARODONTIDAE  
*Apareiodon machrisi*  
*Apareiodon argenteus*
- Family PROCHILODONTIDAE  
*Prochilodus nigricans*  
*Semaprochilodus brama*
- Order SILURIFORMES
- Family PSEUDOPIMELODIDAE  
*Batrochoglanis sp. A*  
*Batrochoglanis sp. B*  
*Microglanis sp. A*  
*Microglanis sp. B*
- Family HEPTAPTERIDAE  
*Pimelodella sp.*  
*Pimelodella cristata*  
*Phenacorhamdia sp.*  
*Rhamdia itacaiunas*  
*Rhamdia sp.*
- Family PIMELODIDAE  
*Aguarunichthys tocantinsensis*  
*Brachyplatystoma filamentosum*  
*Hemisorubim platyrhynchos*  
*Hypophthalmus marginatus*  
*Megalonema cf. platycephalum*  
*Pimelodina flavipinnis*  
*Pimelodus blochii*  
*Pimelodus ornatus*  
*Pimelodus sp. A*  
*Pimelodus sp. B*  
*Pimelodus sp. C*  
*Pimelodus tetramerus*  
*Pinirampus pirinampu*  
*Phractocephalus hemiliopterus*  
*Pseudoplatystoma fasciatum*  
*Pseudopimelodus sp.*  
*Sorubim lima*  
*Sorubimichthys planiceps*  
*Zungaro zungaro*
- Family DORADIDAE  
*Hassar wilderi*

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*Leptodoras acipenserinus*  
*Leptodoras praelongus*  
*Megalodoras uranoscopus*  
*Nemadoras cf. leporhinus*  
*Oxydoras niger*  
*Platydoras costatus*  
*Pterodoras granulatus*  
*Rhinodoras aff. boehlkei*  
Family LORICARIIDAE  
Sub-family HYPOPTOPOMATINAE  
*Hypoptopoma sp.*  
*Otocinclus hoppei*  
Sub-family LORICARIINAE  
*Farlowella amazona*  
*Harttia duriventris*  
*Hemiodontichthys acipenserinus*  
*Lamontichthys filamentosus*  
*Limatulichthys griseus*  
*Loricaria sp.*  
*Loricariichthys sp.*  
*Rineloricaria lanceolata*  
*Rinelocaria sp. A*  
*Rinelocaria sp. B*  
*Sturisoma rostratum*  
Sub-family HYPOSTOMINAE  
*Acanthicus hystrix*  
*Ancistrus aguaboensis*  
*Ancistrus minutus*  
*Ancistrus sp. A*  
*Ancistrus sp. B*  
*Ancistrus sp. C*  
*Ancistrus sp. D*  
*Baryancistrus longipinnis*  
*Baryancistrus niveatus*  
*Glyptoperichthys joselimaianus*  
*Hemiancistrus spilomma*  
*Hemiancistrus spinosissimus*  
*Hypostomus ericae*  
*Hypostomus sp. A*  
*Hypostomus sp. B*  
*Hypostomus sp. C*  
*Hypostomus sp. D*  
*Hypostomus sp. E*  
*Hypostomus sp. F*  
*Hypostomus sp. G*  
*Hypostomus sp. H*  
*Hypostomus sp. I*  
*Leporacanthicus galaxias*  
*Panaque nigrolineatus*  
*Panaque pariolispos*  
*Peckoltia vittata*

LISTS OF SPECIES

- Pseudacanthicus serratus*  
*Pseudacanthicus* sp.  
Family CALLICHTHYIDAE  
*Aspidoras eurycephalus*  
*Callichthys callichthys*  
*Corydoras* sp. A  
*Corydoras* sp. B  
*Corydoras xinguensis*  
*Hoplosternum littorale*  
Family ASPREDINIDAE  
*Bunocephalus aleuopsis*  
Family AUCHENIPTERIDAE  
*Ageneiosus brevis*  
*Ageneiosus ucayalensis*  
*Auchenipterus nuchalis*  
*Glanidium* sp.  
*Tatia* sp. A  
*Tatia* sp. B  
*Tatia* sp. C  
*Tocantinsia piresi*  
*Trachelyopterus galeatus*  
Family CETOPSIDAE  
*Cetopsis* sp.  
*Cetopsis coecutiens*  
*Cetopsis plumbea*  
Family TRICOMYCTERIDAE  
*Ammoglanis diaphanus*  
*Homodiaetus* sp.  
*Pseudostegophilus nemurus*  
*Schultzichthys cf. bondi*  
*Schultzichthys* sp.  
*Vandellia cirrhosa*  
*Vandellia* sp. A  
*Vandellia* sp. B  
*Vandellia* sp. C  
Order GYMNOTIFORMES  
Family RHAMPHICHTHYIDAE  
*Gymnorhamphichthys* sp.  
*Rhamphichthys marmoratus*  
*Rhamphichthys rostratus*  
Family APTERONOTIDAE  
*Apteronotus aff. albifrons*  
*Porotergus* sp. A  
*Porotergus* sp. B  
*Sternarchogiton nattereri*  
*Sternarchorhamphus muelleri*  
*Sternarchorhynchus* sp.  
Family GYMNOTIDAE  
*Gymnotus cf. carapo*  
*Electrophorus electricus*  
Family STERNOPYGIDAE

LISTS OF SPECIES

*Archolaemus blax*  
*Eigenmannia cf. trilineata*  
*Eigenmannia cf. macrops*  
*Eigenmannia sp.*  
*Rhabdolichops eastwardi*  
*Sternopygus macrurus*  
Familia HYPOPOMIDAE  
*Brachyhypopomus cf. pinnicaudatus*  
Subdivisão EUTELEOSTEI  
NEOGNATHI  
NEOTELEOSTEI  
Superorder ACANTHOPTERYGII  
Série PERCOMORPHA  
Order PERCIFORMES  
Sub-order PERCOIDEI  
Superfamily PERCOIDEA  
Family SCIAENIDAE  
*Pachypops fourcroy*  
*Pachyurus calhamazon*  
*Pachyurus junki*  
*Pachyurus paucirastrus*  
*Petilipinnis grunniens*  
*Plagioscion squamosissimus*  
Sub-order LABROIDEI  
Family CICHLIDAE  
*Aequidens tetramerus*  
*Astronotus crassipinnis*  
*Biotodoma cupido*  
*Caquetaia sp.*  
*Cichla kelberi*  
*Cichla sp.*  
*Cichlasoma araguaiense*  
*Crenicichla adspersa*  
*Crenicichla cametana*  
*Crenicichla johanna*  
*Crenicichla labrina*  
*Crenicichla lepidota*  
*Crenicichla lugubris*  
*Crenicichla reticulata*  
*Crenicichla saxatilis*  
*Crenicichla sp.*  
*Crenicichla strigata*  
*Geophagus altifrons*  
*Heros sp.*  
*Retroculus lapidifer*  
*Retroculus sp.*  
*Satanoperca jurupari*  
Série ATHERINOMORPHA  
Order CYPRINODONTIFORMES  
Sub-order APLOCHEILOIDEI  
Family RIVULIDAE

## LISTS OF SPECIES

*Rivulus cf. zygonectes*

*Rivulus sp.*

Familia POECILIIDAE

*Pamphorichthys araguaiensis*

Order BELONIFORMES

Sub-order BELONOIDEI

Superfamily Scomberesocoidea

Family BELONIDAE

*Pseudotylosurus microps*

Order SYNBRANCHIFORMES

Sub-order SYNBRANCHOIDEI

Family SYNBRANCHIDAE

*Synbranchus marmoratus*

Order TETRAODONTIFORMES

Family TETRAODONTIDAE

*Colomesus asellus*

Order PLEURONECTIFORMES

Family ACHIRIDAE

*Hypoclinemus mentalis*