

## LISTS OF SPECIES

### Fish, Itupararanga Reservoir, Sorocaba River Drainage, São Paulo, Brazil.

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#### Abstract

The Itupararanga Reservoir is located at the Sorocaba River Basin, state of São Paulo, Brazil. Five cities use the waters of this reservoir for human consumption. Despite this intensive use of the water resource, no study has been undertaken, to investigate the ichthyofauna of this reservoir. Overall, 22 species of fishes were sampled, including 7 orders and 12 families. Characiformes and Siluriformes were the most representative with respectively 9 and 5 species. Among the families, Characidae and Pimelodidae are noticed, both with respectively 5 and 3 collected species.

#### Introduction

The Itupararanga reservoir is located in the headwaters of the Sorocaba river, southeast Brazil. This reservoir receives water from the Sorocabaçu and Sorocamirim rivers, which, in turn, join to form the Sorocaba River (Figure 1).

The reservoir was built in 1912, has a drainage area of 851 km<sup>2</sup>, a maximum flow of 39.12 m<sup>3</sup>/s<sup>-1</sup> and a max volume of 286 millions of m<sup>3</sup>. The power generation capacity is 55 MW, and the mean annual production of 150 Gwh, is exclusively used by the large Votorantim Corporation. The reservoir is located at the municipality of Votorantim, but it also drains four other municipalities: Ibiúna, Mairinque, Alumínio and Piedade. All these five cities use the water of the reservoir for human consumption.

Several studies reported the effects of damming on the ichthyofauna (Fernando and Holcick 1991; Beaumord 1991; Duncan and Kubecka 1995). In this regard it is worth mentioning those studies carried out in the reservoirs of the Paraná River Basin, especially at the Tiête River which receives the Sorocaba River (Petrere 1996; Agostinho, Bini and Gomes 1997; Barrella 1998; Smith 1999; Smith and Petrere 2001; Smith et al. 2002).

Damming, in some cases, can be an insurmountable barrier for any fish species, isolating sites and specific zones that otherwise would be routinely used for feeding or reproduction (Beaumord 1994; Agostinho and Zalewski 1996). This isolation can have a genetic effect on fish populations (Petrere 1996).

A reservoir creates a new lentic environment, which is expected to impact on the also below remnant community above the dam (Beaumord 1991; 1994). This community will suffer modifications related to a decrease in the abundance of some rheophilic species, and a concomitant increase in the number of species with a higher adaptive capacity for lentic environments, such as are the curimatids of the reservoirs of the Parana river basin (Barrella 1998; Smith and Petrere 2001) and *Hypophthalmus edentatus* and *Auchenipterus nuchalis* in the Itaipu reservoir (Agostinho, Julio Jr. and Petrere 1994).

According to Castro and Arcifa (1987), *Cyphocharax modestus* was the most abundant fish species in Southern Brazil reservoirs. Agostinho, Julio Jr. and Borghetti (1992) verified that before Itaipu damming, *Hypophthalmus edentatus* and *Auchenipterus nuchalis* were rare, but just after damming both became responsible for 20% of the catches. This happens basically because not all species adapt to this new habitat, so that a reduction in fish diversity occurs. Given this background, the objective of the present paper was to describe the ichthyofauna of Itupararanga reservoir, in which the fish fauna studies are relatively poor.

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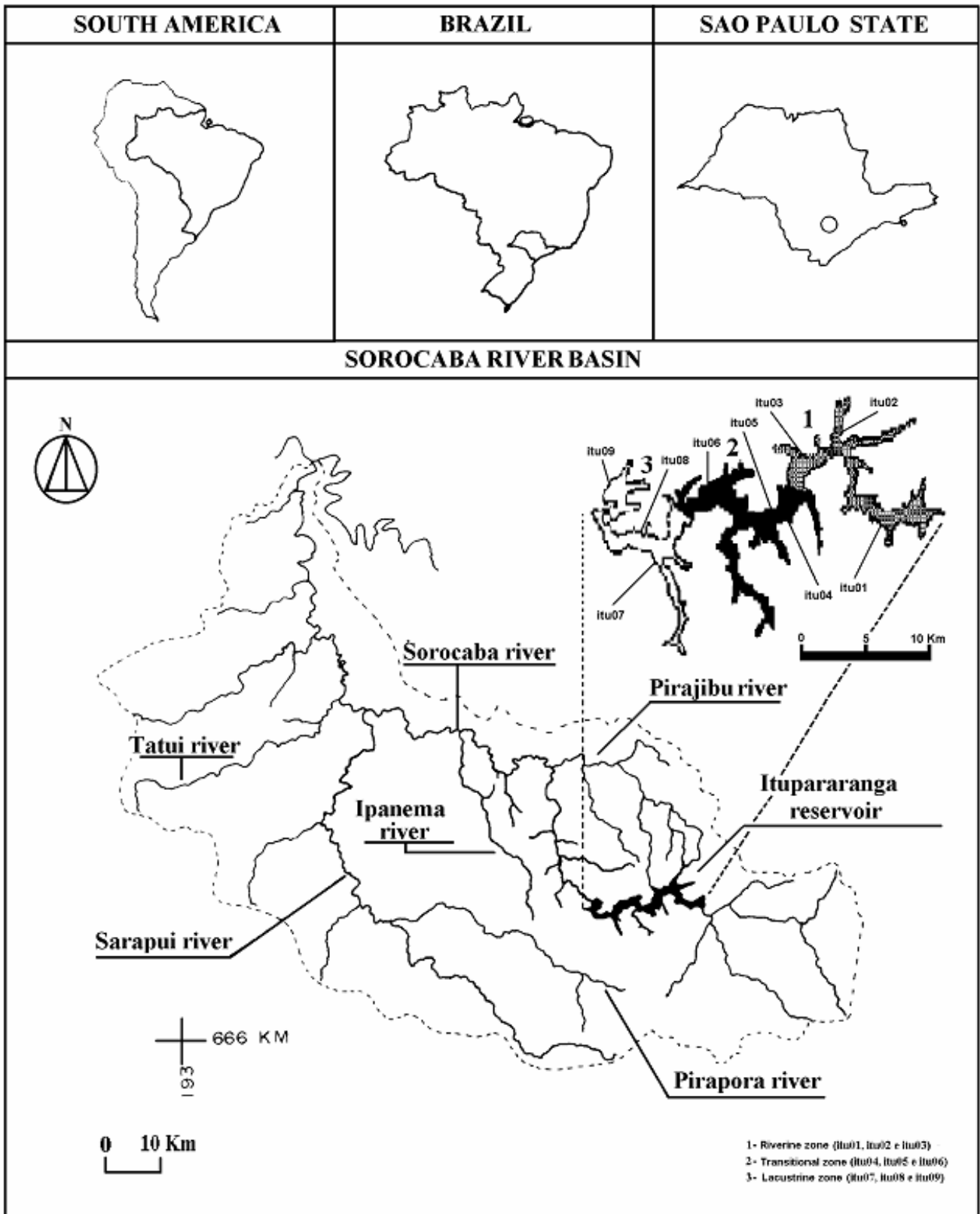


Figure 1. Sorocaba River basin, showing the location of the Itupararanga reservoir and the sampling stations.

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### Materials and methods

Samplings were performed in nine sampling stations (Figure 1). Fishes were collected using eight pairs of monofilament gillnets of 10 m length each, with varied mesh sizes (30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 100 and 120 mm mesh sizes between opposite knots). Samplings were carried out in the rainy (January, February, and March 1996) and dry (July and August 1996) seasons, which corresponded to our spatial scale of analysis. Gillnets were set overnight from 18:00 h to 06:00 h. The specimens were preserved in formalin (10 %). Identification was first performed using the identification keys of Britski (1972), Britski et al. (1984) and later confirmed by Dr. Heraldo Britski, (Museum of Zoology, University of São Paulo).

### Results and discussion

In this work, 22 fish species were identified in the reservoir, distributed in 7 orders, 12 families and 20 genera. Characiformes was represented by 9 species followed by Siluriformes with 5 species, Perciformes and Gymnotiformes with 3 species, Cyprinodontiformes, Cipriniformes and Synbranchiformes with 1 species each. Among the families, Characidae and Pimelodidae are noticed, with 5 and 3 collected species, respectively. Of these species, 20 are natives, only 2 are exotic, such as the “tilapia” *Tilapia rendalli* and the “carp” *Cyprinus carpio*.

The low species richness found in the reservoir might be due to the fact that the area is close to the river head, thus presenting a lower richness and diversity than areas located below. Moreover, a decrease in species richness might have happened in the years following the dam constructions, due to a decrease in habitats suitable for reproduction and initial development of some species (Agostinho et al. 1997). These hypotheses however, are difficult to corroborate, as there is no study that attempted to follow species richness before and after the dam construction.

Petrere (1996) reported several effects of the damming upon the ichthyofauna, the most important ones being related to the isolation of populations and decrease in the number of migratory species. Damming can constitute, in several cases, an insurmountable barrier for any

fish species, isolating sites and specific zones of the river where some species normally use for reproduction or as a feeding area (Beaumord 1991; Godoy 1995). This is verified in the Itupararanga reservoir where migratory fish species were rare. By the other hand there is a dominance of *Astyanax fasciatus* and *Cyphocharax modestus*, better adapted to lacustrine biotops. These two species are partial spawners, do not care for the eggs and larvae and present high fecundity (Barbieri and Barbieri 1988; Barbieri and Hartz 1995). They also utilize with efficiency the local resources in this lacustrine zone.

Castro and Arcifa (1987) reported that the most abundant and frequent species at several reservoirs in the São Paulo State were *Geophagus brasiliensis*, *Hoplias malabaricus*, *Astyanax bimaculatus*, *Astyanax fasciatus*, *Tilapia rendalli* and *Cyphocharax modestus*. This observation was confirmed at the Itupararanga reservoir, where *Astyanax fasciatus* and *Cyphocharax modestus* were the most frequent species. More recent studies at the Barra Bonita (Castro 1994), Promissão (Amaral and Petrere 1994) and Americana (Romanini 1989) reservoirs also corroborate these results. This similarity was expected, as all these reservoirs are located at the same hydrographic basin. It is noteworthy that, as far as the reservoirs at the Tietê River basin are concerned, the species with the highest level of pre-adaptation to a lentic environment are: *Geophagus brasiliensis*, *Hoplias malabaricus*, *Astyanax bimaculatus*, *Astyanax fasciatus*, *Cyphocharax modestus*, *Iheringichthys labrosus* and *Oligossarcus paranensis*.

The remnant fish community in the reservoir is derived from the ichthyofauna that already existed in the dammed river (Fernando and Holcick 1991; Castro and Arcifa 1987; Agostinho et al. 1997). Colonization is performed mainly by species pre-adapted to the lacustrine conditions of the new environment. This was clear in the damming stations both at the Sorocaba River and at its affluent collected in the reservoir creeks basically the some species of the reservoir, as *Hoplias malabaricus*, *Steindachnerina insculpta*, *Rhamdia quelen*, *Iheringichthys labrosus* and *Oligossarcus paranensis*, which corroborates what was stated above.

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**Table 1.** Fish species from the Itupararanga Reservoir.

	Species
<b>CHARACIFORMES</b>	
Characidae	
Tetragonopterinae	<i>Astyanax fasciatus</i> (Cuvier, 1819) <i>Astyanax altiparanae</i> Garutti & Britski, 2000
Characinae	<i>Galeocharax knerii</i> (Steindachner, 1870)
Acestrorhynchinae	<i>Acestrorhynchus lacustris</i> (Reinhardt, 1874) <i>Oligosarcus paranensis</i> (Meneses & Géry, 1983)
Erythrinidae	<i>Hoplias malabaricus</i> (Bloch, 1794)
Prochilodontidae	<i>Prochilodus lineatus</i> (Valenciennes, 1847)
Curimatidae	<i>Cyphocharax modestus</i> (Fernandez-Yepes, 1948) <i>Cyphocharax nagelli</i> (Steindachner, 1881)
<b>CYPRINIFORMES</b>	
Ciprinidae	<i>Cyprinus carpio</i> (Boulenger, 1897)
<b>SILURIFORMES</b>	
Callichthyidae	<i>Hoplosternum litoralle</i> (Hancock, 1828)
Pimelodidae	<i>Pimelodus maculatus</i> (Lacépède, 1803) <i>Iheringichthys labrosus</i> (Kröyer, 1855) <i>Rhamdia quelen</i> (Quoy & Gaimard, 1824)
Loricariidae	<i>Hypostomus ancistroides</i> (Ihering, 1911)
<b>GYMNOTIFORMES</b>	
Gymnotidae	<i>Gymnotus</i> cf. <i>carapo</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)
Sternopygidae	<i>Sternopygus macrurus</i> (Bloch & Schneider, 1801) <i>Eigenmannia</i> aff. <i>virescens</i> (Valenciennes, 1836)
<b>PERCIFORMES</b>	
Cichlidae	<i>Tilapia rendalli</i> (Boulenger, 1897) <i>Geophagus brasiliensis</i> (Quoy & Gaimard, 1824)
<b>CYPRINODONTIFORMES</b>	
Poeciliidae	<i>Phaloceros caudimaculatus</i> (Hensel, 1868)
<b>SYNBRANCHIFORMES</b>	
Synbranchidae	<i>Synbranchus marmoratus</i> (Bloch, 1795)

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