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Feeding habits, length-weight relationship and condition factor of *Chrysichthys nigrodigitatus* (Lacepède, 1803) from Ogun River, Nigeria

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This study evaluates the feeding habits, length-weight relationship and condition factor of *Chrysichthys nigrodigitatus* from Ogun River, Nigeria. Samples were collected for four months (February to May, 2013) and analyzed for length-weight relationship, condition factor and stomach contents. Standard lengths of *C. nigrodigitatus* ranged from 8.38-41.61 cm with a mean of 20.79+5.88 cm while the weights ranged from 24.12 g to 273.61 g with mean of 143.51+66.12 g. Length class 11.0-13.99 cm and 41-43.99 cm were the most and least frequently encountered with percentage frequency of 26.67% and 0.67%. Least squares regression of the transformed data gave an exponent b of 1.18, a of 0.68 with straight line equation Log W=Log 0.6821+1.1822 Log L. A significant positive linear relationship existed between body weight and standard length (r=0.80). Condition factor ranged between0.14 and 12.44 with a mean of 3.97+2.92. Size class 8-10.99 cm had the highest mean condition factor of 8.92+2.4 cm which ranged from 2.25-12.44 cm. A total of twenty eight stomachs (18.67%) were empty and diatoms, followed by green algae, appeared to be the most abundant food items accounting for 42.62% and 19.7% by number as well as 19.97% and 17.7% occurrence, respectively. The study concludes that *C. nigrodigitatus* demonstrates an overlapping feeding pattern and thus contributes to baseline information, not only, on the trophic status but, for conducting future studies on the species. The study presents a baseline data for the trophic status of the species in Ogun River.

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