

A Comparative Analysis of the Diets of a Genus of Freshwater Turtles Across Africa

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Table S1. Diet composition (% of stomachs containing a given food item) of male and female *Pelusios* species in Nigeria. In the table, no. of individuals would indicate the number of turtles containing a given food type; N is the total number of individuals examined for each sex.

Nigeria	<i>Pelusios castaneus</i>				<i>Pelusios niger</i>			
	males		females		males		females	
	no. individuals	%	no. individuals	%	no. individuals	%	no. individuals	%
N	211		178		162		148	
Fruits	16	7.6	12	6.7	5	3.1	6	4.1
seeds	14	6.6	24	5	8	4.9	12	8.1
Aquatic plants	41	19.	38	21.	21	13.	22	14.
Algae	1	4	0	3	3	0	2	9
Annelida	14	0.5	16	0.0	23	1.9	19	1.4
Gastropoda	14	6.6	16	9.0	23	14.	19	12.
Bivalvia	25	11.	27	15.	16	2	22	8
Arachnida	25	8	27	2	16	9.9	22	14.
Insecta	3	1.4	1	0.6	0	9	0	9
Crustacea	6	2.8	6	3.4	3	0.0	0	0.0
Fish	20	9.5	13	7.3	11	1.9	11	0.0
Anura adults	20	19.	25	25.	11	6.8	11	7.4
Anura eggs	40	19.	46	25.	40	24.	24	16.
Anura tadpoles	40	0	46	8	40	7	24	2
Reptiles	140	66.	112	62.	81	50.	73	49.
birds	140	4	112	9	81	0	73	3
small mammals	13	6.2	7	3.9	31	19.	17	11.
Indeterminate	14	6.6	14	7.9	9	1	10	5
	14	16.	14	34.	9	10.	10	6.8
	35	6	61	3	17	5	20	13.
	0	0.0	0	0	3	1.9	0	5
	0	0	0	0	7	4.3	0	0.0
	0	0	0	0	5	3.1	2	0.0
	0	0.0	0	0	3	1.9	2	1.4

Table S2. Diet composition (% of stomachs containing a given food item) of male and female *Pelusios castaneus* in Benin. In the table, no. of individuals would indicate the number of turtles containing a given food type; N is the total number of individuals examined for each sex.

Benin	<i>Pelusios castaneus</i>			
	males		females	
	no. individuals	%	no. individuals	%
N	27		29	
seeds	1	3.7	2	0.6
Aquatic plants	17	63.0	14	4.1
Annelida	4	14.8	3	0.9
Insecta	4	14.8	3	0.9
Crustacea	3	11.1	3	0.9
Fish	6	22.2	8	2.3
Anura adults	3	11.1	0	0.0
Indeterminate	2	7.4	0	0.0

Table S3. Diet composition (% of stomachs containing a given food item) of male and female *Pelusios castaneus* in Togo. In the table, no. of individuals would indicate the number of turtles containing a given food type; N is the total number of individuals examined for each sex.

Togo	<i>Pelusios castaneus</i>			
	males		females	
	no. individuals	%	no. individuals	%
Fruits	1	1.0	2	1.8
seeds	16	15.5	16	14.0
Aquatic plants	30	29.1	21	18.4
Algae	2	1.9	2	1.8
Annelida	16	15.5	17	14.9
Gastropoda	8	7.8	11	9.6
Arachnida	1	1.0	0	0.0
Insecta	36	35.0	43	37.7
Crustacea	7	6.8	7	6.1
Fish	29	28.2	24	21.1
Anura adults	24	23.3	30	26.3
Anura eggs	8	7.8	5	4.4
Anura tadpoles	2	1.9	3	2.6
Indeterminate	2	1.9	1	0.9

Table S4. Diet composition (% of stomachs containing a given food item) of male and female *Pelusios adansonii* in South Sudan. In the table, no. of individuals would indicate the number of turtles containing a given food type; N is the total number of individuals examined for each sex.

South Sudan	<i>Pelusios adansonii</i>			
	males		females	
	no. individuals	%	no. individuals	%
N	122		91	
Fruits	3	2.5	0	0
seeds	4	3.3	3	3.3
Aquatic plants	40	32.8	34	37.4
Annelida	31	25.4	12	13.2
Gastropoda	5	4.1	9	9.9
Arachnida	1	0.8	0	0.0
Insecta	40	32.8	39	42.9
Crustacea	20	16.4	13	14.3
Fish	21	17.2	21	23.1
Anura adults	14	11.5	8	8.8
Anura eggs	1	0.8	0	0.0
Anura tadpoles	1	0.8	3	3.3
Reptiles	1	0.8	0	0.0
Indeterminate	8	6.6	5	5.5

Table S5. Diet composition (% of stomachs containing a given food item) of male and female *Pelusios nanus* in Zambia. In the table, no. of individuals would indicate the number of turtles containing a given food type; N is the total number of individuals examined for each sex.

Zambia	<i>Pelusios nanus</i>			
	males		females	
	no. individuals	%	no. individuals	%
N	30		39	
seeds	2	6.7	3	7.7
Aquatic plants	3	10.0	3	7.7
Annelida	3	10.0	9	23.1
Gastropoda	1	3.3	2	5.1
Arachnida	12	40.0	9	23.1
Insecta	25	83.3	22	56.4
Crustacea	1	3.3	1	2.6
Anura eggs	3	10.0	0	0.0
Anura tadpoles	2	6.7	5	12.8
Indeterminate	2	6.7	2	5.1

Table S6. Diet composition (% of stomachs containing a given food item) of the three body size categories of *Pelusios castaneus* (all countries being pooled). In the table, total would indicate the total number of examined turtles containing a given food type; N is the total number of individuals examined for each size category.

	Total	body size categories					
		<8cm		8-14cm		>14cm	
N	668	158	%	389	%	121	%
Fruits		0	0	24	6.2	7	5.8
seeds		14	8.9	50	12.9	9	7.4
Aquatic plants		19	12.0	86	22.1	56	46.3
Algae		1	0.6	2	0.5	2	1.7
Annelida		6	3.8	41	10.5	23	19.0
Gastropoda		14	8.9	33	8.5	24	19.8
Bivalvia		0	0.0	2	0.5	2	1.7
Arachnida		9	5.7	4	1.0	0	0.0
Insecta		76	48.1	32	8.2	11	9.1
Crustacea		26	16.5	55	14.1	25	20.7
Fish		23	14.6	226	58.1	70	57.9
Anura adults		1	0.6	39	10.0	37	30.6
Anura eggs		29	18.4	10	2.6	2	1.7
Anura tadpoles		66	41.8	30	7.7	5	4.1
Indeterminate		7	4.4	3	0.8	0	0.0

Table S7. Diet composition (% of stomachs containing a given food item) of the three body size categories of *Pelusios niger* (Nigeria). In the table, total would indicate the total number of examined turtles containing a given food type; N is the total number of individuals examined for each size category.

	Total	body size categories					
		<8cm		8-14cm		>14cm	
N	310	99	%	101	%	110	%
Fruits		0	0	3	3.0	8	6.4
seeds		0	0	6	5.9	14	12.7
Aquatic plants		10	10.1	23	22.8	23	20.9
Algae		3	3.0	6	5.9	5	4.5
Annelida		9	9.1	21	20.8	17	15.5
Gastropoda		6	6.1	22	21.8	29	26.4
Bivalvia		0	0.0	1	1.0	0	0.0
Arachnida		3	3.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Insecta		23	23.2	17	16.8	7	6.4
Crustacea		11	11.1	40	39.6	20	18.2
Fish		24	24.2	77	76.2	92	83.6
Anura adults		2	2.0	25	24.8	26	23.6
Anura eggs		12	12.1	8	7.9	3	2.7
Anura tadpoles		22	22.2	15	14.9	0	0.0
Reptiles		0	0.0	2	2.0	2	1.8
birds		0	0.0	4	4.0	8	7.3
small mammals		0	0.0	2	2.0	12	10.9
Indeterminate		3	3.0	3	3.0	3	2.7

Table S8. Diet composition (% of stomachs containing a given food item) of the three body size categories of *Pelusios adansonii* (South Sudan). In the table, total would indicate the total number of examined turtles containing a given food type; N is the total number of individuals examined for each size category.

	Total	body size categories					
		<8cm		8-14cm		>14cm	
N	213	58	%	122	%	33	%
Fruits		0	0	3	2.5	0	0.0
seeds		1	1.7	5	4.1	1	3.0
Aquatic plants		19	33	33	27.0	22	66.7
Annelida		4	6.9	28	23.0	11	33.3
Gastropoda		2	3.4	8	6.6	4	12.1
Arachnida		1	1.7	0	0.0	0	0.0
Insecta		31	53	28	23.0	20	60.6
Crustacea		6	10	19	15.6	8	24.2
Fish		2	3.4	20	16.4	20	60.6
Anura adults		0	0	3	2.5	19	57.6
Anura eggs		1	1.7	0	0.0	0	0.0
Anura tadpoles		4	6.9	0	0.0	0	0.0
Reptiles		0	0	1	0.8	0	0.0
Indeterminate		4	6.9	8	6.6	1	3.0

Table S9. Diet composition (% of stomachs containing a given food item) of the three body size categories of *Pelusios nanus* (Zambia). In the table, total would indicate the total number of examined turtles containing a given food type; N is the total number of individuals examined for each size category.

	body size categories				
	Total	<8cm		8-14cm	
N	69	31	%	38	%
seeds		0	0	5	13.2
Aquatic plants		2	6.5	4	10.5
Algae		0	0.0	0	0.0
Annelida		6	19.4	6	15.8
Gastropoda		1	3.2	2	5.3
Arachnida		7	22.6	14	36.8
Insecta		29	93.5	18	47.4
Crustacea		1	3.2	1	2.6
Anura eggs		1	3.2	2	5.3
Anura tadpoles		4	12.9	3	7.9
Indeterminate		2	6.5	2	5.3