

Table 1 Range and mean total length of fish. SE – standard error of *Coptodon zillii* and *Oreochromis aureus* collected from Qurna, Hartha and Abu Al-Khaseeb, Iraq

Morphometric/meristic characters	<i>Coptodon zillii</i>						<i>Oreochromis aureus</i>					
	Qurna		Hartha		Abu Al-Khaseeb		Qurna		Hartha		Abu Al-Khaseeb	
	Range	Mean ± SE	Range	Mean ± SE	Range	Mean ± SE	Range	Mean ± SE	Range	Mean ± SE	Range	Mean ± SE
Total length (TL)	50-190	120±1.9	130-170	152±1.4	125-170	125±1.9	120-170	143±1.9	100-215	156±2.1	105-210	157±2.1
Standard length (SL)	35-130	150±2.1	110-130	119±1.9	36-135	85±1.6	100-135	116±1.9	75-175	123±1.9	76-174	123±1.2
Head length (HL)	33-50	36±1.6	30-40	36±1.4	34-38	35±1.9	30-45	38±1.7	25-55	39±2.1	25-55	40±1.9
Preorbital length (POL)	6-8	7±1.4	6-8	7±1.6	3-5	4±1.4	38-40	37±1.4	37-40	37±1.4	33-35	34±1.4
Postorbital length (POSL)	25-30	27±1.9	25-30	27±1.9	10-20	15±2.1	13-16	14±2.1	14-16	15±1.6	10-12	11±1.4
Eye diameter (ED)	10-12	11±1.6	10-12	11±1.4	4-8	5±1.2	16-17	16±1.9	16-18	17±1.2	13-14	13±1.7
Upper jaw length (UJL)	15-20	18±1.4	15-20	17±2.1	4-10	7±1.9	28-32	26±1.5	29-32	30±1.4	20-27	22±2.1
Predorsal fin length (PDFL)	20-60	39±1.9	37-50	38±1.5	21-49	34±1.4	34-70	51±2.0	35-60	48±1.9	33-58	46±1.3
Prepectoral fin length PPFL)	22-50	37±2.1	30-42	37±1.0	21-41	31±1.7	25-65	39±1.5	30-50	39±2.1	32-48	40±2.1
Preanal fin length (PAFL)	30-110	72±1.4	25-95	71±1.9	29-109	58±1.9	52-120	61±1.3	70-100	84±1.8	69-98	77±1.4
Postanal fin length (PSAFL)	25-60	43±2.1	30-50	42±1.4	25-49	35±2.1	30-70	49±1.9	35-50	44±1.3	34-48	43±1.9
Body depth (BD)	23-70	49±2.0	24-71	48±2.1	24-70	44±1.4	30-80	53±2.1	70-83	76±1.9	68-81	75±2.1
Caudal peduncle depth (CPD)	18-25	22±1.9	18-25	21±1.5	13-16	14±1.3	12-15	13±1.4	13-15	14±1.4	11-12	11±1.4
Dorsal fin spines (DFS)	15-16	15±1.6	15-16	15±1.9	13-14	12±1.9	17	17±2.0	17	17±2.1	14-15	14±2.1
Dorsal fin ray (DFR)	13-14	26±1.9	13-14	26±2.1	10-11	11±2.1	14-15	15±2.1	14-15	15±1.9	11-13	12±2.0
Pectoral fin ray (PFR)	8	-	8	-	7	-	8	-	8	-	7	-
Number of anal fin ray (AFR)	9-10	9±1.0	9-10	9±1.4	7-8	7±1.9	10-11	11±1.9	10-11	11±1.1	8-9	8±1.4
Number of gill rakers on the 1 st gill arch	10-12	11±1.4	10-12	11±1.8	8-9	8±1.4	29-30	31±1.5	29-30	31±1.5	27-28	27±2.1
Number of the lateral line scales (LLS)	31-32	31±2.1	31-32	31±1.9	29-30	29±2.4	30-31	31±1.4	30-31	31±2.1	28-29	28±1.2
Number of vertebrae (NV)	30-32	31±1.9	30-32	31±2.1	28-29	28±1.9	30-31	31±1.4	30-31	31±1.9	28-29	28±1.9