

**Translation from French by M. K. Oliver (2004) of the description by Trewavas (1984a<sup>1</sup>, page 102) of her new subgenus *Tropheops***

"Sub-genus *Tropheops* Nov.  
Type-species *Pseudotropheus tropheops* Regan  
= *Ps. (Tropheops) tropheops*

"Characterized by a melanic pattern of vertical bars including 6-9 below the dorsal fin; mouth rather small, ventral, the lower jaw shorter than the upper at its anterior edge. Profile of snout and ethmo-vomerine area of the skull steeply inclined, curved downwards. Teeth of the jaws in broad transverse bands, the outer bicuspid, except laterally, where those of the upper jaw are unicuspid, some of them larger (Regan 1922, fig. 2; Ribbink et al. 1983, fig. 7). Pharyngeal teeth fine and densely packed.

"This group is widely known as 'the tropheops group' by aquarists and collectors of the lake (see Johnson 1978: 61; Ribbink et al. 1983: 167). The pharyngeal dentition of the type-species greatly resembles that of *Ps. lombardoi* (fig. 5, top) by its closely packed teeth, with rounded cusps, those of the posterior row of the lower bone not higher than those which are found in front of them. It is a specialization that has appeared repeatedly among the African cichlids, not only in related forms, such as *Ps. zebra*, *Ps. fainzilberi* and *Petrotilapia*, but also in *Petrochromis* (lake Tanganyika) and the even more distantly related species *Sarotherodon steinbachi*, of Cameroun (see Trewavas 1983, fig. 29 A). In *Sarotherodon*, it is associated with a small mouth whose upper jaw is used to procure food by scraping the substrate.

"By doubling the specific name for the new subgenus, I hope to facilitate for those who are not specialists in nomenclature a possible future change, from the rank of subgenus to that of genus. Meanwhile, it is not necessary to use the subgeneric name to designate a species; the binomials *Pseudotropheus tropheops*, *Pseudotropheus greshakei*, etc. will serve well... New work on many populations, formally named or not, is necessary before the subgeneric and generic limits can be determined.

"The vast genus *Pseudotropheus* is currently difficult to delimit and any definition is probably only provisional, pending new analyses and subdivisions. It is a genus of the mbuna group whose outer jaw teeth are bicuspid, at least in juveniles and females; the pharyngeal dentition is varied and the pigmentation pattern, different from that of *Melanochromis*, is often composed of dark vertical bars."

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<sup>1</sup>Trewavas, E. 1984a. Nouvel examen des genres et sous-genres du complexe *Pseudotropheus-Melanochromis* du lac Malawi (Pisces, Perciformes, Cichlidae). *Revue Française d'Aquariologie et de Herpetologie* 10 (4) 1983: 97-106.