

Turkish Journal of Zoology

Turkish Journal

of

Zoology

Age, Growth and Reproduction of *Acanthalburnus microlepis*, Filippi 1863 from the Yağan Region of the Aras River, Turkey

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Abstract: The age, growth and reproduction characteristics of 1105 *Acanthalburnus microlepis* from the Yağan region of the Aras River, Turkey, were determined from monthly samples. Ages ranged from 1 to 7 years. The sex ratio was approximately 1.0 (51.49 % males, 48.51 % females). Females attained greater size and age than males. Von Bertalanffy growth parameters were: $L_0 = 29.87$ cm, $K = 0.1049$, $t_0 = -1.92$. The length-weight relationships for males and females were found to be $W = 0.0099L^{3.098}$ and $W = 0.0118L^{3.052}$ respectively. The condition coefficients of males and females were calculated as 1.192 and 1.209 respectively. Both sexes matured at the age of 2 years. Spawning started in early May and continued to the end of July. Fecundity ranged from 2830 to 9705 eggs/female and correlated significantly with fish length, weight, age and gonad weight.

Key Words: Age, Growth, Reproduction, *Acanthalburnus microlepis*, Aras River.

Turk. J. Zool., **25**, (2001), 127-133.

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