

79 INVENTARISATION OF THE FISH SPECIES OF THE ALBERT-
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In the framework of an investigation on the impact of the cooling water intake at the Elckerliel power plant (Leuven) on the fish populations of the Albert Canal, an inventory of the fish species of the canal was carried out. During a one year sampling period with fykes, gill-nets, trawl nets, electro-fishing and especially continuous sampling at the screens of the cooling water intake, 39 fish species were collected. Most of these 39 species such as eel, roach, bleak, pike perch and perch belong to the common species of the brackish zone. Also some less common and even rare species as lampbrush, bitterling and wels were found. From the barbel and grayling zone chub, nase carp, dace, barbel, brown trout and salmon were determined; it is highly probable that these species have descended from the Meuse. All the salmon were marked and originated from a reintroduction experiment of the University of Liège. Sea bream, flounder and smelt are brackish water species but are also known to migrate in fresh water. Finally also some "exotic" species as rainbow trout, grass carp and tilapia were noticed, most of them probably coming from nearby fish culture stations.