

**TAXONOMIC KEY FOR IDENTIFICATION OF CYPRINID SPECIES IN NEW ZEALAND**

| No | Characteristic  | Species  | Line drawings<br>(copywrite R.M. McDowall)  |
|----|---|--|---|
| 1  | Scales very small, about 100 along the lateral line   | go to 2  |   |
|    | Scales large and conspicuous, 65 or less along the lateral line   | go to 3  |   |
| 2  | One pair of small barbels at corners of the mouth; lateral line runs straight along the middle of sides   | Tench ( <i>Tinca tinca</i> )                                 |    |
|    | No barbels around the mouth; lateral line curves downward markedly along the sides following profile of belly   | Silver carp ( <i>Hypophthalmichthys molitrix</i> )           |    |
| 3  | Dorsal fin short-based, fewer than 12 rays; axillary process at base of each  | go to 4  |   |
|    | Dorsal fin longer based with 14 or more rays: no axillary processes on pelvic   | go to 6  |   |
| 4  | More than 50 scales along lateral line  | Orfe ( <i>Leuciscus idus</i> )                               |    |
| 5  | Origin of dorsal fin well behind insertion of pelvic fins; axillary processes on each of pectoral and pelvic fins; pectoral, pelvic and anal fins bright red. | Rudd ( <i>Scardinius erythrophthalmus</i> )                  |    |
|    | Origin of dorsal fin directly above insertion of pelvic fins; axillary processes only at base of pelvic fins; lower fins not red.                             | Grass carp, or white amur ( <i>Ctenopharyngodon idella</i> ) |   |
| 6  | Two pairs of barbels at corners of mouth  | Common or koi carp ( <i>Cyprinus carpio</i> )                |  |
|    | No barbels around mouth   | Goldfish ( <i>Carassius auratus</i> )                        |  |