

The Nyankpa [= Yeskwa] language

of

Central Nigeria

[DRAFT CIRCULATED FOR COMMENT]



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1. Introduction

This is a grammar sketch and annotated wordlist of the Nyankpa language, spoken in Panda and surrounding districts in the northwest of Nasarawa State, Nigeria. The complete list was collected in Jos 31st March to April 2, 2008 with the kind collaboration of Dantaro Nyaki and Azik Ogara¹.

The first information about Nyankpa was published in Koelle (1854) under the name ‘Yásgúa’. Koelle collected a wordlist from ‘Otén’ or Sam Pratt, who came from the town of Nduro. Gerhardt (2005: Table 5a) compared an earlier list collected by the present author with Koelle’s data; the two correspond closely, suggesting that Otén was from the Panda area. Koelle (1854: 19) classified Nyankpa together with Koro and Ham (i.e. Hyam) in his section on class languages. Also included in this section was a Kambari lect and some Cross River languages.

2. Location, history and sociolinguistic situation

2.1 Nomenclature

The Nyankpa language is usually known in the literature as Yeskwa. The correct terms for the people and language are;

Language	nyankpá
Person	ònjamkpa
People	ànjamkpa

The main dialects are Panda, Tattara, Bede, Gitata [=Buzi]. Tattara is said to be the ‘standard’ form of Nyankpa. Bede is the most divergent dialect.

2.2 Location and settlements

Nyankpa is spoken Nasarawa State, Karu LGA and Kaduna State, Jema'a LGA.

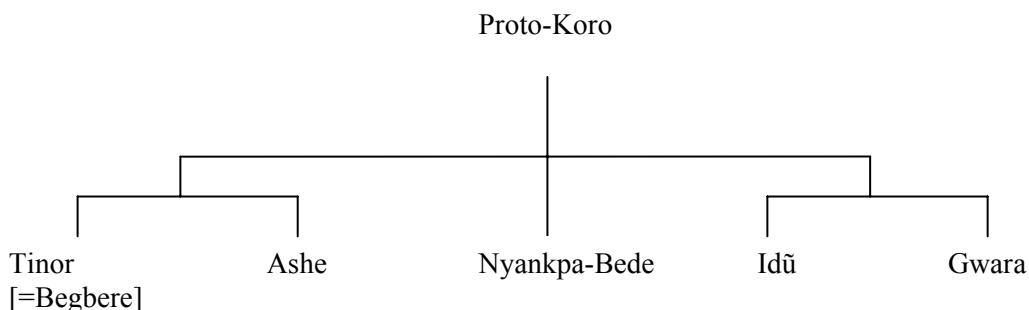
2.3 Language status

The language is still spoken currently and is not threatened by Hausa.

2.4 Classification

Nyankpa is a member of the Koro cluster and shows lexical links with Idū and Ashe-Tinor. ‘Yeskwa’ was classified by Greenberg (1963) as Plateau 2, along with Hyamic, Tyapic and other languages. The Koro cluster clearly shows links with Hyamic, but its wider affiliations within Plateau remain undemonstrated. Figure 1 shows a tentative outline classification of the languages in the Koro cluster.

Figure 1. Classification of the Koro languages



¹ An earlier list collected from Titus Oje Aji by Barau Kato on 16/6/03 and published on my website. This now appears to have many errors. The only other ms. data on Nyankpa appears to be an orthographic list collected by Kevin Carroll.

3. Phonology

3.1 Vowels

Nyankpa has seven phonemic vowels;

	Front	Central	Back
Close	i		u
Close-Mid	e		o
Open-Mid	ɛ		ɔ
Open		a	

There are no nasal vowels and no long vowels, although some doubled vowels occur. Nyankpa has residual + ATR vowel harmony, such that ε/ɔ and e/o normally co-occur in stems, although composite words can include vowels from different harmony sets. There is also quite a strong tendency towards front/back harmony, with u/o and i/e co-occurring in stems. /a/ can pattern with either set.

3.2 Consonants

Nyankpa consonants are as follows:

	Bilabial	Labio-dental	Alveolar	Alveo-palatal	Palata l	Velar	Labial-velar	Glottal
Plosive	p b		t d		[c] j	k g	kp gb	
Nasal	m		n			ŋ		
Tap			ɾ					
Fricative			f v	s z	ʃ ʒ			h
Affricate		[bv]				[χ]		
Approximant					y		w	
Lateral			l					
Approximant								

Palatalisation and labialisation are relatively rare in Nyankpa.

Palatalisation

Palatalised consonants occur in Nyankpa but are infrequent.

dyèri	smooth
gyep	seek
etyep	thigh
ntyɔ	five
ènyem	hippo
ŋyem	yawn
ònyék	village weaver
tunyi	sweet
dyɔkpa	to crush

Labialisation

Labialised consonants occur in Nyankpa but are relatively rare. Table 1 shows all the forms so far identified;

Table 1. Labialised consonants in Nyankpa

Nyankpa	Gloss
àmwaŋa	okra Gitata dialect
anvwagò	okra
bwàmbwaj	describes a dog has black and brown spots
bwat	boil fiercely
bwup	tie
ènwi	bee
gádánf ^v òy	river crab
imbwerumbwε	large snake sp.
iŋwò	castrated goat
mwaŋ	sharpen
mwɔt	pour carefully
ndwòmbara	skink
òvvék	wild yam
vwap	bite small piece
vwɔt	bite off
vwey	fight (people)
vwo	mix mud and straw

Prenasalised consonants

Nyankpa permits contrastive homorganic nasals preceding consonants, although they are not common in the language. These are realised as m- before bilabials, n̩- before velars and n- before all others. With a very few exceptions, these are not tonebearing. Consonantal prefixes with tone also occur. Thus;

mfuki	Tumuku
mfan	Ladder
n̩s̩	What?
nkáŋ	When?

In the case of the nouns, these almost certainly arise from the deletion of a vowel prefix and the move of the tone rightwards onto the nasal. Their origin in interrogatives is less certain.

Vg sequences

Nyankpa has an unusual consonant cluster, Vg, which occurs both word initially and word-medially. The most common form is -dg- but there are also examples of -bg-. The /g/ is often sounded as /ɣ/, especially in older speakers. There is also a tendency for -dg- to become -dy- in younger speakers. The table shows all examples of this cluster so far recorded.

dga	eat
dgap	hunt
dgep	want/need
èdgèru	laziness
ɔdgèru	lazy man
andgay	mud
ɔdgɔŋ	chief
ɔndgan	path
odgap	hunter
èbwgát	hair
ibgara	knife in Gitata dialect

Diphthongs and V + semivowel sequences

Nyankpa has V + semivowel sequences (typically written with Vu and Vi following Hausa conventions. These are written Vw and Vy in this wordlist. There is at least one example of a true diphthong involving Vi as follows;

Red, biting ant ɔdàì

which should be distinguished from ay. This should be considered when deciding on orthographic conventions.

3.3 Tones

Nyankpa has three level tones and a rising tone. The basic conventions are as follows;

High	'
Mid	Unmarked
Low	`
Rising	˘

Rising tone appears to occur on some short vowels, for example;

Slaughter (animal)	t̪ɛt̪
What?	n̪jɛ
Toad	ŋwǎfɔ̃

There are also sequences of like vowels with two different tones, creating a phonetic rising tone. Some examples are;

Who?	nyɛ́é
I FUT	màá
not FUT	sèé

Such sequences occur principally as a result of morphophonological processes and do not seem to occur in standard vocabulary.

4. Morphology

4.1 Nouns

The majority of Nyankpa noun plurals have an initial vowel. These are probably the remnants of a more complete series of noun-class affixes. Even these prefixes are disappearing, and many nouns are cited with no prefix at all. (Table 2) shows some examples of nouns with no singular prefix and an a- plural;

Table 2. Nyankpa nouns with initial consonant

Gloss	Singular	Plural
Guest/stranger	bákpe	àbàkpe
King/chief/ruler	dwoŋ	adwɔŋ
Friend	gaje	ágàje
Forehead	kpéſe	aŋkpéſe
Sister	náma	anámà
Skink	ndwòmbara	àndwòmbara
Shoulder	sócey	ásócey
Old person	tókpà	átókpà
Young man	wetère	awetère
Donkey	zàki	ànzàki

It is possible that further investigation or different dialects would provide evidence of the missing vowel prefix of the singular form, which may show up in certain sentence contexts.

Singular nouns are preceded by E [where E stands for /e/ ~ /ɛ/], i, and O [where O stands for /o/ ~ /ɔ/] but in plurals this is reduced to a-, E and i-. The great majority of nouns with an E- prefix make their plurals by changing tone only and thus could be argued to be alternating prefixes rather noun-class markers. However, they may bear any tone, as may singulars, and it would be more economical to regard them as frozen morphemes taking part in suprasegmental tone processes.

E/E nominal plurals fall into a number of common patterns (Table 3);

Table 3. E/E nominal plurals in Nyankpa

Pattern	Gloss	sg.	pl.
LL(L) / HL	Thorn	èdòk	édòk
	Mountain	ègò	égò
	Sore/wound	ènùt	énùt
LM / MM	Root	èsat	esat
	Stone	èta	eta
	Star(s)	èzet	ezet
	Mushroom	èsùsùk	esùsùk
LM / HH	Baboon	èfɔ	éfɔ
	Year	èmè	émé
LH/MM	Seed	èkó	eko

Some singular nouns have an a- prefix, but in this case the plural is absent, suggesting that the singular plural distinction has simply been merged.

Father	àda
Mother	àma
Death	akpo
Money	àmfibí
Land/country	àbe

A few nouns have a nasal prefix with a tone. This is almost certainly a transient form, resulting from the deletion of a vowel-prefix followed by a homorganic nasal. The prefix of 'ladder' shows the likely underlying form.

Ladder	mfan	àmfan
Tumuku	mfuki	—

Some nouns may have a nasal inserted after the vowel prefix in either singular or plural. This is likely to be a remnant of a former nasal prefix alternation which has now disappeared. This is common in many Plateau languages.

Donkey	ʒàkì	àŋʒàkì
Pigeon (Domestic)	ìmpat	àpat

The nasal would originally have been productive, but is now fossilised and has become part of the stem.

Nyankpa singular and plural classes are as follows (Table 4);

Table 4. Nominal prefix pairings in Nyankpa

Gloss	Pref	sg.	Pref	pl.
He-goat	i-	ìgbùsú	a-	àgbùsú
Castrated goat	i-	ìŋwò	ε-	éŋwò
Vine	o-	òlin	a-	àlin
Day	o-	ònùm	e-	ènùm
Tree	o-	òŋgà	a-	áŋga
Fire	o-	òvèt	ε-	èvèt
Bark	u-	ùnvùk	a-	ánvùk
Tumuku	[m-]	mìfuki	a-	àmfuki

Tone on the prefixes is highly variable and it seems likely that the tone of the V- prefixes are driven by the stem tones, particularly in plurals, although this cannot yet be shown in any systematic way. This pattern has little or nothing in common with Bantu noun-classes except typologically and probably represents a relatively recent development.

Verbal nouns

Verbal nouns are created by prefixing the verb root with E-.

to eat	dga	eating	edga
to dance	ʒet	dance	ɛʒet

4.2 Pronouns

Pronouns in Nyankpa usually incorporate tense/aspect marking. In the unmarked form, all the pronouns are mid-tone and the aspect is uncompleted past. Subject and object pronouns are shown in Table 5;

Table 5. Nyankpa personal pronouns

	Subject	Object
I	ɛma, ma	ma
You	ɛmu	mu
He/she/it	ɛni	ni
We	ɛmbi	mbi
You pl.	ɛmi	mi
They	ɛmbɛ	mbɛ

In sentence context, the initial ε- of subject pronouns is often dropped, so subject and object are effectively the same.

The emphatic form, add ‘-self’ is regularly formed by prefixing g- to the pronoun;

-self

I	gɛma
You	gɛmu
He/she/it	gɛni
We	gɛmbi
You pl.	gɛmi
They	gɛmbɛ

An additional form, ‘all of’, is created by prefixing plural pronouns with pa-;

	all of
We	pambi
You pl.	pami
They	pambε

Possessive adjective

The possessive adjective follows the noun and is the same as the unmarked subject pronoun.

I	ma
You	mu
He/she/it	ni
We	mbi
You pl.	mi
They	mbe

Possessive pronoun

The possessive pronoun is created by prefixing the unmarked subject pronoun with **nkε**.

Gloss	Nyankpa
mine	nkema
yours	nkemu
his	nkeni
ours	nkembi
yours	nkemi
theirs	nkembε

Demonstratives

Table 6 shows the paradigm for the proximate demonstrative, ‘this/these’;

Table 6. Nyankpa demonstratives this/these

Nyankpa	Gloss	Nyankpa	Gloss
áŋgá nke	this tree	áŋga [a]nje	these trees
əbaka nke	this lion	abaka anje	these lions
uncù nke	this room	ancù'nje	these rooms
ɛvəm'nge	this nose	evəm'nge	these noses
takada nyi	this book	atakada anje	these books
ànèt nyi	this person	ànèt mbe	these people

Table 7 shows the paradigm for the distal demonstrative, ‘that/those’;

Table 7. Nyankpa demonstratives that/those

Nyankpa	Gloss	Nyankpa	Gloss
áŋgá nkɔ	that tree	áŋga [a]njɔ	those trees
əbaka nkɔ	that lion	abaka anjɔ	those lions
uncù nkɔ	that room	ancù'njɔ	those rooms
ɛvəm'njɔ	that nose	evəm'njɔ	those noses
takada nyɔ	that book	atakada anjɔ	those books
ànèt nyɔ	that person	ànèt mbjɔ	those people

4.3 Verbs

4.3.1 Verbal auxiliaries

Nyankpa has relatively few verbal auxiliaries, because tense/aspect is marked on the pronoun. The pronominal forms probably originate with bound clitics. The vowel in some verbal auxiliaries (and the negative) shows agreement with the number and person of the pronoun.

pi	Completed past
nV	Habitual
sV[kV]	Conditional

4.3.2 Uncompleted past

The unmarked form of the pronoun, with a high tone throughout is shown in Table 8;

Table 8. Nyankpa pronouns
Subject

I	má
You	mú
He/she/it	ní
We	mbí
You pl.	mí
They	mbé

For example;

má mi màmbò
I beat dog

Where the subject is a proper name or a noun, the pronoun follows the noun;

Johanna [ní] mi màmbò
John [he PAST] beat dog

In casual speech, the pronoun may be dropped, as the default form of the verb is uncompleted past.

4.3.3 Completed past

The completed past is marked by the verbal auxiliary **pi**, placed after the verb but before the direct object.

má mi pi màmbò
I beat comp dog
I have finished beating the dog

The pronouns are the unmarked form given in Table 8.

4.3.4 Future

Future is marked by lengthening the vowel of the pronoun and giving it a LH tone sequence;

màá mi màmbò
I will beat dog

The paradigm of future-marked pronouns is shown in Table 9;

Table 9. Nyankpa future pronouns
Subject

I	màá
You	múú
He/she/it	wàá
We	mbíí
You pl.	mií
They	mbéé

If the pronoun is replaced by a personal name or a noun, the third person pronoun follows the noun.

Johana wàá mi màmbò
John he will beat dog

A plural subject still takes **wàá**.

The future-marked pronoun can also be combined with the completive marker to form a future perfect.

màá mi pi màmbò
I will beat COMP dog
I will have beaten the dog

4.3.5 Present

The present or progressive forms are shown by lengthening the high-tone vowel of the pronoun, shown in Table 10;

Table 10. Nyankpa present pronouns

I	máá
You	múú
He/she/it	nní, wá
We	mbí
You pl.	mmí
They	mbé

For example;

[ɛ] máá mi màmbò
[I] I beat dog
I am beating the dog

However, where the subject is a noun or proper name, the third person is replaced with [w]á;

Johanna [w]á mi màmbò
John is beat dog
John is beating the dog

4.3.6 Habitual

The habitual is marked by the auxiliary nV, following the pronoun;

Table 11. Nyankpa habitual paradigm

I	ma nè
You	mu nò
He/she/it	ni nà
We	mbi nè
You pl.	mi nà
They	mbe nà

Example;

ma nè mi mambò
I HAB beat dog
I habitually beat the dog

4.3.7 Conditional

The conditional is marked by the auxiliary sV[kV] following the pronoun, plus lengthening of the vowel in the verb stem and lengthening of the consonant in the first two singular pronouns (Table 12);

Table 12. Nyankpa conditionals

Pronoun	Conditional
I	se[ke]
You	so[ko]
He/she/it	sa[ka]
We	se[ke]
You pl.	sa[ka]
They	sa[ka]

Thus;

mma se[ke] mii mambò
I if beat dog
If I beat the dog

The lengthening of the verb stem reflects the deletion of the final consonant -p. ‘To beat’ is **mip** in its citation form.

4.3.8 Negation

Negation of the verb is created by framing the complement with the split negative sV ...bè. The vowel of sV shows concord with the number and person of the pronoun with the same pattern as the habitual and conditional. The sentence formula is;

pronoun + neg + verb + object + neg

Table 13 shows the paradigm for the Nyankpa negative marker;

Table 13. Nyankpa negative marker paradigm

Gloss	Pronoun	Negative
I	ma	sé
You	mu	só
He/she/it	ni, a	sá
We	mbi	sé
You pl.	mi	sá
They	mbɛ	sá

Thus;

ma	sé	mi	màmbò	bè
I	not	beat	dog	not

The negative future is similar but the lengthening of the vowel and tone change characteristic of the ordinary future is now transferred to the negative marker (Table 14);

Table 14. Nyankpa negative future marker paradigm

Gloss	Pronoun	Negative
I	mma	séé
You	mmu	sòó
He/she/it	ni, a	sàá
We	mbi	séé
You pl.	mi	sàá
They	mbɛ	sàá

Thus;

mma	séé	mi	màmbò	bè
I	neg	FUT	beat	
I will not beat the dog				

4.3.9 Cognate object

Cognate object constructions (where the verb is followed by the derived verbal noun) appear to be quite common in Nyankpa, either as reduplications of the verb or as a stereotyped phrase;

swim	zoy	zo zoy	swim a swim
harvest acha	ŋam	ŋɛ ŋam	harvest a harvest

sing	bom	obom	sing a song
dance	ʒɛt	ʒɛʒɛt	dance a dance

4.4 Adjectives

Adjectives in Nyankpa follow the noun and regularly show some form of elision and morphophonemic alternation;

Table 15. Nyankpa adjective patterns

Noun	Adjective	Elided form	Gloss
ènàk	ètara	ènàyetara	white cow
ènàk	èbara	ènàyèbara	red cow
ènàk	èshara	ènàyeshara	black cow
èdøy	[]tara	èdøytara	white sheep

The vowel prefix of the verb shows concord with the prefix on the adjective. Where the Nyankpa noun ends in -t, it can become -r in the elided form;

ózót	shara	ózótshara or ózóroshara	black beard
ózót	tara	ózöttara or ózórotara	white beard

Numerals also follow noun but are placed after adjectives;

ènàk	ènyi	ènàènyi	one cow
ènak	èshara	[nè]nyi	one black cow
òhèn	shara	[nɔ]nyi	one pig

5. Nyankpa wordlist

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
1.	Tree (generic)	èntante	èntante	
2.	Wood	òŋgà	áŋga	firewood
3.	Leaf	ɔnkpa	ankpa	
4.	Root	èſat	esat	
5.	Branch	ónap	ènáp	cf. Bu ena , Hasha i-nak ,
6.	Bark (of tree)	ùnvùk	ánvúk	cf. Alumu, Toro ùkùkù , Ce kú-nku , Nandu kukôn ,
7.	Thorn	èdòk	édòk	cf. Idù ídìdòk , Tinor gìdìdòk ,
8.	Grass (generic)	obe	—	cf. Idù bíí , Ashe ùbèhɛ ,
9.	Vine (generic)	òlin	àlin	
10.	Mushroom	èsùsùk	esùsùk	cf. Idù ìsù , Nunku jú ,
11.	Algae	ètòtòmvun	—	
12.	Seed/stone/pip	èkó	eko	cf. Tinor ìkpú , Idù ì-kò ,
13.	Charcoal general, soot	ónzònzò	—	cf. Idù zuù ,
14.	Charcoal for cooking	aka	—	cf. Ashe ekā ,
15.	Dust	òmvon	—	
16.	Ashes	atók	—	cf. Idù àtó , Tinor bòtòk , Niger-Congo # ntoN
17.	Rubbish-heap	fundɛ	—	
18.	Mud	andgay	—	
19.	Sticky mud under water	ədəp	—	cf. Tinor gòdòp ,
20.	Clay II	abe	—	
21.	Clay III	gà jin	—	
22.	Dew	cìnàbe	—	
23.	Stone	òmè	—	
24.	Flat stone	èta	eta	cf. Ninzo àmé , Bu mme , Hasha eme ,
25.	River sand	èfá	efa	Rukul mmanj , Tarok imìmyàn , Yaŋkam myan but going back to a Niger-Congo root # me-
26.	Dryland sand	enjep	—	cf. Idù utar , Tinor gùtà , Niger-Congo # -ta
27.	Smoke	antara	—	
28.	Fire	òjò	—	cf. Ashe ù-jêw , Tinor ùjìjìrìp , Idoma ɔjè ,
29.	Water	òvèt	—	Yala wɔjè , Jijili ijwe , Hyam njep ,
30.	Rain	àmè	—	
31.	Cloud	ènay	—	cf. Eggon ami , Ake imbi , Akpa imèny ,
32.	Lightning	ame'ñay	—	cf. Idù ìnai , Ashe ì-nây ,
33.	Rainy Season	eyay	—	cf. Idù amee , Hyam mèè ,
34.	Dry season	èdò	—	
35.	Harmattan	ènwi	—	cf. Idù idòi , Ashe ì-dò ,
36.	Year	èmè	émé	cf. Ashe ì-nôy , Idù ìnoi ,
37.	Today	ele	—	cf. Idù mék , Hyam mêk ,
38.	Yesterday	òlekò	—	cf. Hyam re ,
39.	Tomorrow	èdà	—	cf. Idù áréke ,
40.	Morning	ókpé	—	cf. Idù dà , Ashe ìdà ,
41.	Evening	ufe, oſe	—	

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
42.	Dawn	àmùkpé		
43.	Day	ònùm		ènùm cf. ‘sun’ cf. Plateau roots for ‘sun’ and ‘God’ #nom-
44.	Night	ócúk		ècuk cf. Akpa itfú , Izere kâ-túk , Cara kituk , CB # túkù , Fyem tukwa ‘day’. -tuk is found throughout BC. cf. Berom túrùk , but also tük ‘day of 24 hours’.
45.	Moon/month	òfè	afe	
46.	Sun	ónùm		cf. widespread Plateau #—nom forms.
47.	Star(s)	èzet	ezet	cf. Hyam yèt ,
48.	Wind	øgbak	—	cf. Idū ugba ,
49.	God	òdù òfàn		‘king of heaven’
50.	Sky	afan	—	cf. Idū fafá ,
51.	World	èkátara	—	
52.	Ground	àbe	—	cf. Idū àbì ,
53.	River	òjànkà		èjè
54.	Lake, pond	òkap		àkap
55.	Forest	ójè		ójè
56.	Mountain	ègò		égò cf. Ninkyob gbyo
57.	Hill I higher	ègbùk		égbùk cf. Bu ṇbulu , Ce igbul ,
58.	Hill II	òmbàn		àmbàn
59.	Bush	òmbàn		àmbàn
60.	Farm	àlùm	—	cf. Fyem rám , Horom ràmá , Tarok ıràm Yanjkam, Sur, Pe ram
61.	Market*	òdòp	èdòp	
62.	House	aŋa	—	
63.	Compound	odekpo		èdekpò also household
64.	Room	uncù		ancù
65.	Wall (of room)	ólàŋ		álàŋ
66.	Thatch roof	ònkàŋ		àkákŋ cf. Idū àkàŋ ,
67.	Granary I	òjuju		àjuju Tattara
68.	Granary II	èto		eto
69.	Well	óvame	—	
70.	Road	òŋkpédè		àŋkpédè
71.	Path	ɔndgan		andgan
72.	Village/settlement	kàntép		àkàntép
73.	River-bank	èbàŋ		ébàŋ cf. Idū báŋázɛ ,
74.	Swamp/wetland	èdɔn		edɔn cf. Idū idɔn ,
75.	Place	awa	—	
76.	Person/people	ònèt		ànèt
77.	Man	ɔsak		asak
78.	Woman	ɔce		ace
79.	Child	ɔwe		awε
80.	Husband	ɔbe		abε
81.	Wife	ɔce		ace
82.	Widower	óvò		èvò also ‘kunnu’
83.	Young man	wetèrε		awetèrε
84.	Young girl	nacε		anacε
85.	Old person	tókpà		átókpà
86.	Father	àda	—	cf. Idoma áda , Ndun edâ , CB – tààtâ .
87.	Mother	àma	—	
88.	Son	ɔwe		awε
89.	Daughter	ɔna		ana

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
90.	Relations men	ótombò	átombò	
91.	Relations women	námbo	ánámbò	
92.	In-law	ózàmè	ázàmè	
93.	Wife's sister	ózòm	ázòm	
94.	Ancestors	òtéte	àtéte	also 'lord'
95.	Brother, same mother	wéma	awémà	
96.	Sister	náma	anámà	
97.	Friend	gàje	ágàje	
98.	Guest/stranger	bákpe	àbákpe	cf. Hausa
99.	King/chief/ruler	ødgøŋ	adgøŋ	
100.	Hunter	odgap	adghap	cf. Idù ughaw ,
101.	Thief	ovẹp	avẹp	cf. Idù uvɛu ,
102.	Doctor	obwa	abwa	
103.	Witch	ójim	ájìm	cf. Idù ùdzìm ,
104.	Corpse	økóm	ékóm	
105.	Blacksmith	náwnà	ànáwnà	
106.	Leper	téñángbun	ateñangbun	
107.	Slave	ögàrà	ágàrà	cf. Idù ùgàrà ,
108.	Masquerade general	ofu	afu	cf. Idù upfu ,
109.	Masquerade II	térefu		women follow it, dancing
110.	Masquerade III	jakù		cf. Idù jákò ,
111.	Masquerade IV	dagba		
112.	Masquerade V	àwiyá		
113.	Masquerade V	àmbàbe		
114.	Masquerade V	dòŋko		
115.	Masquerade V	yákà		
116.	Masquerade V	gbàràtò		
117.	Masquerade V	øfutòré		
118.	Masquerade V	øgbeké		
119.	Prophesy	àfáṣà		ofa prophet
120.	Shame I	sùsà		
121.	Shame II, Guilt	wami		
122.	Fear/fright I	ìnyì		cf. Eggon iyili , Eloyi ìyi ,
123.	Fear/fright II	égbèma		'be startled'
124.	Laughter	unyi		
125.	Wisdom			
126.	Anger	àvàn		
127.	Race/running	ùjà		
128.	Suffering	egélan		
129.	Death	akpo	—	cf. Idù akpe ,
130.	Name	ensòk	—	
131.	Grave	obàt		abàt
132.	Song	øbòm		abòm
133.	Story, news	òtò		cf. Idù ubom ,
134.	Folktale	òntè		àtò = 'ear'
135.	Word	èlimbá		àntè
136.	Lie I	bìrìja		elimba
137.	Lie II	èbwàp		
138.	Laughter	onyi		= termite
139.	Smile	èmù		= fireproof store in roof

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
140.	Furnace	àyàka		chiefs used to burn people death when sentenced in this furnace
141.	Hunger	èmì		
142.	Thirst	vwòmè		
143.	Horn	ɔntɔm	antɔm	cf. Idū utsɔm ,
144.	Tail	oʃí	aʃí	cf. Idū usí ,
145.	Egg	oje	aje	cf. Ewe àzì , Nupe ezhì , Igede èjì , Ukum àtsì , CB# -gí
146.	Wing	ófèt	áfèt	cf. Idū ufé ,
147.	Nest	osuk	asuk	cf. Idū ushow ,
148.	Feather	unsát	ansát	cf. Idū isàr ,
149.	Gum/glue	ètan̄ga		
150.	Gum/glue II	àdɔm		cf. Idū àdam ,
151.	Ant-hill	ògùm	àgùm	
152.	Hole in ground	òvà	àvà	cf. Eloyi kù-và , cognate with widespread #-boN roots?
153.	Hole in tree	ɔŋgbɔ	an̄gbɔ	
154.	Smell	enuk	—	
155.	Poison	ètɔy	—	
156.	Bundle	ɔmim	amim	
157.	Firewood = tree	òŋgà	áŋgâ	
158.	Stick	ɔntitiri	antitiri	
159.	Yam-heap	òmpú	àmpú	
160.	War	èwà		
161.	Work	ítí	eti	
162.	Divination	èbuá		
163.	Medicine (generic)	ágelan		
164.	Money	àmfibí		also ‘iron’
165.	Shade	ònzungu	ànzuru	
166.	Shadow	úyè	áyè	
167.	Thing	ígàn	ágàn	
168.	Strength	egbam		
169.	Length	èdèt		
170.	Land/country	àbe		
171.	Sleep	àlɔ		
172.	Disease (generic)	èlan̄		
173.	Smallpox	èkpù		
174.	Diarrhoea	farábi		
175.	Eczema	òyá		
176.	Goitre	òlòk		
177.	Boil	òŋgɔŋ		
178.	Sore/wound	ènüt	énüt	
179.	Leprosy	amgbum		
180.	Head	gbuse	agbuse	
181.	Eye	ɔsu	asu	
182.	Face	asu		
183.	Cheek	ɔgbòk	agbòk	
184.	Forehead	kpéſe	añkpéſe	
185.	Nose	èvɔm	evɔm	
186.	Ear	òtɔ	àtɔ	
187.	Mouth	òmù	àmù	also ‘termite’
188.	Tooth	onyi	anyi	

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
189.	Tongue	ɔlimba	alimba	
190.	Throat	ɔkpɔrɔwák	ɔkpɔrɔwák	
191.	Neck	ɔntɔ	àntɔ	cf. Eloyi kì-tó , Ningye tɔ , but found through East Benue-Congo often with an affricate
192.	Jaw	làn̄gbɔt	álàn̄gbɔt	
193.	Chin	ɔdet	adet	
194.	Shoulder	sócey	ásócey	
195.	Armpit	ɔvép	avép	also ‘thief’
196.	Fist	ɔŋfum	aŋfum	
197.	Arm, hand	ɔbók	abók	cf. Igede vbwɔ , CB -bókò , Niger-Congo #-bok
198.	Upper arm, leg	etyep	étyèp	
199.	Leg	ovò	avò	
200.	Foot	óndaàvò	ándaàvò	
201.	Thigh	odak	adak	
202.	Thigh cf. upper arm	etyep	étyèp	
203.	Knee	òlù	àlù	
204.	Calf	ɔkpete	akpete	
205.	Nail (Finger/toe)	fɔŋ fátá	àfɔŋ fátá	
206.	Female breast	ɔbe	abε	cf. Idoma àmε , Ake ambe , Nupe ebe
207.	Stomach	áná		
208.	Chest	ɔŋgwe	aŋgwe	
209.	Navel	ɛfúp	efup	
210.	Back	èmà	émà	
211.	Buttocks	ecibí	agbók cibí	
212.	Penis I	èdèm	édèm	
213.	Penis II	èbirà	ébirà	
214.	Vagina	èfi	efi	
215.	Skin	ovùt	èvùt	
216.	Bone	ɔfup	èfup	cf. Hasha kuku , Ninzo ukfúkfú , Fyem huhúp pl. ahúp , weakened from the more widespread #kup . Cf. Bo ukúp , Pe ukup , Tarok akúp and Yañkam kup and PB #-kubi
217.	Rib	èká	eka	
218.	Vein	kpédejí	—	
219.	Blood	ají	—	cf. Eggon manji , Kulu bè-jí , Eloyi enji , Yoruba èjé , Ningye g yi , Akpa imàñji ,
220.	Breath	èŋwú	—	
221.	Saliva	ɔnʃɔ	anʃɔ	
222.	Tear	àyey	—	
223.	Sweat	èmìṣè	—	
224.	Urine	ànzì	—	
225.	Faeces	àbì	—	
226.	Hair	èbwgát	ebwgat	
227.	Beard	ózót	èzot	
228.	Liver	aʒò	—	
229.	Heart	èjut	ejut	
230.	Intestines	àndàtàràbi	—	
231.	Body	ègàp	egàp	
232.	Meat	èbgε	ebgε	

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
233.	Animal (Bush)	εbge lum	εbge lùm	
234.	Cow	ènàk	enàk	
235.	Goat	ébojèrà	ébojèrà	
236.	He-goat	ìgbùsú	àgbùsú	cf. Hausa bunsuru
237.	Castrated goat	ìnjwò	éñjwò	
238.	Sheep	èdøy	εdøy	
239.	Ram	ècùrù	écùrù	
240.	Dog	màmbú	émàmbú	
241.	Cat	màte	àmàte	< Hausa
242.	Pig	òhén	àhen	
243.	Horse	ènyà	ényà	
244.	Donkey	ʒàkì	ànzàki	< Hausa
245.	Elephant	èni	eni	cf. Ninzo injí , Toro nyi , Bu ninyi , but also in Central Togo
246.	Hippo	ènyem	enjyem	
247.	Buffalo	èngay	enjgay	
248.	Lion	òbaka	abaka	
249.	Leopard	ègbè	égbè	cf. Idoma èjè , Bu ee , Horom kyè , Fyem kwe , Hasha ehwe , Jari i-kwì , Tesu kwi related to Niger-Congo #-gbe , -kpe
250.	Hyena ²	tàmúsù	àntàmúsù	
251.	Civet cat ³	ezε	éze	
252.	Defasa waterbuck	òdèm	àdèm	
253.	Wart-hog ⁴	òjì	àjì	
254.	Duiker red ⁵	òkpɔrà	àkpɔrà	red-flanked duiker
255.	Duiker black	èbarìgbà	àbarìgbà	black duiker <i>H. gadan kurmi</i>
256.	Antelope sp.	òvwe	avwe	<i>H. batsiya</i>
257.	Antelope sp.	ònzò	ànzò	one that jumps
258.	Antelope sp.	èzaj	ezaj	spotted
259.	Kob antelope ⁶	ègbwe bara	egbwè bara	
260.	Roan antelope ⁷	ònay 'dèm	ànay 'dèm	
261.	Porcupine ⁸	èyík	eyik	also 'thorn tree'
262.	Hyrax	èsò	esò	
263.	Aardvark	ùmfwi	àmfwi	
264.	Baboon	èfɔ	éfɔ	
265.	Patas monkey ⁹	òvε	àvε	
266.	Vervet monkey ¹⁰	èjip	ejip	
267.	Squirrel (ground)	èdøk	edøk	cf. Berom rók , Ayu itòk , Alumu i-tò , Tarok iritòk ,
268.	Squirrel (tree)	èsónsòri	ànsónsòri	tattara
269.	Squirrel (tree)	ìnsaŋjàŋ		Panda
270.	Squirrel (tree)	ìntàràŋkpàŋ	àntàràŋkpàŋ	
271.	Squirrel (tree)	ìsiyambɔ	àsiyambɔ	
272.	Rat (generic)	εkpí	ékpí	

² (*Crocuta crocuta*)

³ (*Viverra civetta*)

⁴ (*Phacochoerus aethiopus*)

⁵ (*Cephalophus* spp.)

⁶ (*Kobus kob*)

⁷ (*Hippotragus equinus*)

⁸ (*Hystrix cristata*)

⁹ (*Erythrocebus patas*)

¹⁰ (*Cercopithecus aethiops*)

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
273.	Bush-rat I	òvékpi	àvékpi	lives in a nest
274.	Bush-rat II	úwelam èkpi	áwelam èkpi	spotted grass mouse. chief farmer
275.	Bush-rat IV	ùbwikpi	àbwikpi	rufous Nile rat ?
276.	Giant rat ¹¹	èköt	ékót	
277.	Grasscutter ¹²	èbep	èbep	cf.
278.	Pangolin	ètábító amv¹uk		'swallow with scale'
279.	Hedgehog ¹³	ùfúdodo	afúdodo	
280.	Hare ¹⁴	òzo	àzo	
281.	House-bat, fruit-bat	òvày	àvày	
282.	Nile crocodile	òvà	àvà	
283.	Chameleon	ìsòntere	àsòntere	
284.	Agama lizard	gbwétà	agbwátà	
285.	Skink	ndwòmbara	àndwòmbara	
286.	Gecko	[e]gbwémgbwémjun	ágbwémgbwémjun	
287.	Monitor lizard (damo)	òkpík	àkpík	
288.	Monitor lizard (guza)	òyá	àyá	
289.	Toad	ŋwǎfò	àŋwáfò	
290.	River frog	òñsat	àñsat	
291.	Land tortoise	fújárá	afújárá	
292.	Snake (Generic)	èví	évi	
293.	Spitting cobra	éjum	εjum	
294.	Python	èce	écé	
295.	Large snake sp.	imbwerumbwe		Hausa <i>bakan gizo</i> 'rainbow'
296.	River crab	gádánfʷòy	agádánfʷòy	
297.	Fish (generic)	èbin	ebin	
298.	Tilapia (spp.)	òñvùm	èñvum	
299.	Electric fish ¹⁵	òlúp	àlúp	
300.	Bird (generic)	ònùnù	ànùnù	cf. Horom nòn , Tarok inyil , Pe i-nol , Yaŋkam noy . A common Benue-Congo root also CB -nòní . Mukarovsky (II, 405) gives examples that suggest a reconstruction to Proto-Volta-Congo (#-nun-).
301.	Chicken (General)	ènù	enù	
302.	Cock	èfòk	éfòk	
303.	Duck	fumali	àfumali	
304.	Pigeon (Domestic)	ìmpat	àpat	
305.	Dove	òvúnteru	àvúnterù	
306.	Guinea-fowl	èzòk	ezòk	
307.	Hooded Vulture ¹⁶	ògbùrú	àgbùrú	
308.	Village Weaver ¹⁷	ùnyék	ànyék	
309.	Cattle-egret ¹⁸	èdòrò	èdòrò	

¹¹ (*Cretomyces* sp.)

¹² (*Thryonomys Swinderianus*)

¹³ (*Atelerix albiventris*)

¹⁴ (*Lepus Crawshayi*)

¹⁵ (*Malapterurus electricus*)

¹⁶ (*Neophron monachus*)

¹⁷ (*Ploceus cucullatus*)

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
310.	Black kite ¹⁸	ònyám	anyam	
311.	Black kite II	ožik	ažik	
312.	Hawk ?	ògèk	àgèk	
313.	Standard-wing Night-jar	òlèm àGbari	àlèm àGbari	'bird that deceives Gbari man'
314.	Owl (various spp.)	ókpú	ákpu	
315.	Senegal Coucal ²⁰	ókpútú	akpútú	
316.	Bush-fowl	ífɔp	àfɔp	
317.	Bush-fowl II	owerègu	awerègu	
318.	Swallow	tapítò	—	
319.	Pied crow ²¹	òkanday	akanday	
320.	Woodpecker	cècù	acecù	
321.	Scorpion	ènà	enà	
322.	Butterfly	dàdó fɔjù	àdàdó fɔjù	
323.	Dragon-fly	onzànzù	anzànzù	
324.	Mosquito	èbɔ	ebɔ	
325.	Spider ²²	òtan	atan	
326.	Mason wasp ²³	òmànzi	àmànzi	
327.	Wasp general	ènwi	enwi	
328.	Bee	ònfènʃe	ànfènʃe	
329.	Sweat-fly	òmi	àmi	
330.	Sandfly	èzù	ezù	
331.	Housefly	èsisi	èsisi	
332.	Sugar-ant	èvèvè	evèvè	
333.	Army-ant	òdàì	adàì	
334.	Red, biting ant	ònkpusujì	ànkpusujì	
335.	Louse (Human)	òkparanà	àkparanà	
336.	Millipede	idàdɔrɔ	adàdɔrɔ	
337.	Maggot	ònfep	ànfep	
338.	Cockroach	ònfep àmè	ànfep àmè	
339.	Giant water-bug	onyi	—	
340.	Termite	enyi	—	
341.	Flying-ant	ògbasù	àgbasù	
342.	Grasshopper	òñgbɔñgbòñ	àñgbɔñgbòñ	
343.	Praying mantis	uzet	—	cf. 'star'
344.	Firefly	vòñvú	àvòñvú	
345.	Dung-beetle	èdèdè	edèdè	
346.	Giant Cricket	òntwòñtwò	àntwòñtwò	Tattara dial.
347.	Earthworm	òntwòñtwò	àntwòñtwò	Panda dial.
348.	Earthworm	òfɔt	àfɔt	
349.	Giant Snail	sàpurù	—	< Hausa
350.	Soap (Traditional)	àce	—	
351.	Oil	àzɔp	—	
352.	Fat/grease	àwanj	—	
353.	Salt	òzap	èzap	pl. means types of soup

¹⁸ (*Ardeola ibis*)

¹⁹ (*Milvus migrans*)

²⁰ (*Centropus* spp.)

²¹ (*Corvus albus*)

²² (*Acarina* spp.)

²³ (*Belenogaster* spp.)

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
355.	Food	ombey	èmbey	
356.	Porridge, kunnu	óvò	èvò	also ‘widower’
357.	Sorghum-beer	àdèk	—	also a personal name
358.	Palm-wine	òbam	àbam	<i>pl.</i> means different types or from different trees
359.	Filter	ònariya	ànariya	
360.	Rag	uncòco	ancòco	
361.	Floor-beater	làrawa	àlàrawa	
362.	Handle (of tool)	òfòp	èfòp	
363.	Sickle	òlèzé	àlèzé	< Hausa
364.	Cutlass	ìdède	àdìdè	< Hausa
365.	Iron	òzòp	àzòp	
366.	Axe	òjù	àjù	
367.	Adze	gizàgbò	àgìzagbò	
368.	Hoe I	òzàt	azat	large type
369.	Hoe II	ìntem	àntem	
370.	Hoe III	òñkpónjù	àkpónjù	
371.	Hoe IV	inpatanya	àpatanya	weeding hoe < Hausa = ìntem
372.	Hoe V	òncumzat	àcumzat	used hoe
373.	Knife I	ìde	àde	Panda
374.	Knife II	ibgara	abgara	Gitata
375.	Comb			
376.	Broom	ònsé	ense	
377.	Bag	òbò	abó	donkey skin for carrying loads
378.	Sack for fonio	ònfàt	ànfàt	
379.	Fireplace	òncamvèt	ancamvèt	
380.	Shoe	òbòvò	àbòvò	
381.	Hat, big	òñkàtà	àñkàtà	
382.	Cap	efut	efút	
383.	Robe, small	àyàlà	—	
384.	Cloth	àñgàncim	—	
385.	Grindstone (top)	òna	ana	
386.	Grindstone (lower)	òfòk	afòk	
387.	Mortar (wood)	òcu	ècu	
388.	Pestle	òzì	èzì	
389.	Pot (generic)	èñgba	àñgba	
390.	Pot I	ikpo	àkpo	
391.	Pot II	íkpórè	àkpórè	
392.	Pot III	òntente	àntente	
393.	Pot IV	èdòt	edòt	big pot for beer
394.	Pot V	òmpòm	àmpòm	small-mouth
395.	Pot VI	ìmpòm	àmpòm	small-mouth but smaller
396.	Pot VII	òdidi	àdidi	
397.	Head-pad	ójít	ajít	
398.	Basket (generic)	ònzago	ànzago	
399.	Sieve	ònsanya	ansanya	for locust beans
400.	Strainer	naríyá		< Hausa
401.	Winnowing tray	òtak	atak	
402.	Winnowing tray	òbatak	abatak	spoiled one
403.	Mat (generic)	òmpè	àmpè	from wild date-palm
404.	Mat I	òmpùtù	àmpùtù	large made of ùmfwì
405.	Mat II	òbàkà	àbàkà	

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
406.	Mat III	òcincin	àcincin	small, expensive
407.	Needle	ùnzo	ànzɔ	
408.	Spear I	ónkpàŋ	ánpàŋ	
409.	Spear II	òdaje	àdaje	
410.	Bow	òtɔ	atɔ	
411.	Arrow I	ìŋkpèt	àŋkpèt	
412.	Arrow II	ɔnſeŋ	anſeŋ	wooden head
413.	Quiver	ɔnfap	anfap	
414.	Rope I	ɔza	aza	
415.	Rope II	ɔli	ali	
416.	Stool	òŋgbòrò	àŋgbòrò	
417.	Fence	ògere	àgere	
418.	Fence II	òbini	àbini	
419.	Fence thorn	ògiri	àgiri	
420.	Bridge	ètàt	éstat	
421.	Ladder I	mfan	àmfan	
422.	Ladder II	òndòrɔ	àndòrɔ	pole used as a ladder by young men
423.	Bee-hive I	òdɔt	àdɔt	bee nest
424.	Bee-hive II	ètɔ	etɔ	made of clay
425.	Fish-Net	ásàk		
426.	Fish-Net	òлага	àлага	< Hausa raga
427.	Fish-trap I	ɔsàŋa	asàŋa	valve trap
428.	Fish-trap II	èſaŋ	ɛſaŋ	valve trap
429.	Plunge basket	ɔnzun	anzun	
430.	Hook	èŋfòp	àfòp	some say èŋfòk
431.	Snare	acùta		cf. Hausa
432.	Animal trap	ògburu	àgburu	
433.	Metal trap	ògburu àzòp	àgburu àzòp	
434.	Bird trap	ògburu kàtaŋ	àgburu kàtaŋ	
435.	Large pit trap	ɔvà	avà	
436.	One	nyí		
437.	Two	mvà		
438.	Three	ntat		
439.	Four	nà		
440.	Five	ntyò		
441.	Six	nci		
442.	Seven	ntòŋvà		
443.	Eight	ntɔndat		
444.	Nine	ntòrà		
445.	Ten	okop		
446.	Eleven	òvgè	[o]kop nò nyi	
447.	Twelve	òssòk	[o]kop nò mvà	
448.	Twenty	eko evà		
449.	Twenty-four	èſɔ evà		
450.	Forty		ekó ina	
451.	Sixty		eko ocí	
452.	Eighty		eko tóngdát	
453.	Hundred	nak	èkokop	formerly 144. Also name of a festival held when you have four grandsons
454.	Thousand	tàde	< ?	
455.	Black	shara	dìngírì = very black	
456.	White	tara		
457.	Red	bara		

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
458.	Green, lush	agi		
459.	Sweet	tunyi		
460.	Bitter	ʃoni		
461.	Half	omvem		
462.	Heat	bari		
463.	Hot, be	lat		
464.	Cold, be	dɔŋ		
465.	Cold, be	ntaŋ		also ‘wet’
466.	Old (humans)	tɔkpa		
467.	Old, be (things)	fuk		
468.	New, be	ɛfa		
469.	Wet, things	ʃɔm		‘soaked’
470.	Wet	ntaŋ		
471.	Dry	kùri		
472.	Smooth	dyèri		also archaic bwighbwigh
473.	Strong	cɔrɔ		
474.	Sound	bɔŋ		
475.	Add to	bafí		
476.	Answer (question)	yut		
477.	Arrive, reach	ʃo		
478.	Ask a question	de		
479.	Ask/beg for something	sunj		
480.	Awaken (s.o.)	zit		
481.	Bark (dog)	gbe		
482.	Be bent	dan		
483.	Be heavy	gbèkpa		
484.	Be on (s.t.)	mmo		
485.	Be rotten	vɔ		
486.	Beat (drum)	vun		also ‘to stir’
487.	Beat (s.o.)	kpwet	mip	
488.	Begin	ʒat		
489.	Bite	lot		
490.	Bite off	vwɔt		
491.	Bite small piece	vwap		like a sick person
492.	Blow (flute, wind)	fekpa		
493.	Boil, warm	zikpa		
494.	Boil fiercely	bwat		
495.	Build (house etc.)	jin		
496.	Burn (fire burns)	do		
497.	Bury	bit		
498.	Buy	goy		
499.	Call (to someone)	nyina		
500.	Carry	yɛn		
501.	Carve (wood etc.)	cɛ		
502.	Catch	jut		
503.	Chew	tɔ		
504.	Choose	cu		
505.	Climb, ride	fɔ		
506.	Close	fam		
507.	Come	ba		
508.	Come out (of room)	zɛk		

Roger Blench: Nyankpa Wordlist

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
509.	Cook	tot		
510.	Cough	fɔrɔ		also ‘scratch’
511.	Count	varu		also ‘read’
512.	Cover	funa		
513.	Cut down (tree)	gbet		
514.	Cut in pieces	tɛt		tɛja tɛt can be –r in a sentence
515.	Cut in two	tep		
516.	Cut off (head etc.)	tɛt		
517.	Dance	ʒɛt		
518.	Die	kpo		
519.	Dig (earth etc.)	sim		
520.	Divide/share	gap		
521.	Do/make	kpa		
522.	Drag	gbikpa		
523.	Draw water	gbikpa		
524.	Dream	lele		
525.	Drink	fwa		
526.	Drop	tat		
527.	Dry in sun	tɛma		
528.	Eat	dga		
529.	Enter	gan		
530.	Extinguish	lim		
531.	Fall (rain)	dok		
532.	Fall over	gba		
533.	Fear	gwənyi		
534.	Feel (cold etc.)	go		
535.	Fight (people)	vwey		
536.	Fight (war)	taŋ iwa		
537.	Fill	tok		
538.	Filter	ʃàk		
539.	Finish (a task)	mà		
540.	Float	yàa		
541.	Flog =beat	mip		
542.	Flow (water etc.)	jɛ		
543.	Fly (birds)	yan		
544.	Fold (cloth etc.)	fina		
545.	Follow	le		
546.	Forget	yùcasì		
547.	Fry (in oil)	kɛ		
548.	Gather/collect	ŋara		
549.	Get, have	we		
550.	Get up	sɔn		
551.	Give to [them]	sɛsɛ		
552.	Give to [me]	jama		
553.	Give birth, deliver	mat		
554.	Go	je		
555.	Go out/exit	zɛk		
556.	Grind	vɔk		
557.	Grow (plants)	fɔt		
558.	Harvest acha	ŋam		cf. ‘suck’
559.	Hatch (egg)	fyɛm		
560.	Hear	go		
561.	Hoe	kap		

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
562.	Hunt	dgap		
563.	Jump	terufa	tenufa	'cut a jump'
564.	Kill	pet		
565.	Kneel	lufa		
566.	Know	nyi		
567.	Laugh	ŋara		also 'gather'
568.	Learn	nyina		
569.	Lick	len		
570.	Lie down	nwet		
571.	Listen	go		= 'hear'
572.	Lose s.t.	bit		
573.	Marry I	zam		traditional marriage
574.	Marry II	ko		= 'find'
575.	Measure	mɛŋa		
576.	Mix	kasi		
577.	Mix mud and straw	vwo		
578.	Mould (pot)	cin		= 'build'
579.	Open	cucu		
580.	Peel	fe		
581.	Pierce/stab	tot		
582.	Plait (hair)	ʃin		
583.	Plant (crop etc.)	doy		
584.	Play	laŋ alè		
585.	Pound (in mortar)	lun		
586.	Pour (liquid)	fara		
587.	Pour away carelessly	jerusi		
588.	Pour carefully	mwɔt		
589.	Pull	gbikpa		
590.	Push	yuca		
591.	Put on (clothes)	cim		
592.	Receive	ŋay		
593.	Refuse	kpe		
594.	'Remain'	bɔt		
595.	Remember	kpùsu		= 'stinginess'
596.	Resemble	ŋay		
597.	Return	vica		
598.	Roast on coals	vum		
599.	Rub	juk		
600.	Run	ti		
601.	Say/speak	vɛ		
602.	See	ya		
603.	Seek	gyep		
604.	Sell I	goysi		
605.	Sell II	dam		selling as a profession
606.	Send	dok		
607.	Set trap	den ɔgburu		'keep' a trap
608.	Sew	sɔm		
609.	Shake	zunj		
610.	Sharpen	mwanj		
611.	Shoot (arrow)	tanj		
612.	Sing	bɔm		

Roger Blench: Nyankpa Wordlist

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
613.	Sit down	set		
614.	Slaughter (animal)	tĕt		
615.	Sleep	la		
616.	Smash	laca		
617.	Smell	nu		
618.	Snap in two	bi		
619.	Sow seeds	doy		
620.	Spit	tat		'throw'
621.	Split	ŋjam		cf. 'suck'
622.	Stand	zɛ		
623.	Steal	vɛp		
624.	Stir (soup)	vun, vut		like 'beat drum'
625.	Suck (breast etc.)	ŋjam		cf. 'split'
626.	Surpass	gan		
627.	Swallow	le		
628.	Sweep	yar, yat		
629.	Swell	seŋ		
630.	Swim	zoy		
631.	Take	yɛn		
632.	Tear (cloth etc.)	gan		cf. 'surpass'
633.	Tell	te		
634.	Throw	taŋ		
635.	Throw away	taci		
636.	Tie	bwup		
637.	Touch	bat		
638.	Twist (rope etc.)	jima		
639.	Untie	cija		
640.	Uproot (tuber)	vut		
641.	Vomit	ve		
642.	Walk	jara		
643.	Want/need	dgep		
644.	Wash	wak		
645.	Wear	cim		
646.	Weave	nuk		
647.	Weave II	taŋ		throwing shuttle in the loom
648.	Weed by hand	zɔŋ		
649.	Weed by hoe	te		
650.	Weep	vɔm		
651.	Wipe	shiri		
652.	Work	ti		
653.	Yawn	ŋyɛm		
654.	Who?	nyɛ́é		
655.	Which?	nyísò, késò		
656.	What?	ńjɛ́é		
657.	When?	ńkáŋ		
658.	Where?	ɛmɛ		òdò in Gitata dialect

Edible and Useful Plants

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
659.	Guinea-yam ²⁴	òcit	àcit	Gitata. Panda kètèkpè
660.	Aerial yam ²⁵	èdòm	èdòm	
661.	Water-yam ²⁶	ùgbìzì	—	
662.	Taro (old cocoyam) ²⁷	fṣju	—	
663.	New cocoyam ^{28*}	màkàni	—	< Hausa
664.	New cocoyam II	sàkànu	—	< Hyam
665.	Cassava ²⁹	lògò	—	< Hausa
666.	Sweet potato ^{*30}	juma	—	
667.	Wild yam I	òvwèk	àvvèk	
668.	Rizga ³¹	avòp	—	
669.	Rizga II	naŋgòp	—	
670.	Tumuku ³²	m̄fuki	—	
671.	Sorghum ³³	avu	—	
672.	Bulrush millet ³⁴ (<i>dauro</i>)	emara	—	
673.	Bulrush millet (<i>maiwa</i>)	anse	—	
674.	Fonio (H. <i>acca</i>) ³⁵	εcεm	—	
675.	Iburu (H. <i>iburū</i>) ³⁶	εŋat	—	
676.	Maize ^{*37}	vǔzà	—	
677.	Rice ^{*38}	siyapa	—	< Hausa
678.	Cowpea ³⁹	εnep	—	
679.	Spiral cowpea	karafè	—	
680.	Lima bean ^{40*}	ònep	—	
681.	Other beans I	òfíki	—	small cowpea
682.	Bambara groundnut ⁴¹	evì	—	
683.	Kersting's ground-nut ⁴²	enèèbè	—	
684.	Groundnut (Peanut) ⁴³	gbegbe	—	Gitata, Bede εviza , Tattara kakpe ,
685.	Garden egg ⁴⁴	èfep	efep	
686.	Okra ⁴⁵	anvwagò	—	
687.	Okra	àmwanya	—	Gitata dial.

²⁴ (*Dioscorea guineensis*)²⁵ (*Dioscorea bulbifera*)²⁶ (*Dioscorea alata*)²⁷ (*Colocasia esculenta*)²⁸ (*Xanthosoma mafaffa*) (H. *wali*)²⁹ (*Manihot esculenta*)³⁰ (*Ipomoea batatas*)³¹ (*Solenostemon rotundifolius*)³² (*Plectranthus esculentus*)³³ (*Sorghum bicolor*)³⁴ (*Pennisetum* spp.)³⁵ (*Digitaria exilis*)³⁶ (*Digitaria iburua*)³⁷ (*Zea mays*)³⁸ (*Oryza sativa/ glaberrima*)³⁹ (*Vigna unguiculata*)⁴⁰ (*Phaseolus lunatus*)⁴¹ (*Vigna subterranea*)⁴² (*Macrotyloma geocarpa*)⁴³ (*Arachis hypogaea*)⁴⁴ (*Solanum melongena*)⁴⁵ (*Abelmoschus esculentus*)

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
688.	Okra	aŋzakolo		Bede dial.
689.	Chili pepper* (large) ⁴⁶	amkpukpu yàyà		cf. Hausa <i>atarugu</i>
690.	Birdseye chili ⁴⁷	yàyà		
691.	Onion (<i>Allium cepa</i>)	álíbísà		< Hausa
692.	Egusi melon ⁴⁸	èncè		
693.	Melon (other) ⁴⁹	èmbàsu		
694.	Edible squash ⁵⁰	anfùru tátè		
695.	Sorrel/roselle ⁵¹	ékpay		
696.	Jews' mallow ⁵²	aŋkpasheru		
697.	Kenaf ⁵³	oli		
698.	Sesame seeds ⁵⁴	ɔnʃaku		
699.	Black sesame ⁵⁵	òweri		
700.	Sesame leaves ⁵⁶	àzap		
701.	Bitterleaf ⁵⁷	ètɔy		
702.	Banana (<i>Musa AAA</i>)	ayaba		
703.	Orange* ⁵⁸	òko		
704.	Bamboo	εŋay		
705.	Coconut ⁵⁹	tagara		
706.	Pawpaw* ⁶⁰	ògbodù		
707.	Gourd (Generic)	àŋkɔm		
708.	Gourd small	òŋkɔm	àŋkɔm	
709.	Gourd-bottle ⁶¹	òvàra	àvàra	
710.	Calabash	gbugbàtà	àgbugbàtà	
711.	Flat calabash	símbà	àsímbà	
712.	Gourd (spherical) ⁶²	ìkpófò	àŋkpófò	
713.	Bottle gourds	ifùdu	àfùdu	small, used for storing medicine
714.	Cotton	àluru		
715.	Tobacco*	òtapà	àtapà	
716.	Sugar-cane*	òlèke	àlèke	
717.	Oil-palm ⁶³	èlek	elek	
718.	Palm-fruit	òŋgaŋ èlèk	àŋgaŋ èlèk	
719.	Palm-oil	àce dgà		'edible oil'
720.	Palm kernel	enfu		
721.	Raphia/ bamboo palm ⁶⁴	èŋko	èŋko	

⁴⁶ (*Capsicum frutescens*)

⁴⁷ (*Capsicum annuum*)

⁴⁸ (*Citrullus lanatus*)

⁴⁹ (*Cucumis* spp.)

⁵⁰ (*Cucurbita pepo*)

⁵¹ (*H. yakuwa*) (*Hibiscus sabdariffa*)

⁵² (*H. lalo*) (*Corchorus olitorius*)

⁵³ (*H. rama*) (*Hibiscus cannabinus*)

⁵⁴ (*H. Ridii*) (*Sesamum indicum*)

⁵⁵ (*Sesamum radiatum*)

⁵⁶ (*H. karkashi*)

⁵⁷ *Vernonia amygdalina*

⁵⁸ (*Citrus sinensis*)

⁵⁹ (*Cocos nucifera*)

⁶⁰ (*Carica papaya*)

⁶¹ (*Lagenaria siceraria*)

⁶² (*Cucurbita maxima*)

⁶³ (*Elaeis guineensis*)

⁶⁴ (*Raphia* spp.)

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
722.	Fan-palm ⁶⁵	onjey	anjey	
723.	Monkey-guava ⁶⁶	ɔŋkpwat	aŋkpwat	
724.	Canarium tree ⁶⁷	èpà	epà	
725.	Custard apple ⁶⁸	əbwì	—	
726.	Wild date-palm ⁶⁹	emwey	—	
727.	Silk-cotton tree ⁷⁰	èfuŋ	efuŋ	
728.	Shea tree ⁷¹	èzò ɔmbà	—	
729.	<i>Syzygium guineense</i>	m̄vw̄er ègò	—	Hausa <i>malmo</i>
730.	kalgo	ɛnmv̄ònñmv̄òn	—	
731.	kawo	kántèrè	àkántèrè	
732.	Red-flowered silk-cotton	ɔnfunjò	—	Hausa <i>gujiya</i> Trees with different prefixes make fruits
733.	Locust tree ⁷²	èlo	elo	
734.	Locust fruit	olo	—	
735.	Locust seeds	émì	—	
736.	Locust powder	àbùrùlo	—	
737.	Locust-bean cakes	ɔŋgbẹŋgbè	—	
738.	<i>Terminalia</i> sp. ⁷³	ɛʃɔm	ɛʃɔm	
739.	Black plum ⁷⁴	èzò	eʒò	
740.	Grass with scented root	ónzanzì	ànzanzì	

Musical Instruments

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
741.	Drum I	ògàn̄ga	àgàn̄ga	barrel-drum
742.	Drum II	iwēngàn̄gà	awēngàn̄gà	small barrel-drum
743.	Drum III	èbo	—	other name for barrel-drum
744.	Drum III	èbi	—	ground-standing drum beaten with hands
745.	Drum III	ésàra	—	round drum of wood
746.	Cruciform whistle	òmwére	àmwére	played in sets of four at least
747.	End-blown flute	ntákperè	—	blown at a funeral ceremony together with òmwére
748.	End-blown flute	olàwere	—	same as above
749.	Ocarina	èkpàciri	—	made of fruit-shell with membrane. Voice of masquerades
750.	Horn I	ɔntom	antom	general
751.	Horn II	ùmbentòm	—	small and sounds like a whistle leads ensemble
752.	Horn III	èzò	ézò	long wooden horn played with ɔntom for funerals and for communication in the bush
753.	Clarinet	?	—	
754.	Raft-zither	ègbam	egbam	
755.	Musical bow	òkan̄ga	àkan̄ga	
756.	Iron gong ⁷⁵	òlen̄	àlen̄	cf. Mada Iēlă
757.	Bangles for gong	èṣɔm	esɔm	

⁶⁵ (*Borassus aethiopum*)

⁶⁶ (*Diospyros mespiliformis*)

⁶⁷ (*Canarium schweinfurthii*)

⁶⁸ (*Annona senegalensis*)

⁶⁹ (*Phoenix reclinata*)

⁷⁰ (*Ceiba pentandra*)

⁷¹ (*Vitellaria paradoxa*)

⁷² (*Parkia biglobosa*)

⁷³ (H. baushe)

⁷⁴ (*Vitex doniana*)

⁷⁵ The player has iron bangles around the wrists and holds a bell in each hand and beats them against the bangle

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
758.	Double iron gong II	òkpàde	àkpàde	
759.	Basket-rattle	àjèke		
760.	Ankle rattles	ànjwagba		palm tree
761.	Ankle rattles	àzàr avò		iron
762.	Ankle rattles	kpàciri		fruit-shells cf. ocarina

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