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Marine and Freshwater Research

## **Supplementary Material**

Life-history traits of the invasive and biggest European freshwater fish, the wels catfish (*Silurus glanis*) show high potential for colonisation in Southern Europe

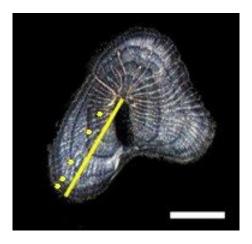
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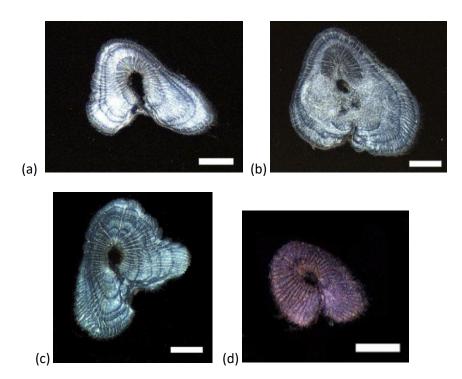
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**Fig. S1.** Image of the transverse section of a catfish spine (male measuring 74.8 cm), immersed in 95% alcohol and observed in reflected light against a black background, showing five translucent marks (yellow spots). The yellow line shows the radius measurement axis of the spine at the level of its largest wing. Scale bar: 2 mm.



**Fig. S2.** Examples of difficulties encountered in interpreting spine sections of *Silurus glanis* observed under reflected light against a dark background. (a) Possible double mark (75.0-cm mature female), but six marks counted, one of which was partially eroded by the medullary cavity and the last one was at the edge of the spine, so there was no reason to count a double mark. (b) Remodeled bone in the medullary part (80.8-cm mature male), with five counted marks. (c) Multiple marks (103.5-cm mature male) with five counted marks. (d) Poorly visible marks, which was often the case in small individuals (50.1-cm immature male), with two counted rings. Scale bar: 2 mm, note that images are not seen at the same scale.