

Fish Descriptions



Channel Catfish: Considered an excellent sport fish and an outstanding food fish. It is very popular due to its very fast growth rate when fed commercial fish food. The Channel Catfish is compatible in lakes and ponds with all species and works especially well with Hybrid Sunfish and Largemouth Bass.

Hybrid Sunfish: Produced by crossing a male Bluegill with a female Green Sunfish. This hybrid cross produces a 90% male, 10% female production, which makes the Hybrid Sunfish an excellent pond fish as it will not over populate. It also accepts artificial feed readily and grows to a much larger size than either parent. 1-2# fish are not uncommon.



Largemouth Bass: One of the most popular sport fish of America. It is a predator and works well to help control stunted Bluegill & Crappie populations. By nature this fish will not accept artificial feed, but our supplying fishery does raise Largemouth that do accept the same artificial feed that Channel Catfish and Hybrid Sunfish eat. This greatly increases their growth rates.

Black Crappie: Considered an excellent game fish when taken on light tackle. A large sunfish can grow up to 16 inches long and weigh up to 5 pounds, if raised in the right conditions. They spawn (breed) in May and June in waters 3-8 feet deep. The male will sweep out a nest in a sandy or gravel area. These fish are best suited for large ponds over 20 acres and not recommended for ponds under 5 acres.



Bluegill: Illinois' State Fish, Bluegill, can grow to about nine inches in length and weigh up to 12 ounces. It is a popular game fish and is self sustaining, if bass are present. Bluegills fit much of the Hybrid Sunfish description except that they have a slower growth rate and tend to overpopulate more rapidly.

Redear: Recommended for deeper ponds and can be stocked along with Bluegill or Hybrid Sunfish. They are a deep water fish, feeding on snails or clams, and usually harder to catch except during spawning season when they are in the shadows.



Hybrid Redear: This fish is a cross between a male bluegill and a female redear. It DOES eat snails and clams and has a slightly higher reproductive rate than the Hybrid Sunfish.

Fathead Minnows: These fish should be stocked in new ponds and prior to stocking Largemouth Bass. This gives an opportunity for the Minnows to spawn several times and provide plenty of feed for the young Bass to get a good start and grow quickly.



Triploid Grass Carp: This long, slender, silver colored fish is a viable alternative to using chemicals for weed control and do not muddy the water as do common carp. Triploid Grass Carp are genetically incapable of reproducing and when properly stocked, they will totally eliminate the need for using chemicals or mechanical weed cutters. Stocking rates differ for each lake, depending on weed presence. These Carp eat most aggressively in the summer months and good results are usually seen after the second season. Depending on the severity of the weed problem, restocking will have to take place every 3-5 years.