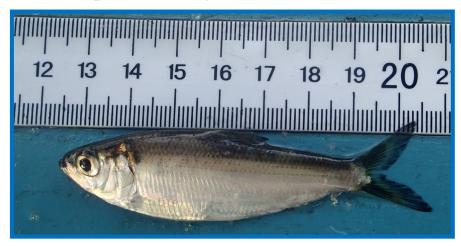


Alewife

Alosa pseudoharengus



Description:

- silver fish with bronze to olive back
- similar to the blueback herring
- deep body with large eye
- pearl to pale gray peritoneum (lining of abdominal cavity)

Size:

• up to 15 inches

Range:

- Atlantic coast from Red Bay, Labrador, Canada to South Carolina
- landlocked populations exist in Lake Ontario, NY's Finger Lakes and other freshwater lakes

Facts:

- anadromous fish (spends adult life in salt water but spawn in freshwater)
- begin traveling upriver in the spring to spawn
- at one month of age, young begin to move downstream
- females usually reach full maturity by age 5, males by 3 or 4
- each mature female produces between 60,000 and 100,000 eggs, depending on her size
- tend to spawn in the same stream in which they hatched
- will eat plankton, small crustaceans, and some small fish



Alewife

Alosa pseudoharengus

Year	Total Caught
1982	66
1983	8
1984	1
1985	7
1986	40
1987	34
1988	1,151
1989	116
1990	360
1991	546
1992	9
1993	358
1994	198
1995	99
1996	4,173
1997	75
1998	22
1999	427
2000	58
2001	596
2002	2
2003	722
2004	136
2005	1,291
2006	5
2007	988
2008	3,182
2009	269
2010	17
2011	325
2012	3
2013	16
2014	172
2015	328
2017	55
2018	354
2019	12
Total	16,221
. Jtai	10,221

For more information about alewife, please check out these articles:

River Herring Status: Research Holds the Key

https://www.njfishandwildlife.com/pdf/2018/digmar6-13.pdf

Last Call for River Herring

http://www.njfishandwildlife.com/pdf/2011/digmar23-30.pdf