



Black Crappie

Pomoxis nigromaculatus



Description:

- ◆ long predorsal region with sharp dip above eye
- ◆ 7-8 dorsal spines
- ◆ upturned snout
- ◆ symmetrical dorsal and anal fins
- ◆ gray green above, white below
- ◆ silvery blue sides with green flecks and wavy black lines/blotches
- ◆ black lines/bands and spots on non-paired fins

Size:

- ◆ up to 19 inches

Range:

- ◆ Native to fresh waters of central and eastern North America.
- ◆ Widely introduced to few lakes of the Pacific coast and Canada as a sport fish

Facts:

- ◆ prefers clear, cool, well vegetated waters of quiet ponds and lakes, shallow areas of large
- ◆ lakes and slow moving sections of rivers
- ◆ spawn in late spring and early summer in 58-68 degree temperatures
- ◆ like other sunfish, males build and tend nests until young fish leave
- ◆ females produce 10,000-200,000 eggs and may spawn in multiple nests
- ◆ takes about 4 years to grow to 12 inches
- ◆ mature at age 2
- ◆ average lifespan in 7 years
- ◆ schooling fish
- ◆ feed on planktonic crustaceans, aquatic insects, minnows and fingerlings of other species



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