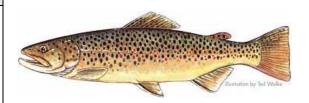
Brown Trout (Salmo trutta)

General Information

Although not native to New Jersey, reproducing brown trout have become established in northern New Jersey streams through wide spread stocking. It is more tolerant to warmer temperatures than brook and rainbow trout. An anadromous (sea-run) fishery is currently being established in the Manasquan River using hatchery-reared fish.



Native Range

Throughout Europe and western Asia from Iceland, the British Isles and Scandinavia to the Aral Sea and Afghanistan. Also found in the Atlas Mountains of Northern Africa. Introduced in the United States in 1883 and is now found in many states. (Smith, 1985)

Habitat Description

River: Clear, cool to cold water, relatively silt free bottom rocky substrate. 50 to 70% pool to 30 to 50% riffle-run habitat combination with areas of slow, deep water; abundance of in-stream cover is important (Raleigh, 1984).

Lake: Clear, cool to cold, deep lakes, typically oligotrophic. Require tributary streams to spawn. Brown trout grow larger in lake environments than in streams.

Optimum Habitat Requirements				
Dissolved Oxygen	≥ 7 mg/ l			
Temperature	12 – 19°C			
рН	6.8 – 7.8			
Turbidity	< 50 ppm			
Current	02. – 5.5 ft/s (feeding) 0 to 0.7 ft/s (resting)			

Diet				
Fry	Small bottom organisms, zooplankton			
Juveniles	Terrestrial & aquatic insects, amphipods			
Adults	Fish, crustaceans, insects			

Notes: Size selective feeders – Insects are primarily Ephemeroptera, Trichoptera & Plecoptera. Active night feeders.

Reproduction						
Time of Year	October – December		Age Males Mature	0 +		
Temperature Range	7 – 9°C		Age Females Mature	1+		
Water Depth	24.4 – 45.7 cm		Nest	Bury in gravel		
Substrate	Gravel (0.6 – 0.7 cm)		Egg Type	Demersal		
Time of Day			Parental Care	None		
Critical pH	5.0		Days to Hatching	38 – 95 (temp dependent)		
Velocity Range			Oxygen Level			
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Notes: Cover is essential to brown trout fry survival (Raleigh, 1984).