

FINGERLING FISH SALE

Bluegills also function well in shallow, warm, vegetated areas of lakes and therefore are the most commonly stocked species to provide food for largemouth bass. They are prolific spawners and can quickly become stunted if sufficient numbers of bass are not present and/or the pond becomes choked with vegetation. Young bluegill eat microscopic animals, while adults prey on insects, fish eggs, small crayfish, and occasionally small fish.



Hybrid bluegills are a cross between a male bluegill and female green sunfish. They grow quickly and are easy to catch. Because they are a hybrid fish, the few that reproduce will return to bluegill after a few generations of reproduction so they will need to be restocked periodically.

The redear sunfish species provides an alternative to bluegills. They offer three advantages that cause some pond owners to stock them. First, they generally grow larger than bluegills. Second, they are voracious predators of pond snails whose abundance can displease some pond owners. Third, they produce fewer young than bluegills and are not as likely to become stunted.



The channel catfish is most commonly found around the bottom of a lake or pond. It is a scavenger and will eat just about anything it can find. It will eat live fish, although it is not considered to be a predator. It generally has little effect on the predator/prey roles except where exceptionally large fish are found. It will take to commercial fish food and has tremendous growth potential.

The largemouth bass species is the best predator for stocking into ponds to maintain a healthy fish community. They have evolved to reproduce and prey effectively in warm, vegetated areas of lakes. When young, largemouth bass prey on microscopic animals but quickly switch to a diet of fish and crayfish.



Yellow perch is a frequently stocked species into Ohio's ponds. They tolerate warmer water and prefer vegetated areas, conditions common in Ohio ponds. However, reproduction is highly variable from year to year, and they eat identical foods that bass and bluegills eat.

The fathead is a chubby, slab-sided minnow with a blunt, rounded snout. It spawns over a long period beginning in late spring and continuing well into summer. The fathead seldom attain a length of more than 3 inches, but the average adult size is about 2 inches.



The amur is a native of China and has been used for more than 700 years to control excessive aquatic weed growth. Grass carp should not be confused with common carp (*Cyprinus carpio*). The white amur has a silvery green body and no barbels, whereas the common carp is golden yellow and has barbels.

**Fish are delivered from Fender's Fish Hatchery, Baltic, Ohio.
Contact Fenders at 740-622-0681
www.fendersfishhatchery.com**

