

Ohio Department of Natural Resources

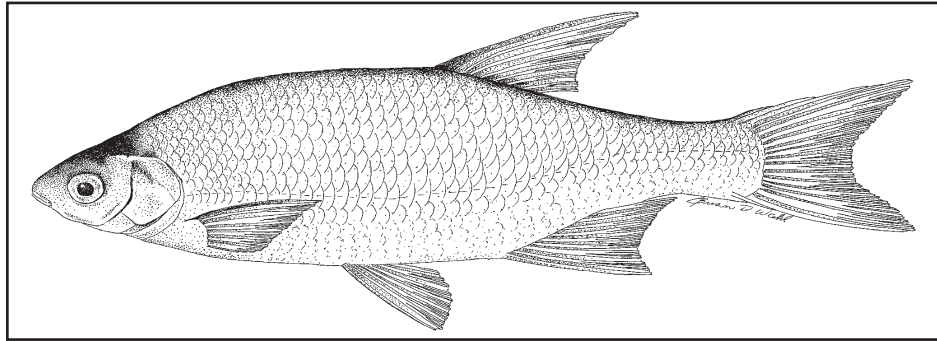
Division of Wildlife

Life History Notes

Golden Shiner

Common Names: Shiner, Roach

Scientific Name: *Notemigonus crysoleucas*



Publication 181
(999)

Identification:

Golden shiners are a deep bodied minnow species with a distinctive golden olive-silver color. Their fins may appear from golden brown to orange-reddish in hue. Older fish have a more golden color while younger fish appear more silvery. This species has a distinctive scaleless strip on the underside of the fish between the pelvic fin and the anus. Also, the lateral line dips low on the sides of the fish, and there are no barbels on the mouth.

Range Aand Habitat:

Golden shiners are common in medium to large bodies of slow moving or standing water. This species requires good water quality and aquatic vegetation to thrive. Golden shiners prefer quiet, clear water over sand, gravel or organic debris covered bottoms.

Life History:

Golden shiners spawn over a variety of materials, including sand, gravel, vegetation, and other objects; it all depends on what is available.

Adult Size:

Golden shiners are usually 2.5 to 7 inches in length. but they can reach up to 9 inches.

Fishing Methods:

Golden shiners are not targeted by anglers. However, they are an excellent bait for a wide variety of species. Often golden shiners are the preferred bait type because they are easy to keep alive. Anglers usually collect this species with dip nets or seines.