



<http://www.parcoaddasud.lombardia.it/ambiente/img/217.jpg>

Northern Pike

Esox lucius

Characteristics

- **partly scaled opercle; fully scaled cheek**
- **adults with rows of yellow, bean-shaped spots**, young with yellow to white wavy bars on green body
- **black spots on all fins**, usually, excluding pectoral fin
- **5-6 submandibular pores; 13-16 branchiostegal rays**
- **no pronounced suborbital bar (teardrop)**

Ecology and Distribution

- **clear vegetated lakes; quiet pools & backwaters of creeks & small to large rivers**
- **migrate to headwater streams and flooded riparian wetlands to spawn in spring**