



Bluegill

Lepomis macrochirus



<http://www.samford.edu/schools/artsci/biology/zoology/vertzoo-06s/pages/18.htm>

Characteristics

- deep & slab-sided sunfish w/ a relatively small mouth
- large black spot at rear of dorsal fin (faint in young);
- lower edge of operculum & body light blue in mature adults
- dark bars on sides of body (absent in turbid water; thin & chainlike on young)
- long pointed pectoral fin
- breeding male brightly colored

Ecology and Distribution

- found in vegetated lakes, ponds, swamps, & pools of creeks & small-large rivers

