



## **Black Crappie**

*Pomoxis nigromaculatus*



### **Characteristics**

- long pre-dorsal region arched with sharp dip over eye
- dorsal fin base about as long as distance from eye to dorsal fin origin (white crappie w/ dorsal fin base shorter than distance from eye to dorsal fin origin)
- **7-8 dorsal spines**, 1<sup>st</sup> much shorter than last (white crappie w/ 6 dorsal spines)
- **irregularly arranged speckles & blotches on sides** (white crappie w/ vertical bars)
- large mouth; upper jaw extends under eye; deep, extremely compressed body

### **Ecology and Distribution**

- lakes, ponds, sloughs, and backwaters and pools of streams
- usually among vegetation over mud or sand; most common in clear water