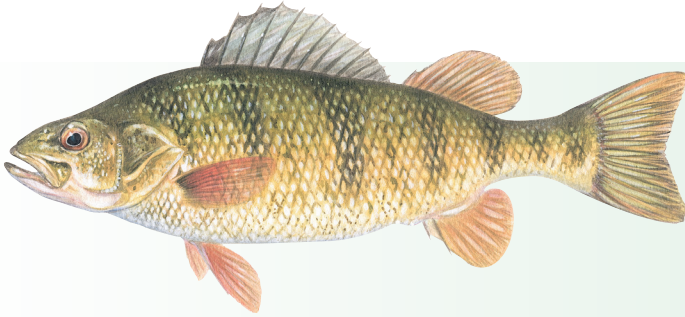




## YELLOW PERCH



### Identification

- Elongated body with green or golden-brown back
- **Sides are yellow-green with dark vertical stripes (usually 7)**
- Lower fins are usually red or orange

### Habitat

- Very adaptable; warm and cool water, large and small lakes, ponds and rivers.
- Open water of lakes with moderately clear water and weed growth.
- Prefer water temperatures near 20°C.

### Spawning Patterns

- Mid-April to early May at water temperatures between 6-12°C.
- Spawn in shallow areas near woody debris or rooted plants. They lay their eggs in long, transparent, jelly-like masses about 2 inches in diameter that can be several feet long.
- A 10-inch female lays up to 61,000 eggs.

### Diet

- Feed extensively on aquatic insects and, as they get older, small fish, including other Yellow Perch.
- Feeding is most aggressive in the mornings and evenings.

### Age and Size

- Can live 9-10 years.
- Usually 6-12 inches long; Ontario Angler Award minimum length is 12 inches.
- Ontario record weight is 2.52 lb.

### Fishing Tips

- Form large schools, making them relatively easy to catch.
- Popular baits include small minnows, worms and grubs, as well as small jigs and spinners.
- They can also be caught through the ice during winter.