

# The Leading Edge



Sea Grant Tip Sheet Series



Redear Sunfish *Lemois microlopus*

Richard T. Bryant and Wayne C. Starnes *The fishes of Tennessee*

Common name: Redear Sunfish

Scientific name: *Lemois microlopus*

Production potential: Easy

Marketing potential: Potential: High  
Size: 1-4 inches  
Market: Sport

Temperature Requirements: Growing: 55-80°F  
Spawning: 75-80°F Spawning starts at 75°F and is retarded at temperature below 70°F.  
Lethal: NA

Feed requirements: Protein: 32%  
Fat: NA

Spawning requirements: Males construct and guard nests, usually in colonies with other males. Females produce 15,000-30,000 eggs per spawn.

Most common production systems: Ponds stocked at a rate of 100,000-200,000 fingerlings per acre to produce 1-2 inch fingerlings in one growing season.

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