

# The Leading Edge



Sea Grant Tip Sheet Series



Smallmouth bass *Micropterus dolomieu*

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

Common name: Smallmouth bass

Scientific name: *Micropterus dolomieu*

Production potential: Easy for fingerlings. Difficult for food size.

Marketing potential: Potential: Easy  
Size: 4-6 inches for fingerlings, 1.5-3.0 pounds for food size.  
Market: Sport

Temperature Requirements: Growing: 50-70°F  
Spawning: 58-62°F  
Lethal: NA

Feed requirements: Protein: 45%  
Fat: 8%

Spawning requirements: Nest layer, 8,000 eggs/lb. body weight. Males guard nests until eggs hatch.

Most common production systems: Ponds

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