

SECTION VI SPECIALIZED ICHTHYLOGY

CLASSIFYING AND IDENTIFYING FISH

55. NAMES

- a. Scientific Names. Biologists have devised a system of Latin and Greek names for positive identification of fish species. Each known species has the same scientific name in every country.
- b. Common Names. Most of the popular game fish in GE have many common names that fishermen use in different localities (for example, the ide (Aland) is also called Nerfling, Orfe, Elte, Eltze, Gängling, Kühling, Seekarpfen, Bratfish, and Urf). For this reason, the most common German and English name and the Latin or Greek name of each fish are listed in the descriptions of popular game fish in GE.

56. IDENTIFICATION

- a. Body proportion, number of spines and rays in their fins, location of body parts, arrangement of mouth, eyes and fins, scale count, teeth, eye diameter, and internal anatomy identify fish.
- b. Color is not a reliable means of identification because most fish change color when removed from water and at death. Some change color while swimming in their natural habitat, and some acquire brilliant colors during courtship activities. Colors referred to in this pamphlet are the ones fishermen generally see when catching a fish.

57. CLASSIFICATION

Freshwater game fish in GE are categorized into three major family groups (genera).

- a. Salmonids (Salmonidae). The following species belong to this genus: Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*), brook trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*), brown trout (*Salmo trutta*), lake trout (*Salmo trutta forma lacustris*), rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), arctic char (*Salvelinus alpinus*), river char (*Hucho hucho*), grayling (*Thymallus thymallus*), Whitefish (*Coregonus wartmanni*), and other coregonus species.
- b. Cyprinides (Cyprinidae). The following species belong to this genus: barbel (*Barbus barbus*), bream (*Abramis brama*), carp (*Cyprinus carpio*), crucian carp (*Carassius carassius*), chub (*Squalius cephalus*), dace (*Leuciscus leuciscus*), ide (*Idus idus*), roach (*Rutilus rutilus*), rudd (*Scardinius erythrophthalmus*), nose carp (*Chondrostoma nasus*), tench (*Tinca tinca*), and a number of other cyprinid species.
- c. Percides (Percidae). Perch (*Perca fluviatilis*) and pike-perch (*Lucioperca lucioperca*) belong to this genus.

The following fishes are separate:

- a. Pike
- b. Sheatfish (*Siluridae*). Catfish (*Ictalurus nebulosus*) and sheatfish (*Silurus glanis*) belong to this genus.
- c. Eel (*Anguillidae*). Eel (*Anguilla anguilla*) belongs to this genus.