

Tuesday January 15, 2007

# The Alewife

The Alewife is mainly my topic today. The Alewife is a fish that is 6 inches and 4 ounces. It lives around 4-6 years.

The Alewife mainly lives in the great lakes. Expect lake Superior. Or other lakes like wetland canals or Niagara falls. Their favorite lakes are Lake Erie, Lake Michigan, Lake Ontario and Lake Huron.

The Alewife is 6 inches and 4 ounces. The Alewife is silvery with blue or blue-green metallic taster. On the Alewife's back. The Alewife mainly eats diamonds, copepods, shrimp, insect, small fisher, squid and fish eggs.

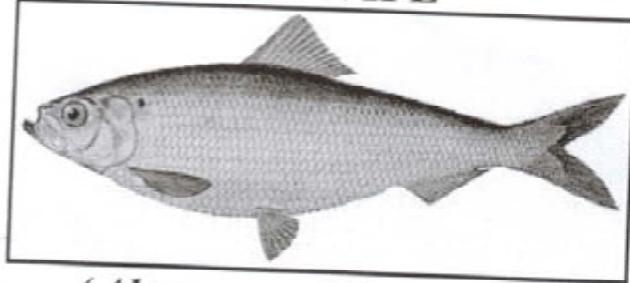
There are a lot of reasons why the Alewife are dying. Some of the reason are because of abundance, weather and population. They are mostly dying because of weather. The weather is too cold for them. Mostly in lake Superior.

I hope you enjoyed reading some exciting facts about the Alewife. Like their habitat, diet, what it looks like and its ecological concern.

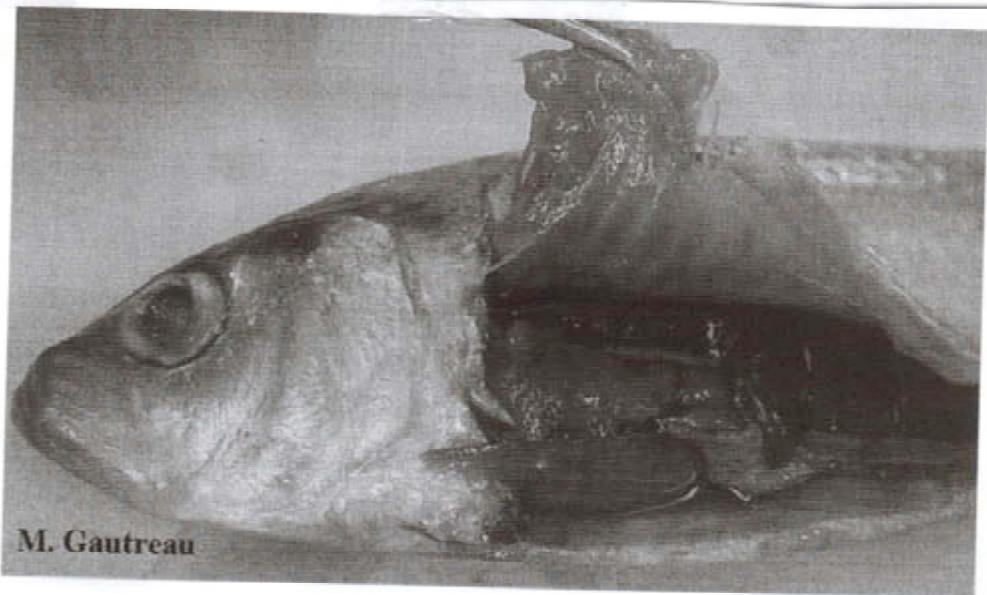
# Alewife Habitats

Alewife spawn in a diversity of habitats that includes large rivers, small streams, ponds and large lakes. Over a wide range of submerged vegetation. In areas where alewife and blueback herring co-exist, blueback herring will exhibit more of a variety in their spawning sites including shallow areas covered with vegetation, in ricefields, in swampy areas, and in small tributaries.

**ALEWIFE**



(*Alosa pseudoharengus*)



M. Gautreau

Numberly

Feb. 25/08

## Alewife



The description of an Alewife is that it's a distinguishable at a glance from the sea herring by the greater depth of its body, which is three and one-third times as long as deep (an alewife of  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches is about 4 inches deep; a herring that long has a depth only 3 inches). The alewife has a large eye, dorsal margin of upper jaw angled upward, pale peritoneum. Also the lining of the abdominal cavity is pale grayish or pinkish white in the alewife. Sides silvery with shoulder spot present on fish greater than 10 cm.

The habitat of the alewife is that it occurs in rivers, estuaries and coastal waters of the western Atlantic. Adults found on Continental Shelf between spawning migrations. Also spawning occurs in rivers, streams and ponds. Fresh salt water making diel vertical migrations moving upward during nighttime hours.

The diet of the Alewife is that it feeds on dictums, copepods, shrimps, insects, small fishes, squids and fish eggs.

My last thought about the alewife is that it's an excellent food fish and they are both marketed fresh and salted, and are preferred by many to the sea herring. By far the greater part of the catch of alewives is made lower reaches of the streams that they enter to spawn, in weirs, in dip nets or in haul seines according to locality..

# Alewife Report

An Alewife is a type of fish that is being endangered. This type of fish may even become extinct.

## Description:

An Alewife's description is large eye (the eye is larger than a blueback herring's eye), the dorsal margin of the upper jaw is punged upward. The body is compressed in fusiform and the sides are silvery with shoulder spot present on fish greater than 10 cm.

## Habitat:

An Alewife's habitat occurs in rivers, and coastal waters of the western Atlantic. Adult Alewives are found on continental shelf between spawning migrations. The adult Alewife's spawning occurs in rivers, streams, and ponds.

## Diet:

An Alewife's diet is to feed on diatoms, copepods, shrimps, insects, small fishes, squids, and fish eggs.

## Ecological Concern about the Alewife:

The ecological concern about the Alewife is that they are becoming endangered.

because people are fishing and using nets. When they do that they can catch Alewives and other fishes. So that's why the Alewives are becoming endangered.

### Distribution:

The Alewives distribution ranges from Newfoundland to northern South Carolina.

### Migrations:

The adult Alewives enter the Chesapeake Bay to spawn in the spring (from late March and April) then they migrate to sea in early fall to overwinter in deep offshore water.