

Jeremy Howard

Red Breasted Sun Fish\_LM31F22

**Collection Location:**

Little Mulberry  
Gwinnett County  
Georgia 30019  
34.045607, -83.888620

**Shannon H' value:** 1.722178515

**DNA Sequence:**

CCCCNCTTCTTTTGTCCCTACATAGACAAGTAAGACNNGGTGCATGAGCCGGAATGGTAGGCACAGCTA  
TTAAGCCTACTTACTCGAGCAGAGCTCAGTCAACCAGGCGCCCTCCTCGGAGACGACCAGATTTACAAT  
GTTATCGTAACAGCACATGCATTTGAATAATTTTCTTTATAGTGATACCAATCATAATTGGAGGTTTCGG  
CAACTGACTTGTCCCCTTAATAATTGGCGCCCCTGATATGGCATTCCCCGAATGAACAACATAAGCTTTT  
GACTCCTTCCCCCTCTTTCTCCTTCTCCTTGCCTCCTCCGGAGTCGAAGCCGGGGCTGGCACAGGTTGA  
ACCGTCTATCCCCCTCTCGCCGGCAACCTCGCCCATGCAGGAGCATCCGTTGACCTCACCATTTTTCCCT  
GCATCTCGCAGGGGTCTCTTCAATTCTAGGGGCTATTAACCTTTATTACCACAATTATCAATATGAAACCTC  
CTGCCATCTCCAATACCAGACACCACTGTTTGTATGATCAGTCCTAATTACTGCTGTTTTACTCCTACTTT  
CCCTCCCAGTCCTCGCTGCAGGAATTACTATGCTTCTAACAGACCGAAATCTTAACACCACTTTCTTTGAT  
CCGGCAGGAGGCGGGGACCCCATCCTCTATCAACATCTGTTCTGATTCTTCGGTCACCCTGAAGTGTCAT  
ACTTGTTTTTTCCGGAAGGAAA

**Taxonomic information:**

Kingdom: Animalia

Phylum: Chordata

Class: Teleostei

Order: Perciformes

Family: Centrarchidae

Genus: Lepomis

Species: Lepomis auritis

### **Morphological Characteristics:**

Red Breasted Sunfish are a more laterally compressed fish similar to other types of sunfish. The red breasted sunfish has a blue-green color that fades into a bright orange-yellow color towards their belly in females and more of a red belly in males. They typically have “42-51 lateral-line scales and the dorsal fin has 10-11 spines and 10-12 rays. Redbreast Sunfish has 9-10 anal fin rays, 13-15 pectoral fin rays, and 9-12 gill rakers.”<sup>(3)</sup>



### **Habitat:**

from central Florida through Georgia and as far north as New Brunswick, as well as west to the Apalachicola and Choctawhatchee drainages and Atlantic and Gulf Slope drainages. Red Breasted Sun Fish like cool water rocky streams and rivers that are slow-moving. They prefer areas with a sandy bottom and tend to avoid areas that are heavily vegetated or stagnant.

### **Reproduction:**

Females lay approximately 1000 eggs in a depression in the stream created and protected by the male. The clutch spawns in the spring. Red Breast grows relatively slowly compared to other sunfish and range in size from 2-9 inches long to 3-8 ounces in weight.

### Species Interaction:

Red Breasted Sun Fish diet includes snails insects small fish and other small invertebrates. In Tennessee introduced Red Breasted Sunfish have begun displacing native longear sunfish through direct competition. Also, Red Breasted Sunfish can form natural hybrids with pumpkinseed fish, bluegill sunfish, warmouth, and greengill sunfish.

### Works Cited

- (1) "Freshwater Fish - Species." *SCDNR - Fish - Species - Redbreast Sunfish*, <https://www.dnr.sc.gov/fish/species/redbreastsunfish.html>.
- (2) Fuller, Pam, and Matt Cannister. "Redbreast Sunfish (*Lepomis Auritus*) - Species Profile." *USGS Nonindigenous Aquatic Species Database*, 27 July 2019, <https://nas.er.usgs.gov/queries/factsheet.aspx?SpeciesID=379>.
- (3) NOAA Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory. "NOAA National Center for Research on Aquatic Invasive Species (NCRAIS)." *Nonindigenous Aquatic Species*, [https://nas.er.usgs.gov/queries/greatlakes/FactSheet.aspx?Species\\_ID=379&Potential=Y&Type=2](https://nas.er.usgs.gov/queries/greatlakes/FactSheet.aspx?Species_ID=379&Potential=Y&Type=2).