Lamya Abras

Common Name and Species Number: Bluegill_LM13

Kingdom: Animalia
Phylum: Chordata
Class: Actinopterygii
Order: Perciformes
Family: Centrarchidae
Genus: Lepomis
Species: *L. Macrochirus*

Collection Location: Little Mulberry Park in Gwinnett County, Dacula, GA.

Shannon H' Value: 1.683154

Morphological Characteristics: Lepomis macrochirus, commonly known as the Bluegill, exhibits blue and purple coloration on the face and gill covers, with dark

olive bands along its sides and an orange to yellow underside. A distinctive black spot is present at the posterior edge of the gills and at the base of the dorsal fin. Bluegills can reach up to 12 inches in length and weigh as much as 4.5 pounds.

Habitat: Bluegills are native to regions east of the Rocky Mountains but have been introduced widely across North America, as well as in parts of Europe, Africa, Asia, and South America. They are typically found in shallow waters of lakes, ponds, streams, creeks, and rivers with abundant aquatic vegetation for shelter.

Reproduction: Male Bluegills create nests by clearing out sandy areas, which they guard until a female arrives. The male circles the female, emitting a low grunting sound. Once she enters the nest, they engage in a circling display, touching bellies while in an upright position. Afterward, the male chases her out, releasing sperm to fertilize the eggs she has laid.

Species Interaction: Bluegills are prey for various fish species, especially when young, including northern pike, crappie, and yellow perch. However, as adults, their deeper bodies provide some protection from most aquatic predators.

DNA Sequence:

GGGTTTTTTTGGGTCCCANNCAACNATATNNTCTCCGGTGCATGAGCCGGT
ATAGTGGGTACGGCCCTAAGCCTACTCATTCGAGCAGAGCTCAGCCAACC
AGGCGCTCTCCTGGGCGACGACCAAATTTATAACGTAATTGTGACAGCAC
ATGCATTCGTAATAATTTTCTTTATAGTAATACCAATTATGATTGGTGGCTT
TGGCAACTGACTTGTCCCATTAATAATTGGAGCCCCCGATATAGCATTCCC
CCGAATAAATAACATAAGCTTTTGACTTCTCCCCCCCTCTTTCCTTCTTCTT
CTCGCCTCCTCCGGGGTTGAAGCCGGGGCTGGCACAGGATGAACCGTTTA
CCCCCCTCTCGCTGGTAACCTAGCCCATGCAGGAGCATCAGTCGACCTTAC
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TTTTATTACCACAATTATTAACATGAAGCCCCCTGCTATTTCCCAGTACCA
GACCCCTTTATTTGTCTGATCAGTCCTAATTACTGCCGTCTTACTCCTGCTT
TCCCTTCCAGTCCTTGCTGCAGGCATCACAATACTACTTACAGACCGTAAT
CTAAACACCACTTTCTTTGACCCAGCGGGGGGCGGGGACCCAATCCTCTA
TCAGCACCTGTTCTGATTCTTCGGTCACCCNGAAGTGTCATAGCTTGTTTC
CTGAAGGGAAGG