

Abstract

For three consecutive years, 5.7- to 6.5-inch tiger muskellunge fingerlings were stocked at the rate of 10 per acre in four 3.0- to 4.0-acre ponds. The ponds contained either forage fish only (mainly bluegills) or forage fish and adult largemouth bass (9.0 inches and larger).

Survival of the muskellunge was inversely correlated to the density of largemouth bass 12.0 inches and larger in length. The effects of predator density on survival dominated and masked the effects of forage density. Survival of fingerling muskellunge stocked in lakes with known densities of 12.0-inch and larger largemouth bass is predicted.