Aging Scales of Walleye, Yellow Perch, and Northern Pike

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Abstract.—This report discusses difficulties in determining the age of walleye Stizostedion vitreum, yellow perch Perca flavescens, and northern pike Esox lucius from scale samples. It recommends procedures and offers tips to improve success. Photocopies of known-age specimens are included to illustrate scale patterns and difficulties in recognizing true and false annuli. The illustrations may be used as a training exercise.