

ATLANTIC MENHADEN (*Brevoortia tyrannus*)

COLOR: Yellow tint. Variable dark spots on side; fade with age. Dark spot behind opercle.

BODY: Deep body.

HEAD: Head approximately 1/3 length of body.

SCUTES: Scutes along ventral surface; rough to the touch.



MAY BE CONFUSED WITH: Alewife (pg. 53), American shad (pg. 55), blueback herring (pg. 54).

PHOTO CREDIT: MBL / Flescher Collection

HERRING

HERRING

ALEWIFE (*Alosa pseudoharengus*)

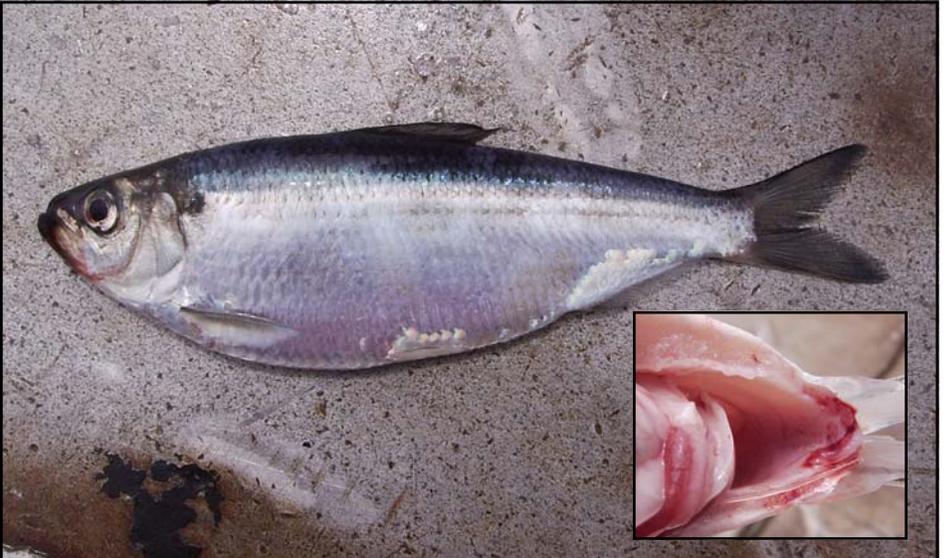
COLOR: Blue-green dorsal surface. Dark spot behind opercle.

BODY: Deep body.

HEAD: Eye diameter greater than snout length. Lower jaw protrudes slightly when mouth is closed.

SCUTES: Scutes along ventral surface; rough to the touch.

INTERNAL: Pink gut cavity lining.



MAY BE CONFUSED WITH: American shad (pg. 55), Atlantic menhaden (pg. 52), blueback herring (pg. 54).

PHOTO CREDIT: NOAA / NMFS / NEFSC / Cooperative Research

BLUEBACK HERRING (*Alosa aestivalis*)

COLOR: Blue dorsal surface.
Dark spot behind opercle.

BODY: Deep body.

HEAD: Eye diameter smaller than snout length. Lower jaw protrudes slightly when mouth is closed.

SCUTES: Scutes along ventral surface; rough to the touch.

INTERNAL: Dark gut cavity lining.



MAY BE CONFUSED WITH: Alewife (pg. 53), American shad (pg. 55), Atlantic menhaden (pg. 52).

PHOTO CREDIT: NOAA / NMFS / NEFSC / FSB

HERRING

HERRING

AMERICAN SHAD (*Alosa sapidissima*)

COLOR: Dark blotch behind opercle. Line of round, dark spots begin behind operculum and continue along lateral line.

HEAD: Lower jaw does not protrude beyond upper jaw. Jaw originates under eye.

SCUTES: Scutes along ventral surface; rough to the touch.

INTERNAL: 59-73 gill rakers on lower limb of first gill arch



MAY BE CONFUSED WITH: Alewife (pg. 53), Atlantic thread herring (pg. 56), Atlantic menhaden (pg. 52), blueback herring (pg. 54).

PHOTO CREDIT: NOAA / NMFS / NEFSC / Cooperative Research

ATLANTIC THREAD HERRING (*Opisthonema oglinum*)

COLOR: Green-blue dorsal surface. Dark spot behind opercle. Spots may continue down lateral line. Faint horizontal streaks above lateral line.

BODY: Deeply curved ventral surface.

HEAD: Pointed head.

FINS: Long 'thread' protrudes off posterior base of dorsal fin.

SCUTES: Scutes along ventral surface; rough to the touch.



MAY BE CONFUSED WITH: Alewife (pg. 53), American shad (pg. 55), blueback herring (pg. 54).

PHOTO CREDIT: NOAA / NMFS / NEFSC / ESB

HERRING

HERRING

ATLANTIC HERRING (*Clupea harengus*)

COLOR: Blue-green dorsal surface.

BODY: Long and slender.

FINS: Dorsal fin bisects body.

SCUTES: No scutes along ventral surface; smooth to the touch.



MAY BE CONFUSED WITH: Round herring (pg. 58).

PHOTO CREDIT: NOAA / NMFS / NEFSC / Cooperative Research

ROUND HERRING (*Etrumeus teres*)

COLOR: Blue-green dorsal surface.

BODY: Long and slender. Body rounded in cross section. Max size approximately 10in.

SCUTES: No scutes along ventral surface; smooth to the touch.



MAY BE CONFUSED WITH: Atlantic herring (pg. 57).

PHOTO CREDIT: NOAA / NMFS / NEFSC / ESB

HERRING