

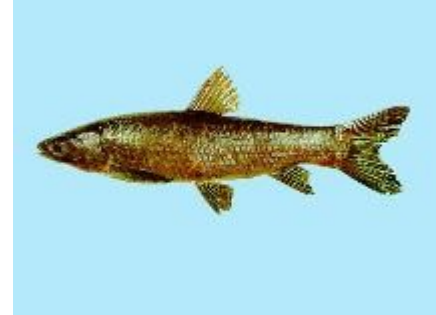
Mylopharyngodon piceus
Black carp

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[Mylopharyngodon piceus](#) (Richardson, 1846)

Family: Cyprinidae (Minnows or carps)
Order: Cypriniformes (carps)
Class: Actinopterygii (ray-finned fishes)
FishBase name: Black carp
Max. size: 122 cm TL (male/unsexed; Ref. 40637); max. published weight: 32.0 kg (Ref. 5258); max. reported age: 13 years

picture (Mypic_u0.jpg) by [Shao, K.T.](#)



[Point map](#)

Environment: demersal; potamodromous (Ref. 51243); freshwater; pH range: 7.5 – 8.5; depth range 5 – 30 m

Climate: subtropical; 0 – 40°C; 53°N - 15°N, 100°E - 140°E

Importance: fisheries: highly commercial; aquaculture: commercial

Resilience: Low, minimum population doubling time 4.5 - 14 years(K=0.08-0.09; tm=3-9; tmax >13)

Distribution: Asia: Amur river basin to southern China. Trade restricted in Germany (Anl.3 BArtSchV). Several countries reported adverse ecological impact after introduction.

[Gazetteer](#)

Morphology: Dorsal spines (total): 0 - 0; Dorsal soft rays (total): 7 – 9; Anal spines: 0; Anal soft rays: 8 – 10. Anatomy of the pharyngeal apparatus is the main distinguishing characteristic; throat teeth typically form a single row of 4-5 large molariform teeth on each of the two arches, with formula typically 1,4 - 4,1.

Biology: Inhabits rivers (Ref. 9987). Feeds mainly on mussels and snails, also on aquatic insects and crustaceans. Under experimentation for aquaculture in the USA (Ref. 4537). Maximum age probably exceeds 15 years; the figure of 20 years is not supported by data (Ref. 55930). Nuptial males have breeding tubercles on head and dorsal fins.

Red List Status: [Not in IUCN Red List](#) (Ref. 53964)

Dangerous: potential pest
Coordinator:

Main Ref: [Nico, L.G., J.D. Williams and H.L. Jelks. 2005. \(Ref. 55930\)](#)

[Update](#)