

Original: Fish Division  
cc: Mr. Claude Lydell 9-23-42  
Education-Game

Dr. Brown  
INSTITUTE FOR FISHERIES RESEARCH

DIVISION OF FISHERIES  
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION  
COOPERATING WITH THE  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

(W)

*Handwritten signature*

ALBERT S. HAZZARD, PH.D.  
DIRECTOR

September 21, 1942

ADDRESS  
UNIVERSITY MUSEUMS ANNEX  
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

REPORT NO. 823

AGE DETERMINATIONS ON EIGHTEEN LARGEMOUTH BASS FROM  
BROWER LAKE, COURTLAND TOWNSHIP, KENT COUNTY

by

C. J. D. Brown

On September 2, 1942, scale samples from 18 largemouth bass captured during the latter part of July from Brower Lake were sent to the Institute for age determinations and an appraisal of the growth rate of these fish.

The sizes and ages were as follows:

Annuli, in Roman numerals	Total length (inches)	Tentative state average total length (inches)
II	10.50	...
$2\frac{1}{2}$ growing seasons	10.50	...
	10.50	...
	10.50	...
	10.50	...
Average	10.50	8.4
III+	10.37	...
$3\frac{1}{2}$ growing seasons	10.87	...
	11.25	...
	11.25	...
	11.50	...
	11.75	...
	11.75	...
	12.00	...
12.50	...	
Average	11.50	10.8
IV+	12.75	...
$4\frac{1}{2}$ growing seasons	12.75	...
	13.12	...
	13.25	...
	13.25	...
Average	13.00	12.1

The largemouth bass in Big Brower Lake are growing somewhat better than the state average for this species. Since the fish were collected during July, one-half of a growing season has been added to the actual number of annuli for comparison purposes. Two-and-one-half-year-old fish were all legal length (10 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches) as compared with 10.8 inches, the state average for three-year-olds. Three-and-one-half-year-old fish averaged 11.5 inches as compared to 12.1 inches, the average total length of four-year fish throughout the state. Four-and-one-half-year-old fish averaged 13.0 inches as compared to 13.3 inches, the state average for five-year-old fish.

This series of bass scales gives evidence of good growth for largemouth bass in Brower Lake.

INSTITUTE FOR FISHERIES RESEARCH

By C. J. D. Brown

Report approved by: A. S. Hazzard

Report typed by: R. Bauch