

AS-500



Sea Grant Tip Sheet Series



Northern Crayfish

Northern Crayfish have a greenish color with orange highlights, especially on their largest claws.

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| Common name: | Northern Crayfish |
| Scientific name: | <i>Orconectes virilis</i> |
| Production potential: | Easy |
| Marketing potential: | Potential: Moderate Size: 7 - 13 per pound Market: Bait, food |
| Temperature Requirements: | Growing: 75-85°F Spawning: 60-70°F Lethal: 95°F or more |
| Feed requirements: | Protein: 30% Fat: 4-6% |
| Spawning requirements: | Northern crayfish spawn March-May. Females lay from 200-500 eggs, which hatch in three to ten days. |
| Most common production systems: | Ponds |

<http://ag.ansc.purdue.edu/aquanic/publicat/state/il-in/as-500.htm>

