

**Striped anchovy - *Anchoa hepsetus* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

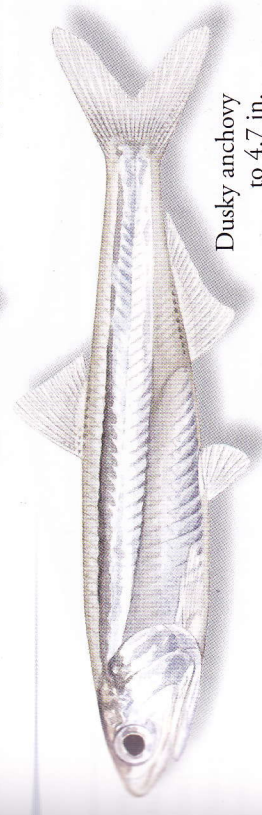
**FEATURES:** Dusky, translucent dorsally. Abdomen and ventral area pale, translucent. Silver midbody-stripe depth about equal to eye diameter. Caudal fin may have darker margin. Jaw extends past first gill cover. **HABITAT:** Nova Scotia to FL, northern Gulf of Mexico, Cuba, Venezuela to S Brazil. In bays, in estuaries, and along coast from shore to about 230 ft. **BIOLOGY:** Schooling and tolerant of varying salinities. Feed on zooplankton. **SIMILAR SPECIES:** Bigeye anchovy, *Anchoa lamprotaenia*, p. 431.



Striped anchovy  
to 6 in.

**Dusky anchovy - *Anchoa mitchilli* (Evermann & Marsh, 1900)**

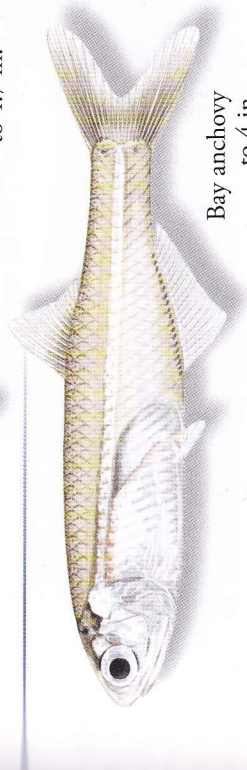
**FEATURES:** Translucent gray dorsally. Silver midbody-stripe depth about equal to eye diameter. Upper margin of band often dark. Dorsal, caudal, and anal fins with dark spots at base and along rays. Head long, somewhat pointed. Jaw extends beyond first gill cover. **HABITAT:** NY to FL, northern Gulf of Mexico to Venezuela, and Antilles. Occur coastally in salt water from shore to about 75 ft. **BIOLOGY:** Dusky anchovy often form dense schools. Feed on plankton. Used as bait.



Dusky anchovy  
to 4.7 in.

**Bay anchovy - *Anchoa mitchilli* (Valenciennes, 1848)**

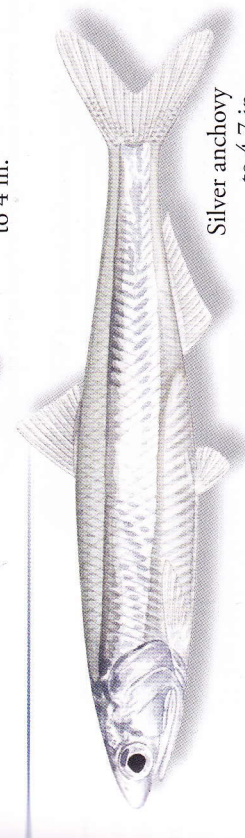
**FEATURES:** Dusky, translucent with greenish tinge dorsally. Abdomen translucent. Sides whitish or pale. Abdomen translucent. Silvery midbody-stripe depth about as wide as pupil diameter. Fins speckled with tiny spots. Snout blunt. Mouth extends to first gill opening. **HABITAT:** ME to FL and Gulf of Mexico to Yucatán. Near shore, coastal, in bays and estuaries to about 118 ft. **BIOLOGY:** Bay anchovy are schooling and feed on zooplankton. An important prey of larger fishes and for birds.



Bay anchovy  
to 4 in.

**Silver anchovy - *Engraulis eurystole* (Swain & Meek, 1884)**

**FEATURES:** Translucent blue green dorsally. Sides silvery or with broad, silver stripe. Stripe has dark upper edge. Snout pointed. Mouth extends to anterior margin of first gill opening. Dorsal fin near midbody. **HABITAT:** MA to FL. In Gulf of Mexico from S FL to Mississippi Sound. Also along coast from Venezuela to Brazil. Pelagic in shallow coastal and protected waters to about 200 ft. **BIOLOGY:** Silver anchovy are plankton feeders that form large, compact schools. Of minor commercial value.



Silver anchovy  
to 4.7 in.

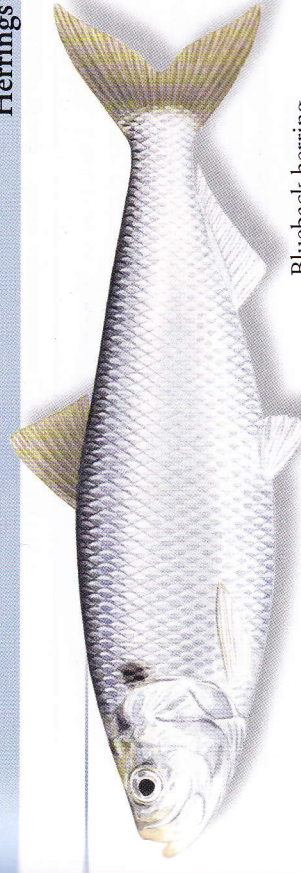
**NOTE:** There are four other Anchovies in the area, p. 431.

**Clupeidae - Herrings**

**Herrings**

**Blueback herring - *Alosa aestivalis* (Mitchill, 1814)**

**FEATURES:** Dark blue fading to pale blue dorsally; sometimes with dusky lines along scales. Silvery on sides and below. Dark spot behind gill. Spot absent on smaller specimens. Dorsal and caudal fins yellowish to green. Mouth upturned. Upper jaw notched. Body moderately compressed. Lining of the abdominal cavity is sooty to black. **HABITAT:** Nova Scotia to FL. Pelagic. In rivers, in estuaries, and along coast. **BIOLOGY:** Blueback herring are anadromous and schooling. In springtime, they ascend rivers to spawn.



Blueback herring  
to 15 in.