



# TIGER MUSKY

*Esox lucius* x *Esox masquinongy*



The tiger muskellunge, or tiger musky, is the result of crossbreeding male Northern Pike with female Muskellunge, under fish culture conditions, although hybrids do occasionally occur in the wild. Tiger muskies have "hybrid vigor." They are hardier and faster growing than their purebred parents, and they respond better to hatchery raising.

The tiger musky has strong, vertical or slanting barring on its sides. They are more pronounced than markings on a purebred Muskellunge. Its general color is dark gray-green on the back, a lighter green on the sides, with dark, equally spaced side bars giving the fish its "tiger" name. The dorsal, caudal and anal fins are spotted or streaked with black, and the belly is off-white.

