

Invasive Species Alert

Tench

(*Tinca tinca*)

Not established in Michigan

Identification:

- Thick-set bodies ranging from deep olive to pale golden tan
- Eyes are bright red-orange color
- Small barbell at both corners of the mouth

Habitat: Tench are freshwater members of the carp family that inhabit lakes with weedy or muddy bottoms.

Diet: Their diet consists of aquatic insect larvae and mollusks.



U. S. Geological Survey, Bugwood.org



Mark Malchoff, Lake Champlain Sea Grant

Native Range: Most of Europe and parts of western Asia

Local Concern: Tench have been documented in 38 states. The impacts of this species are difficult to determine because it is often lumped together with other species in the family. Tench are able to survive in low oxygen, degraded waters. It is unclear whether they cause these conditions or are simply filling a niche that native species cannot.

Potential Means of Introduction: Flooding events

Report this species at www.misin.msu.edu or download the MISIN smartphone app and report it from your phone