

Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum

Topic: : The Coloration of Wild Browns in Autumn - Some Thoughts and Observations

Re: The Coloration of Wild Browns in Autumn - Some Thoughts and Observations

Author: : Chaz

Date: : 2013/11/11 17:14:47

URL:

Quote:

troutbert wrote:

A gallery showing the enormous variation of brown trout, from the "old country", is found here:

[http://www.qub.ac.uk/bb-old/prodohl/T ... n_trout_gallery_frame.htm](http://www.qub.ac.uk/bb-old/prodohl/T...n_trout_gallery_frame.htm)

Notice the first photo, of the "gillaroo" trout, originally from Ireland. I think I have seen browns in PA that look very much like that.

The Wikipedia entry on Gillaroo trout says that have specialized "gizzards" which allows them to make much of their diet on snails. Maybe some should be brought in and stocked in Spring Creek, to munch down on the New Zealand mud snails.

If you Google "brown trout" and then hit "Images" you will also see a lot of variety.

In PA there is tremendous variety. How much of this comes from genetics and how much from environment, I don't know.

But in general the fish from larger waters that are more open to the sun tend to be lighter in color. And the fish from waters where there is more shade tend to have deeper colors. Not just darker overall, but also with more intensity of reds, yellows, orange, etc.

There is a lot of color variation that has nothing to do with fall and everything to do with the genetics of the fish. Where they come from and how long a strain has been in a particular stream has much more influence than time of the year. Having said that, they do get more color in the fall, but I think anglers tend to exaggerate it, it has more to do with the angle of light hitting the fish than coloring up for the spawn. I can take 10 photos of the same fish and only get one that illustrates what I see.