

Red Shiner  
*Cyprinella lutrensis*



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Family: Cyprinidae (minnows)  
Order: Cypriniformes (carps, minnows and loaches)  
Other Common Name: Red-horse Minnow

*Cyprinella* is Greek for "small carp" and *lutrensis* is derived from the Latin *lutra* which means "otter", a reference to Otter Creek, Arkansas, where the species was first captured. Coloration is similar to the blacktail shiner, olive green above and silver on the sides. Spawning males become bluish on the sides and the fins redden. Maximum size is only about 3.5 inches.

The red shiner spawns over an extended period of time from spring into fall months, with a peak from early to mid-summer. Spawning may occur on riffles, on or near submerged objects, over vegetation beds, or in association with sunfish nests. Adults typically school in midwater or near the surface. The species is thought to feed primarily on small invertebrates.

The red shiner is native to central North America west of the Mississippi River drainage, ranging as far west as New Mexico. Latitudinally, the species ranges from central Mexico north to South Dakota. Clearly a plains species, red shiners range throughout Oklahoma.

From the Texas Parks & Wildlife Fact Sheets.