



## 72. NOSE CARP / NASE (*Chondrostoma nasus*)

**IDENTIFICATION:** The body is elongated and somewhat compressed laterally. The head is pointed slightly, and the upper jaw extends over the lower one. The edge of the lips is horny, and the tail forked slightly. The color of the back ranges from gray-blue to greenish-gray, fading to dull silver on the flanks; the belly is muddy yellow or white. A thin black tissue covers the abdominal cavity. Dorsal and pectoral fins have an olive-gray tinge; pelvic, anal and tail fins pinkish-yellow to red. The mouth forms a projecting nose, which gives the nose carp its German name nose.

**HABITAT:** The nose carp inhabits most streams and rivers with a moderate current and gravelly bottom. They prefer to stay in pools where they congregate in schools.

### FOOD:

- (1) **Diet:** Manly on algae and small crustaceans, which they scrape from rocks with their horny lips. Worms, flies, and larvae complete their diet.
- (2) **Value:** The flesh of the nose carp is bony and tasteless and has little commercial value.

**SPAWNING:** Nose Carp are spring spawners from March to May. The female's deposits between 50,000 and 100,000 eggs in gravelly shallows, preferably below dams and waterfalls. Both male and female display a breeding dress of sexual tubercles on the head and forward body parts.

**GENERAL:** The nose carp is a cautious feeder. Catching one requires sensitive feeling and quick reaction from the fisherman. The nose carp has a small mouth therefore the use of small hooks and light tackle helps to make a catch.