Figure 1. These species are desirable for stocking ponds. The largemouth bass (A) is one of the most popular gamefish but requires large numbers of prey for good growth; the bluegill (B) provides food for largemouth bass and is a good pan fish; the channel catfish (C) is a popular food and sport fish and can be stocked alone or with other species; the redear sunfish (D) may be stocked with bluegill as food for bass and as a sport fish for the angler; the white amur or grass carp (E), can be stocked (with a permit) to help control aquatic vegetation.

Figure 2. These species cause problems in ponds and should not be stocked. The black crappie, or speckled perch (A) compete with bass for food, eat small bass, and tend to overpopulate and become stunted in a pond. Yellow bullheads (B) muddy the water and often become stunted from overpopulation.