



▲ Crucian Carp (photo: Alan Rowland).

FRESHWATER FISHES

Jennifer George

The three main species of fish found in the Lundy ponds all belong to the Carp family: the **Mirror Carp**, *Cyprinus carpio*, the **Golden Orfe**, *Leuciscus idus*, and the **Crucian Carp**, *Carassius carassius*.

Mirror Carp seem to be restricted to the Rocket Pole Pond, and Golden Orfe to Quarry Pond. **Crucian Carp** occur both in Pondsbury and the Quarry Pond. Descriptions of the fish and their feeding and breeding habits were given in the 2023 LFS Annual Report. Both large forms and juvenile fish have been recorded in the last five years which shows that spawning has been successful. Spawning of **Mirror Carp** was observed and photographed by the Warden, Dean Jones in 2021 (2021 LFS Annual Report).

All three species appear to be thriving, but in 2024 only two observations were found in the LFS Log Book. Michael Williams observed 35 **Golden Orfe** in Quarry Pond in August, and three **Mirror Carp** were seen in the Rocket Pole Pond in October (Anon).

Until a full fish survey can be attempted it would be helpful if both Staff and Visitors record the fish seen, their numbers and sizes, and the location and date of observation in the LFS Log Book, together with any photographs.



▲ Mirror Carp (photo: Jennifer George).



▲ Golden Orfe (photo: David George).