

Descriptions of the Species

American Sand Lance

American sand lance is an eel-like fish which grows to, on average, 25cm in length. They prey primarily on copepods, but also eat fish eggs and larvae. In turn, they are important in the diet of bluefish, cod, pollock, spiny dogfish, silver hake, and whales. The sand lance rely on sandy bottoms for habitat and are therefore found in somewhat patchy distributions. They do not migrate and their geographic distributions do not vary significantly seasonally (Azarovitz and Grosslein, in Backus and Bourne (eds.), 1987).