

December 12, 2006



# tideline aquatics Newsletter

## **CHRISTMAS AQUARIUM GIVE-A-WAY TIME!!**

. This year we are offering a 90 gallon drilled aquarium complete with filtration components, heater, thermometer, glass tops, lighting, water conditioner and a beautiful Modern AGA Cabinet and Canopy. Remember that every time you visit the store you can register. There is no purchase necessary. The drawing will be held Christmas Eve so be near the phone around 5:00pm!!

## **Gift Certificates at Tideline**

Tell your friends and family to give you a Tideline Aquatics Gift Certificate this Christmas. We can take care of the transaction over the phone if they are unable to come into the store and then mail the certificate directly to the recipient. Gift certificates are available in any amount you choose.

## **Pests of the Reef Aquarium**

Anyone that has ever owned a reef aquarium knows that when things in the aquarium are going well, reef keeping is a breeze but when something goes wrong, things can go VERY wrong and quickly. This week we will cover some of the issues that can make your reef aquarium experience a nightmare in hopes that you will be aware enough to correct the problem before it is too late.

### **Flatworms:**

One of the biggest threats to coral colonies in a healthy reef aquarium is the introduction of coral eating flatworms. There are flatworms that only eat Acropora species, some that feed mainly on Discosoma species and others that will eat Zoanthid polyps. Regardless, they are all bad and multiply rapidly if introduced. Anytime you purchase a live coral or even live rock, you should examine the aquarium your new addition is coming from. The most common (and most virulent) flatworm that affects reef aquariums is the red flatworm (*Convolutriloba retrogemma*). This creature appears as a tiny bright red to reddish brown tiny piece of algae but upon closer appearance, you will see it moving about on the rock. An aquarium affected by this flatworm will often have small clusters of flatworms located all over the tank, especially around SPS corals like Acropora and Pocillipora colonies. If you see this creature in an aquarium, your best bet is to avoid purchasing anything from the tank until the flatworms have been eradicated.



RED FLATWORMS ON AQUARIUM GLASS

There are several treatments for killing flatworms. The problem is that when the flatworms are killed, they immediately

release a toxin into the water that can kill all of the inhabitants. That said, it is best to siphon out as many of these creatures as possible BEFORE you treat. You will also want to have about 50% of your total aquarium volume in water set aside to perform a water change within about 15-30 minutes of adding the treatment to the aquarium. We also suggest having activated carbon in a nylon bag rinsed and ready to be placed in the sump (filter reservoir) to help strip out any remaining toxin from the dying flatworms. A treatment with Quinine, Levamisole or Praziquantel can be added to tank for the actual amount of water you have in the aquarium. Carbon should be discarded and the skimmer should be turned off just before adding the treatment. You may siphon out what appears to be most of the flatworms, but once the treatment is added to the tank, many more will begin to float out of the rockwork. After 15-30 minutes, perform a 50% partial water change siphoning out every dead flatworm you can. Immediately add the fresh activated carbon and get your skimmer operating. In most cases, you will not kill any of your reef life if these instructions are followed closely.

### Mantis Shrimp

Often hitching a ride on live rock or within the rock of a new coral addition, a baby mantis shrimp usually goes unnoticed – until it grows up! Mantis shrimp (*Odontodactylus* species) really pose little damage to corals but they will destroy other shrimp and all of the fish in the aquarium once it reaches adult size. Here at Tideline, our beautiful Half Cylinder Reef Aquarium has a mid-sized mantis living there that arrived in the

initial shipment of live rock used to set the aquarium up.



MANTIS SHRIMP CAN BE COLORFUL OR BLAND

The biggest problem with mantis shrimp is they are smarter than you and I! They can vanish within a second giving you no time to capture it with a net. The best method is to use a trap set with bait like cut shrimp or squid. There are several mantis traps on the market and we carry a good one at Tideline made by Ultralife even though our mantis has yet to be captured. Another method is to watch for where the mantis has its lair and when you are sure it is inside it, just remove the rock quickly and drop it in some freshwater for a day or two to ensure the creature of evil has died!

### Aiptasia Anemones

These little anemones love to sneak up on the beginner reef aquarist. As you remember when you purchased your first live rock for your reef you were excited about anything that sprouted out of the rock never thinking it could actually be a bad thing. Well these anemones certainly are a pest – one that multiplies quickly and stings anything nearby using its powerful stinging cells.



Aiptasia Anemones on a reef rock

If an infestation of these anemones is caught early, they are easily destroyed

using a product called 'Joes Juice' or by adding a natural Aiptasia predator like the Caribbean Peppermint Shrimp. The 'Joes Juice' is fed to the Aiptasia anemone directly causing it to dissolve usually after one feeding. Caribbean Peppermint Shrimp (*Lysmata wurdemanni*) will usually wipe out a mild infestation of Aiptasia anemones. This appears to be a favorite food item for the Caribbean Peppermint Shrimp though once the aiptasia are eradicated, be sure to directly feed the shrimp to prevent them from picking at other reef animals when they become hungry. Do not be fooled into purchasing the false Peppermint Shrimp from California (brighter red and larger) as they will not eat the pest anemones and do not survive well in the tropical waters of a reef aquarium being a cold-water species.



CARIBBEAN PEPPERMINT SHRIMP

### Slime Algae – Cyanobacteria

The plague of the reef aquarium, slime algae is the main cause for a hobbyist to just give up on the aquarium. Once the slime algae gets hold of a tank, it may take a couple of months to bring the aquarium back. This algae problem is completely preventable just by following some simple steps: do not feed the reef fish and corals more than 3 times per week and then only lightly, keep only a small number of fish in the reef aquarium, use an efficient protein skimmer, keep up with regular partial water changes using reverse osmosis water, provide the reef aquarium with good water flow, keep the substrate (gravel or sand) cleaned by either regular vacuuming or naturally

using detritivore snails and starfish and test phosphate and niTRATE levels at least monthly. Seems like a lot of info to keep up with but it is all just a regular schedule that should be kept with all reef aquariums. This will not only prevent slime algae but also other nuisance algae.



RED AND GREEN SLIME ALGAE ON SUBSTRATE

Slime algae only affects aquariums high in organic material often from not keeping up with one of the issues mentioned above; the number one problem being overstocking and overfeeding the reef aquarium. It is easy to prevent slime algae from affecting your reef tank but it is much more difficult to get rid of the nuisance once it gets established.

### How Are We Doing Our Job?

Would you like to rate your local aquarium store whether it is us or one of our competitors? Here at Tideline, we strive to offer you the best service, a knowledgeable staff, competitive pricing and healthy livestock for your aquarium. Well how are we doing? Did you know you could rate your local aquarium store by going to [www.yahoo.com](http://www.yahoo.com)? In the search window, type in the name of the store you wish to rate, and then click on the local button. The store name should

appear in the results. Be sure to look at the address attached to the name to ensure you are clicking on the correct store. Once there you can give your rating of the store. Give us some feedback next time you get a chance.

## New Life Spectrum Foods

After numerous requests from our customers, Tideline Aquatics is now carrying New Life Spectrum Foods. This food has an incredible reputation for brightening the colors of your fish and increasing their vitality or they will refund your money!

The advertisement for New Life Spectrum Foods is divided into two main sections. On the left, a grid of 18 small images shows various fish food products, each with a label such as 'Cichlid Formula', 'Marine Formula', 'Community Formula', 'Disease Formula', 'Small Fish Formula', 'All Purpose Formula', 'Lip Fish Formula', 'Jumbo Fish Formula', 'Goldfish Formula', 'Koi Formula', 'Grouper Formula', 'Tetra A Formula', 'Water Stable Wafers', 'Cichlasoma Formula', and 'Edible Fish Formula'. On the right, a larger text box contains the following text: 'We do not claim to be the "Best!" We simply guarantee "Results!" Our Guarantee: Feed New Life Spectrum exclusively for 10 days; you will notice enhancement in color and vitality of your fish, or we will refund your money! Hormone-Free'. At the bottom of the text box, it says 'For best results feed Spectrum exclusively'.

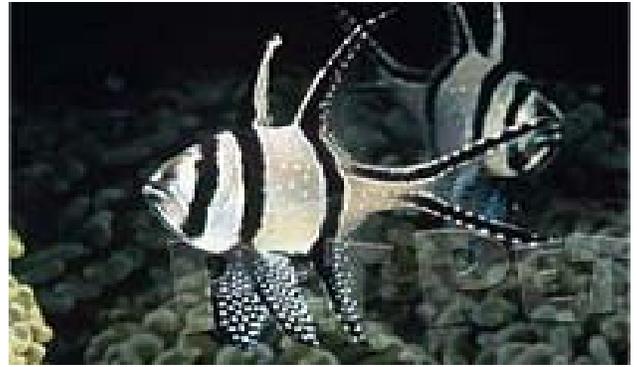
NEW LIFE SPECTRUM GUARANTEES THEIR FOOD!

The new foods arrive on Wednesday or Thursday and there is a money saving coupon on our website so print it off before you head to the store! We will be stocking the Cichlid Formula, the Community Formula, the Large Fish Formula, the Marine Formula and the Anti-parasitic Formula foods – all in two sizes.

## LOCAL CLUBS / ORGANIZATIONS

Charleston Reefers Club – They will be meeting this Saturday evening at 7pm. This month's meeting will be held at Spa of Charleston on Wappoo Road in West Ashley. For details - [www.charlestonreefers.org](http://www.charlestonreefers.org)

## Fish of the Week



KAUDERNI OR BANGAII CARDINALFISH

If you are looking for a peaceful yet unique marine fish for your aquarium or reef, the Kauderni Cardinalfish (*Pterapogon kauderni*) may be the fish for you. Most cardinalfish species are hardy but not as flashy as some marine fish but the Kauderni Cardinalfish is bright metallic white with jet-black stripes and sparkling dots throughout the fins. This fish is also a mouth brooder, which is extremely rare in marine fish. The eggs are housed in the mouth of the male where they will hatch and remain there until they are large enough to swim on their own. These fish are not flake food eaters preferring foods like brine shrimp, mysis shrimp, small plankton and even small live shrimp to keep them healthy. These fish are disease resistant and can be kept safely in pairs with other peaceful fish. The Kauderni Cardinalfish is just one of the specials we are offering on our website coupons this week at [www.tidelineaquatics.net](http://www.tidelineaquatics.net).

## **Pond Tour 2007**

### – How 'bout your pond?

Do you or your neighbor have a garden pond in their yard? The Charleston Showa Koi Club is already getting things together for Pond Tour 2007 and they are

looking for new ponds to add to the tour. If you, a friend or neighbor has a garden pond and may be interested in including it in the pond tour, please contact me (Chris) at Tideline Aquatics. You can reach me by phone at (843) 744-8551 and by email at: [chris@tidelineaquatics.net](mailto:chris@tidelineaquatics.net) Do not be shy, we will come out and view your pond to see if it meets the requirements of the pond tour. It is a big event that will cost you nothing but your time the day of the tour. A portion of every pond tour ticket sale goes to the John Ancrum SPCA.

## **What's New This Week**

### **FEEDERS: (NOW IN STOCK)**

Live Black Worms, Crayfish, Rosey Reds, Guppies, Fiddler Crabs.

### **FRESHWATER FISH (EXPECTED WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON):**

Gold Nugget Plecostomus, Anostomus Headstanders, Large Florida Bred Neon Tetras, Asian Needlefish, Longfin German Rams, Australian Gold Desert Gobies (brackish), Ctenopoma ansorgii, Red Tux Platies, Blue Phantom Plecostomus, Jumbo Bright Gold Nugget Plecostomus, Giant Rubberlip Plecostomus, Gold Gouramis, Bosemani Rainbowfish, Marci Rainbowfish (LOOK RUSTY), Threadfin Rainbowfish, German Blue Rams, German Gold Rams, Borneo Sucker Loaches, Royal Plecostomus, Rubber Plecostomus, Spotted Pictus Catfish, Pygmy Cory Catfish, Tank Bred Jullii Cory Catfish, Small Clown Loaches, Bala Sharks, Royal Clown Knifefish, M/L Black Arowana (very rare!!!), Tank Bred Cardinal Tetras, Black Neon Tetras, Red Serpae Tetras, Electric Blue Crayfish.

### **SALTWATER FISH (ARRIVED MONDAY MORNING THIS WEEK):**

Eiblii Angelfish (Bali), Majestic Angelfish (Bali), Sixbar Angelfish (Bali), Koran Angelfish (Indian Ocean), Flame Angelfish (Hawaii), Coral Beauty Angelfish (Tonga), Asfer Angelfish (Red

Sea), Tomato Clownfish (Indian Ocean), Large Pink Skunk Clownfish (Bali), Sebae Clownfish (Bali), Ocellaris Clownfish (Indian Ocean), Male Squareback Anthias (Indian Ocean), Pink Fairy Anthias (Fiji), True Half Blue Damsel (Bali), Redtail Filefish (Indian Ocean), Fantail Filefish (Indian Ocean), Algae Blennies (Indian Ocean), Dragon Sifter Gobies (China Sea), Diamond Sifter Gobies (Indian Ocean), Rainfordi Goby (Bali), Red Cinnamon Clown Gobies (Vietnam), Panther Grouper (Indian Ocean), Dogface Pufferfish (Indian Ocean), Powder Brown Tangs (Indian Ocean), Clown Triggerfish (Bali), Niger Triggerfish (Bali), Green Leaf Wrasses (Bali), Lunare Wrasse (Indian Ocean), New Green Picture Wrasses (Bali), Green Bird Wrasses (Indian Ocean), Pajama Cardinalfish (Indian Ocean), Kauderni Cardinalfish (Indian Ocean), Glass Blue Eye Cardinalfish (Vietnam), Purple Tangs (Red Sea), Sohal Tang (Red Sea), Firefish Gobies (Indian Ocean), Twospot Signal Gobies (Indian Ocean), Foxface Rabbitfish (Bali), Yellow Watchman Gobies (Singapore), Volitan Lionfish (Indian Ocean), Candy Hogfish (Fiji), Spotted Mandarin Dragonettes (Bali), Green Mandarin Dragonettes (Bali), Tank Bred Seahorses.

### **SALTWATER FISH (EXPECTED FRIDAY AFTERNOON):**

Assorted Damsel, Green Chromis, Mixed Clown Gobies (Indian Ocean), Dragon Wrasses (Indian Ocean), Blue Neon Wrasses (Philippine), Pearly Jawfish (Caribbean), Blue Reef Chromis (Caribbean), Royal Gramma (Caribbean), Squirrelfish (Caribbean), Multicolor Wrasses (Indian Ocean), Orange & Purple Fairy Wrasses (Indian Ocean), Yellow Tangs (Hawaii), Ocellaris Clownfish (Philippine), Fumanchu Lionfish (Indian Ocean), Snowflake Moray Eels (Indian Ocean), Purple Firefish Gobies (Indian Ocean), Fuzzy Dwarf Lionfish (Indian Ocean), Banded Wrasses (Indian Ocean), Basket Wrasses (Indian Ocean), Paddlefin Wrasse (Mexico), Neon Goby (Caribbean), Yellow Coris Wrasses (Indian Ocean), Chalk Bass (Caribbean), Harlequin Bass (Caribbean), Xanthurus Clownfish (Indian Ocean), Black Percula Clownfish (Indian Ocean), Queen Angelfish (Caribbean), Atlantic Sailfin Blennies (Caribbean), Pink Bar Goby (Indian Ocean), Red

Fairy Wrasses (Indian Ocean), Scissortail Gobies (Indian Ocean). DUE TO ROUGH SEAS IN THE CARIBBEAN, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE CARIBBEAN FILL RATE WILL BE POOR.

**SALTWATER INVERTEBRATES (ARRIVED MONDAY MORNING THIS WEEK):**

Red Banded Turbo Snails, Trochus Snails, Zebra Turbo Snails, Mexican Turbo Snails, Margarita Snails, Nassarius Detrivore Snails, Small Green Bubble Anemones, Pom Pom Boxer Crabs, Cleaner Shrimp, Electric Blue Reef Hermits, Red Fromia Reef Starfish, Elegant Brittle Starfish, Orange Eye Long Spine Urchins, Tricolor Ricordea Yuma, Orange Ricordea Yuma, Blue Leaf Ricordea Yuma, Tricolor Echinophylia, Green Fox Coral.

**SALTWATER FISH (EXPECTED FRIDAY AFTERNOON):**

Peppermint Shrimp (Caribbean), Anemone Shrimp (Caribbean), Orange Ricordea (Caribbean), Feather Dusters (Caribbean), Porcelain Crabs (Caribbean), Horseshoe Crabs (Caribbean), Anemone Crabs, Condylactus Anemones (Caribbean), Green Ricordea Polyps (Caribbean), Atlantic Cucumbers (Caribbean), Sallylite Foot Crabs (Caribbean), Emerald Crabs (Caribbean), Arrow Crabs (Caribbean), Rock Anemones (Caribbean), Sebae Anemones (Caribbean), Short Spine Urchin (Caribbean), Assorted Caribbean Plants, Long Tentacle Anemones, Brittle Starfish (Caribbean), Turbo Snails (Atlantic), Seafans (Atlantic), Basket Starfish, Orange Tubastrea Corals, Green Wellsophylia Corals, Pin Cushion Urchins (Caribbean), Fancy Bubble Anemones, Green Monkey Shrimp, Blue Leg Reef Crabs (Caribbean), Cultured Euphyllia Corals, Fancy Assorted Mushroom Rocks, Red Trachophylia Corals, Pink Cucumbers, Red Chili Corals, Multicolor Worm Rocks, Tube Anemones.

**Website Changes Have Begun!!!!**

A new look, fresh information, a question and answer forum, new photos – it is all in the making and changes are occurring almost daily. Our new website team seems to be working out very well so be sure and check the website regularly for new updates.

Interested in a website for yourself or your business? Give our new webmasters a chance! Here is their information:

**Prybo Webhosting and Design Co**  
<http://www.prybo.com>

Our mission is to provide a unique, affordable and all encompassing service PRYBO coined as WEB STYLISTS. The creative PRYBO stylists are cutting edge, open minded, and dedicated to providing an effective marketing product.

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Ph. 843-813-9814