



February 27, 2007

# tideline aquatics Newsletter

## Tideline Aquatics Store Hours

Monday – Friday 11am-7pm  
Saturday 10am-6pm  
Sundays 1pm-5pm

## WARM WEATHER BRINGS OUT THE POND CUSTOMERS!

With the warming of the weather, that Spring Fever is running through the veins of everyone that owns a garden pond. The koi and goldfish in your pond are finally waking up and looking for food. Hardy water lilies are starting to emerge from their winter rest. Sprouts of green are beginning to emerge from what appeared to be a pot of mud. Well do not get too excited, the weather is still somewhat unpredictable and the cold could still return for a final blast – remember that Easter has yet to come. Once the danger of frost has passed it will be safe to repot and fertilize your pond plants. If the water temperature in your pond has climbed above 50 degrees, you can begin feeding your fish a wheat germ based food. Wait until the water temperature is above 70 degrees before you start feeding them their regular diet. Begin by feeding the fish lightly. This is important because your pond's biological filter has been dormant and will take some time to recover. Clean out the leaves, dead plant material from pond plants and muck from the bottom of the pond to prevent a green

water bloom in the spring. Perform a 25% - 30% partial water change, service your water pumps, filters and UV clarifiers now. Tideline Aquatics has hardy water lilies and bog plants arriving this Friday! If you add plants now, you will just need to cover them if we have another frost as these plants have been protected in greenhouses at the nursery. Tropical water lilies will not be ready until mid to late April depending on our temperatures outside. We do have some small domestic koi, bright red comet goldfish and small shubunkins in stock. Our big shipments of pond fish begin to arrive in about 2 weeks with Butterfly Koi, more comets and larger domestic koi for your pond. The beautiful Japanese Koi are scheduled to arrive April 5<sup>th</sup>. All of our Japanese Koi will require a 3 week quarantine period to protect your fish from koi diseases like the deadly KHV virus and flukes. We welcome you (and suggest) to pick out the fish you want, place a 20% deposit, and we will hold the fish until they come out of quarantine. So get in your pond and start getting it ready for spring.



## **TIDELINE PHOTO GALLERY CONTEST!**

Get your cameras out of the closet and start taking some quality pictures of your aquarium and/or aquarium inhabitants. Choose some of your best pics and email them to our webmasters. On Monday night, March 12<sup>th</sup>, the Tideline staff will be sorting through your photos that have been posted in our website photo gallery. If we pick your photo, you will be the winner of a \$100.00 Tideline Aquatics Gift Certificate. The judging will not only be based on the clarity of the photo but also on the originality of your picture. If your photo has already been placed in our gallery within the last 60 days, it will be automatically included in our contest. The winning picture will be posted on the March 13<sup>th</sup> Newsletter. The webmasters will verify that your email address matches with the photo you submitted to them. Submit your photos to:

[brian@prybo.com](mailto:brian@prybo.com)

Your pictures must be received by Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup> so it can be posted on our site in time for the drawing. Photos received after that date will not be posted until after the contest has ended.

## **CHOOSING THE RIGHT EEL FOR YOUR FRESHWATER OR SALTWATER AQUARIUM**

If you live alone, you can disregard this first suggestion, otherwise you better listen up. Before you even consider bringing an eel species home, check with your spouse, significant other, parents or whoever lives in the house with you to see what kind of reaction you get when you tell them you're considering an eel addition to your freshwater or saltwater aquarium. You know what I am talking

about! Some folks just hate anything that resembles a snake and you do not want to end up sleeping with your eel out in the doghouse. Once you have approval, here are some questions you must answer: First, do you have an aquarium large enough to house an eel? In freshwater, smaller eels like the peacock eels are fine in smaller aquariums (20 gallon minimum) but a fire eel will require a larger aquarium of 75 gallons or more. For the marine aquarium, that cute baby snowflake moray will eventually reach 24" requiring at least a 75 gallon aquarium.



PEACOCK SPINEY EEL (MACROGNATHUS SIAMENSIS)

Next you will need to know the feeding requirements of the species you choose. There are nearly no eels that will survive on flake foods. Freshwater eels will require a mixture of frozen bloodworms, mysis shrimp and brine shrimp while most marine eels will need a mixture of meaty frozen foods like krill, chopped shrimp, squid or even live fiddler crabs. Many marine eels are shy when first introduced requiring the owner to feed them directly using tongs. Once the eel is comfortable, this should not be required. Freshwater eels can easily be out-competed for food by aggressive tank mates swallowing up every worm before the eel can make a meal. Dispensing the food near the eel's lair can help prevent this from happening.



ZEBRA MORAY (GYMNOMURAENA ZEBRA)

Whether fresh or saltwater, eels need a place to seek refuge during the day. Creating a cave where the eel will feel comfortable is important. Most eels are nocturnal creatures that move about the aquarium during feeding time and at night. You will also need a tight fitting cover for your aquarium as all eels will jump out of the aquarium otherwise. You can bet that the person in the house that hates snakes will be the one that finds it floundering about on the floor! Not good for you or the eel's well being. Here is a list of both bad and good eels for the aquarium.

#### **GOOD FRESHWATER EELS:**

**Peacock Eel** – hardy if fed appropriately and kept with medium sized tank mates.

**Tiretrack Eel** – one of the bolder eels that reaches about 18” in length. Good with larger fish that will not hog all of the food.

**Fire Eels** – beautifully colored and hardy eaters. Reaches about 24” in length and accepts even earthworms when grown.

**Elipsifer Eels** – an incredibly marked eel from Lake Tanganyika in Africa. Shy at first but becomes quite a pet once established. Great with medium sized fish.

#### **POOR FRESHWATER EELS:**

**Freshwater Snowflake Eels** – often offered as the freshwater moray yet refuses food as it is truly a marine eel that has moved into freshwater to spawn.

**Green River Eel** – though hardy, these eels tend to be aggressive even biting tank mates that it cannot even eat. Grows too large for most aquariums.

#### **GOOD SALTWATER EELS:**

**Zebra Moray** – this eel is mainly a crustacean eater (crabs, shrimp, etc) meaning even full sized specimens will not eat their tank mates.

**Snowflake Moray** – a great eel for captivity though it will eat small fish if it can fit them in their mouth. Quite active once established.

**Banded Moray** – not to be mistaken with the banded snake eel, the banded moray is hardy though extremely shy in the aquarium.

**Chainlink Moray** – a nicely marked moray from the Caribbean. Like the snowflake moray, it will eat smaller tank mates if they will fit in their mouth.

#### **POOR SALTWATER EELS:**

**Blue or Black Ribbon Eels** – these eels nearly always starve to death in the aquarium. Do not support the collection of this beauty and allow it to live in the wild.

**Green Moray Eel** – though hardy, this moray will out-grow most home aquariums and eat its tank mates along the way.

**Tesselata Moray** – one of the most beautiful eels but extremely aggressive. Eventually you will only have the eel as it will eat everything in the tank with it!



TESSELATA MORAY – JUST TOO HATEFUL UNLESS KEPT ALONE!

## LOCAL CLUBS / ORGANIZATIONS

Have a reef aquarium? Check out our local reef club at: [www.charlestonreefers.org](http://www.charlestonreefers.org)

Love water gardens and koi? Visit the Charleston Showa Koi Club website at: [www.charlestonshowakoiclub.org](http://www.charlestonshowakoiclub.org)

Saltwater fish aquarium club – CMAC  
[www.columbiamac.org](http://www.columbiamac.org)

Question and Answer Forum –  
[www.wetwebmedia.com](http://www.wetwebmedia.com)

## Fish of the Week



BLUE TORPEDO GOBY OR SPOT TAIL DARTFISH  
(PTERELEOTRIS HETEROPTERUS)

Though they may be shy at first, once settled in, the Blue Torpedo Goby makes an excellent addition to any peaceful marine aquarium or reef aquarium provided the tank is well-covered as these fish will jump. Also sold as Dartfish, this fish will accept both dried and frozen foods. It is best to keep these fish in groups of two or more in the aquarium. These beautiful fish will flash from baby blue to blue green color as they move about the tank. Torpedo gobies tend to swim just above the aquarium decorations where they can quickly dart back into their lair that they will dig out once established in the aquarium. Print off the coupon at: [www.tidelineaquatics.net](http://www.tidelineaquatics.net)

## What's New This Week

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

Live Black Worms, Ghost Shrimp, Crayfish, Rosy Reds, Guppies, Feeder Goldfish, Fiddler Crabs.

### **OUR RARE AND UNUSUAL SHIPMENT IS FINALLY ARRIVING WEDNESDAY (DELAYED DUE TO WEATHER IN THE NORTH EAST):**

Botia kubotai Loaches, Botia histrionica Loaches, Rasbora caudimaculata (NEW), Rasbora auropurpureus (NEW), Sundadanio erythromicron (NEW), Eleotris jayapurensis Gobies (NEW), Danio shanensis, Dwarf Peacock Gudgon Gobies, Danio choprae (the glowlight danio), Hara species Giant Moth Catfish, Rasbora axelrodi 'blue', Rasbora pauciperforata 'redline', German Bred Goldhead Veiltail Koi Angelfish, German Bred Zebra Veiltail Angelfish, Apistogramma species: McMasteri 'double red', Cacaotoides 'golden orange', Cacaotoides 'triple red', Agassizi 'double red' – Note the Apisto's are all German Bred Pairs. A few surprises are also expected!

### **MORE FRESHWATER FISH ARRIVED ON TUESDAY:**

Pearl White Fighter Bettas (incredible snow white male bettas) cross of betta splendens x betta imbellis, Mixed Color Male Bettas, Red Flame Dwarf Gouramis, Opaline Gouramis, Zebra Danios, German Blue Rams, Small Common Plecostomus, Dwarf Rubber Plecostomus, Dwarf Clown Plecostomus, Mixed Mystery Snails, Albino Cory Catfish, Botia angellicus Loaches, Botia sumo Loaches (Cool!), Bala Sharks, Rainbow Sharks, Redtail Black Sharks, Figure 8 Puffers, Green Spotted Puffers, Tank Bred Cardinal Tetras, XL Beautiful Emperor Tetras, XL Neon Tetras, Lg Black Phantom Tetras, Red Serpae Tetras, White Cloud Mountain Minnows, Gold White Cloud Mountain Minnows, Orange Flame Von Rio Tetras.

## **GOLDFISH, KOI AND POND PLANTS (EXPECTED FRIDAY):**

Small Domestic Koi, Shubunkins, Pond Comets, Water Lilies, Bog Plants.

## **SALTWATER FISH (EXPECTED THURSDAY):**

Cebu Blue Torpedo Gobies (Dartfish), Indian Ocean Coral Beauty Angelfish, Hawaiian Flame Angelfish, Indian Ocean Swallowtail Angelfish, Indian Ocean Black Percula Clownfish, Philippine Ocellaris Clownfish, Tank Bred Ocellaris Clownfish, Indian Ocean Maroon Clownfish, Indian Ocean True Percula Clownfish, Indian Ocean Banded Moray Eels, Indian Ocean Wolf Eel Blenny, Indian Ocean Barred Gobies, Indian Ocean Bicolor Blennies, Sri Lanka Diamond Sifter Gobies, Indian Ocean Purple Firefish Gobies, Hawaiian Dwarf Lionfish, Indian Ocean Black Volitan Lionfish, Indian Ocean Blue Regal Tangs, Fiji Scopas Tangs, Indian Ocean Sailfin Tangs, Hawaiian Humu Triggerfish, Hawaiian Rectangulus Triggerfish, Indian Ocean Black Bird Wrasses, Indian Ocean Yellow Coris Wrasses, Indian Ocean Dragon Wrasses, Exquisite Fairy Wrasses, Fiji Purple & Orange Fairy Wrasses, Fiji Sixline Wrasses, Indian Ocean Multicolor Wrasses, African Radiant Wrasses, Red Sea Fridmani Pseudochromis, Indian Ocean Pajama Cardinalfish, Fiji Blue Spotted Pufferfish, Caribbean Queen Angelfish, Caribbean Harlequin Bass, Caribbean Royal Grammas, Caribbean Neon Cleaner Gobies.

## **SALTWATER INVERTEBRATES (EXPECTED ON THURSDAY):**

Spiny Cup Pectinia Corals, Assorted Indo Mushroom Rocks, Red Chili Corals, Yellow Cup Corals, Hammer Corals, Bubble Corals, Yellow Porites Corals, Green Pineapple Favia Corals, Pin Cushion Urchins, Atlantic Turbin Snails, Coral Banded Shrimp, Cleaner Shrimp, Anemone Shrimp, Yellow Hardy Seafans, Common Cucumbers, Sally Lite Foot Crabs, Blue Banded Reef Hermits, Green Emerald Crabs, Fancy Bubble Anemones.

## **From our Customer Photo Gallery:**



RON AVARD'S STUNNING GREEN TERROR CICHLID

If you have some good photos of your fish, reef, pond or aquarium, please email them to the webmaster at: [brian@prybo.com](mailto:brian@prybo.com)