

August 21, 2007



# tideline aquatics Newsletter

## Tideline Aquatics Store Hours

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

## **REMEMBER IT IS HOT OUTSIDE!!**

When purchasing any livestock item from Tideline Aquatics (or another store) this time of year, sometimes one forgets that just because the animal is in a plastic bag with water, it still must be protected from the heat. Leaving your bag of fish, feeders, live plants or invertebrates in the car even 5 minutes will cause them great harm. The small amount of water in the bag heats up to dangerous levels within minutes of being left in the hot car. If the animal does not die from this, it will certainly break down with disease from the extreme temperature change. If you must leave the car for some reason on the way home from the store, at least leave the car running with the air conditioning or even better, bring the bag inside the store with you. Also, if you are bringing in a water sample for analysis, the results will be flawed if the water is hot. I know this seems like common sense but you would be surprised at the number of folks that do not realize this danger. These are live animals and plants – protect them from extreme conditions!

## **KNOW THE FACTS! MARINE ORGANISMS THAT DO NOT SURVIVE IN CAPTIVITY**

Once again there are fish and invertebrates being sold to unknowing hobbyists locally that do not survive in captivity for any period of time. We have posted this in our newsletter before but with so many newcomers to the hobby, we felt the need to post this once again. If you make a fish

purchase of one of these species knowing that they rarely ever survive, that is your choice. But when these species are sold to folks that do not know the risk they are taking, that is when this becomes **VERY** wrong and it hurts our hobby. First, if you purchase organisms that do not live in captivity, collectors will continue to capture these species to sell them. This only depletes the wild of a species that will only survive in the wild. Second, if you purchase a specimen and do not know that it does not survive for long in captivity, then you are wasting your money. This often leads to getting rid of the aquarium and getting out of the hobby all together as the person thinks that they did something wrong that lead to the demise of the fish. At Tideline Aquatics you will not find any of the species listed below but if you shop around, **buyer beware !!** Here is the list of the most commonly sold creatures that die in captivity:



Copperbanded Butterflyfish (*Chelmon rostratus*) – This species will sometimes accept frozen brine shrimp but dies within 4-6 weeks of malnutrition. No fish will survive on frozen brine shrimp alone!



Regal Angelfish (*Pygoplites diacanthus*) – Unless you purchase one collected from the Red

Sea, this fish has little chance for survival often refusing to eat anything at all. Survival lasts perhaps 4-8 weeks in captivity.



Rock Beauty Angelfish (*Holacanthus tricolor*) – This fish eats like crazy at first but within 30-45 days it usually stops eating and dies suddenly. This fish's dietary needs cannot be met in captivity.



Guinea Fowl Wrasse (*Anampses chrysocephalus* and *Anampses meleagrides*) – These are both beautiful fish but seldom survive more than 3-4 weeks in captivity due to malnutrition or collection stress.



Leopard Wrasse (*Macropharyngodon meleagris*) – This wrasse survives very rarely in captivity. It is a beautiful fish that is generally inexpensive but survives only about 3-4 weeks in the aquarium.



All Cleaner Wrasses (*Labroides* species) – Regardless of what area of the world cleaner wrasses are collected, nearly NONE survive for more than a few weeks due to malnutrition.



Leopard Sailfin Blenny (*Exallias brevis*) – Though most blennies do well in the aquarium, the Leopard Sailfin Blenny feeds mainly on live coral tissue in the wild. In captivity, it refuses to eat and dies of starvation within 3-4 weeks.



Moorish Idol (*Zanclus canescens*) – Likely one of the most beautiful and gracious marine fish but unfortunately in captivity, they are picky eaters that die from malnutrition within 4-8 weeks. Purchase the hardy and similar Black & White Heniochus, they eat all types of foods.



Blue Boxfish (*Ostracion meleagris camurum*) – This beautiful boxfish refuses to eat anything other than frozen brine shrimp and dies within weeks of being collected. When it dies, it can release a toxin into the aquarium which can kill all of the other fish in the tank.



Orange Spotted Filefish (*Oxymonacanthus longirostris*) – This is one of the inexpensive

marine fish that so many hobbyists are fooled into buying. Orange Spotted Filefish eat only coral polyps in the wild. In captivity they will sometimes pick at frozen brine shrimp but die from malnutrition within weeks of being captured.



Clown or Spotted Sweetlips (*Plectorhinchus chaetodonoides*) – This is another one of those fish sold to unsuspecting customers because they are striking in appearance yet quite inexpensive. This fish will eat live grass shrimp but not in numbers that will keep it healthy causing it to die of malnutrition usually within a month of being captured. None of the other sweetlip varieties (*Plectorhinchus* species) fair well in captivity either.



Banded Pipefish (*Doryhamphus dactyliophorus*) – This is the most common of the pipefish but they never accept prepared foods causing them to starve within a couple of weeks in captivity.



Blue or Black Ribbon Eels (*Rhinomuraena quaesita*) – Blue and Black Ribbon Eels are beautiful and tempting to purchase but most refuse food or are out competed for food by the other aquarium inhabitants. Nearly all die of starvation in captivity though it may take 1-2 months for them to die.



Blue Spotted Stingray (*Taeniura lymma*) – Wow what a beauty! These rays are collected every single day for the aquarium trade yet this stingray never survives for more than one or two months in captivity as it refuses to eat enough to survive and grows too large for the aquarium.



Pinnatus Batfish (*Platax pinnatus*) – While the Orbicularis Batfish and the Teira Batfish have an excellent survivability record for captivity, the incredibly beautiful Pinnatus Batfish does not accept food in captivity other than brine shrimp which cannot sustain it. In my (Chris) experience (over 23years), I know of one person that kept this fish alive for more than three months! They are collected every single day for the aquarium trade.



Bicolor Parrotfish (*Cetoscarus bicolor*) and all other Parrotfish – Parrotfish eat live coral tissue in the wild creating most of the sand on the reef! In captivity, these feeding requirements cannot be met. Most parrotfish die within one to two months of being collected.



Flowerpot Corals (*Goniopora* species) – This is one of the most collected live corals yet it usually dies within 4-6 months in captivity. At first the *Goniopora* coral seems invincible expanding to an incredible size. Eventually the coral begins to develop recessed tissue on the skeleton, shrinks smaller and smaller until the entire colony dies.



Strawberry or Cauliflower Corals (*Dendronephthya* species) – This incredible group of corals unfortunately does not survive long in captivity. They either arrive in such poor condition after collection or starve within weeks of collection. This is a non-photosynthetic species that would require so much food that the aquarium would become polluted. Julian Sprung give this corals survivability rate on a scale of 1-10 to be a 1 in his book, *Corals – A Quick Reference Guide*.



Dozens of *Anthias* species are collected for the aquarium trade. Do your research when purchasing *Anthias* species for your aquarium. There are several hardy varieties like the Bartlett's *Anthias* (*Mirolabrichthys barletti*), the Squareback *Anthias* (*Anthias pleurotaenia*) and the Fathead Sunburst *Anthias* (*Serranocirrhitis latus*). Many of the other *Anthias* species refuse

to eat in captivity or do not eat enough to sustain them. *Anthias* are not for the beginner saltwater hobbyist.

There you have it, the list of fish that you should not buy. With all of the hundreds of other brightly colored hardy marine fish available in our hobby, why purchase one of the fish listed above? The purchase only encourages further collecting of these delicate marine organisms that would have survived otherwise. Also consider that just because one or two people on the internet claim to have kept one of these organisms alive does not make up for the thousands of others that have seem them die in their aquariums. **You make the right choice.**

### **A COOL NEW FRESHWATER FISH!**

The Filamented Glassfish: We have been trying to obtain some of these beautiful new fish after seeing them at Age of Aquarium in West Ashley several weeks ago. Even though they are completely transparent, they have elongated rays on the dorsal fin that is edged in a reddish-orange color. Our shipment arrived in excellent condition and we have already seen them feeding on frozen brine shrimp and frozen mysis shrimp. They also accepted live black worms. We believe these fish to be peaceful as with other glassfish. We will be watching them more closely in the coming days to ensure they show no signs of aggression. Did we mention they are only \$3.99!! Of course, these fish are not artificially colored as Tideline Aquatics carries NO FISH that are injected with artificial coloring. Check them out during your next visit. They are located in the last aquarium on the top row just past the office. We would have posted a photo here but we could not find anything about this fish on the web. Perhaps we will take some pics for next week's newsletter.

### **REEF CLUB MEETING REVIEW**

If you missed last week's reef club meeting Saturday evening, you really did miss out. Kevin did a Power Point discussion on Advanced Reef Keeping. Carib Sea donated bottles of Purple Up to everyone that attended. Tideline Aquatics did a drawing for a complete set of reef test kits. Mrs. Cam, owner of Spa of Charleston on Wappoo Road was kind enough to feed everyone

with homemade chicken salad sandwiches and home cooked pecan pie! That said, when we all left, we were full of knowledge and full of good food! Thank you to everyone that attended and thank you to the Charleston Reef Club for choosing us as their venue for this month's meeting.

### **LOCAL CLUBS / ORGANIZATIONS/FORUMS**

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)

### **Invert of the Week**



FEATHER DUSTERS!

We have a large shipment of feather dusters from Hawaii and the Atlantic arriving on Wednesday afternoon. Feather Dusters are actually segmented worms that build a tube-like structure that will attach to the sand or on rockwork. The 'feathers' are actually the worms feeding apparatus that expands from the tube to collect food. Being a filter feeder, these animals will require being fed about three to four times per week using plankton-type foods like DT's, Chromaplex and even juice from crushed shrimp or clams. They can be fed directly using a pipette. Feather Dusters prefer good circulation

but require no lighting to survive meaning they can even be placed in the rockwork where they will attach after just 24 hours! Feather Dusters will shed their feeding 'feathers' if they are not acclimated slowly to their new environment. When placing them in the aquarium, be sure to allow any trapped air in the tube to escape before placing them in either the sandbed or rockwork. This is just one of the specials this week at Tideline Aquatics. Print off the coupon at: [www.tidelineaquatics.net](http://www.tidelineaquatics.net)

### **What's New At Tideline**

#### **FEEDERS (ARRIVED TUESDAY!)**

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

#### **FRESHWATER FISH (ARRIVED TUESDAY):**

Red Velvet Wag Swordtails, Sunburst Mickey Mouse Platies, Red Mickey Mouse Platies, Dalmation Mollies, Male Show Bettas, Blue Gouramis, Male Red Flame Dwarf Gouramis, Sunset Honey Dwarf Gouramis, Chinese Algae Eaters, Mixed Mystery Snails, Albino Corydoras Catfish, Silver Dollars, Medium Silver Arowanas, Large Sabertooth Barracudas, Elephant Nose, Green Scats, South American Freshwater Stingrays, Red Fantail Goldfish, Cool Filamented Glassfish, Florida Bred Neon Tetras, White Cloud Mountain Minnows, Royal Blue Freshwater Lobsters, Large Freshwater Flounders, Red Starfire Glo-fish Danios, Orange Sunburst Glo-fish Danios.

#### **LIVE AQUARIUM PLANTS (ARRIVING ON FRIDAY):**

Italian Vallesneria, Isoetes Quill Plants, Cryptocoryne Moehlmanni Plants, Rotala Indica Bunches, Cryptocoryne Ciliata Plants, Red Rubin Swords, Anacharis Naja Bunches, Red Narrowleaf Ludwigia Bunches, Rotala Magenta Bunches, Rotala Wallichii Bunches, Water Wisteria Bunches, Green Foxtail Bunches, Medium Amazon Swords, Potomageton Gayi Bunches, Red Nesaea Bunches, Didiplis Diandre Bunches.

#### **GOLDFISH, KOI AND POND PLANTS (NOW FULLY STOCKED):**

Small Blue Shusui Butterfly Koi (super nice!), Small Domestic Koi Assortment, Medium Assorted Domestic Pond Koi, Jumbo Japanese Koi, XXL Domestic Koi, Awesome Sarasa Veiltail Pond Comets (ready Friday), Medium Standard Butterfly Koi (limited), Assorted Small Chinese Goldfish, M/L Red & White Ryukin Chinese Goldfish, Medium Red Ryukin Chinese Goldfish, Floating Island Plants, Hornwort, Super Quality Hardy and Tropical Water Lilies (running low), Tons of Bog Plants, Blooming Lotus Plants, Water Poppies, Nymphoides geminata and more!

### **SALTWATER FISH (EXPECTED ON WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON):**

Indian Ocean Humu Triggerfish, Sumatra Gold Bar Maroon Clownfish, Tank Bred Ocellaris Clownfish, Indian Ocean Purple Firefish Gobies, Indian Ocean Fuzzy Dwarf Lionfish, Indian Ocean Black Volitan Lionfish, Philippine Mimic Yellow Tangs, Indian Ocean Basket Wrasses, Mexico Paddlefin Wrasses, Caribbean Argi Pygmy Angelfish, Caribbean Blue Reef Chromis, Indian Ocean Coral Beauty Angelfish, Fiji Coral Beauty Angelfish, Mexico Barnacle Blennies, Indian Ocean Algae Blennies, Indian Ocean Candy Cane Gobies, Indian Ocean Sixline Wrasses, Indian Ocean Maroon Clownfish, Fiji Purple & Orange Fairy Wrasses, Mexico Glass Eye Catalufa, Hawaiian Rectangulus Triggerfish, Sri Lanka Diamond Sifter Gobies, Indian Ocean Ocellaris Clownfish, Indian Ocean Blue Green Torpedo Gobies, Fiji Banded Wrasses, Caribbean Royal Grammas, Caribbean Porcupine Pufferfish, Indian Ocean V-tail Groupers, Indian Ocean Red Squirrelfish, Indian Ocean Yellow Coris Wrasses, Sumatra True Percula Clownfish, Mexico Rainbow Rock Wrasses, Indian Ocean Blue Line Fuscus Triggerfish, Red Sea XL Desjardini Sailfin Tang, Sri Lanka Bicolor Blennies, Tonga Bundoon Blennies, Indian Ocean Firefish Gobies, Indian Ocean Dogface Pufferfish, Indian Ocean Valentini Pufferfish, Tonga Christmas Wrasses, Bali Dragon Wrasses, Bali Green Leaf Wrasses, Indian Ocean Green Bird Wrasses, Australia Lime Green Banana Wrasses, Hawaiian Adult Red Coris Wrasses, Fiji Pajama Cardinalfish, Fiji Flame Hawkfish, Indian Ocean Spotted Hawkfish, Hawaiian Naso

Tangs, Caribbean Queen Angelfish, Caribbean Porcupine Pufferfish, Caribbean Porkfish Grunts.

### **SALTWATER INVERTEBRATES (EXPECTED ON WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON):**

Fiji Premium Live Rock, Blasstomussa Wellsii Corals, Orange Linkia Reef Starfish, Green Daisy Polyp Rocks, Nerite Reef Snails, Duncanopsammia Corals (per polyp), Tiger Pistol Shrimp, Ultra Zoo Frags, Pink Margarita Reef Snails, Large Nassarius Reef Snails, Trochus Reef Snails, Cleaner Shrimp, Assorted Reef Sponges, Red Spotted Sand Sifting Snails, Rare Multi-Head Fungia Coral, Scarlet Red Leg Reef Hermits, Blue Leg Reef Hermits, Sand Sifting Cucumbers, Assorted Caribbean Plants, Caribbean Swiftia Seafans, Mexican Turbo Snails, Chocolate Chip Starfish, Golden Banded Shrimp, Long Tentacle Anemones, Pink Cucumbers, Basket Starfish, Large Hawaiian Feather Dusters, Horseshoe Crabs, Atlantic Serpent Starfish, Coral Banded Shrimp, Atlantic Turbin Snails, Caribbean Peppermint Shrimp, Atlantic Feather Dusters, Green Emerald Crabs.