



October 02, 2007

# tideline aquatics Newsletter

## Tideline Aquatics Store Hours

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

## AUTUMN IN THE GARDEN POND -

As we recently mentioned in a past newsletter, the weather is changing and you need to ensure your pond and pond fish are ready. The leaves (and pine needles) will soon be falling. You **MUST** keep leaves dipped from the pond. Decaying leaves in the fall and winter will turn your pond water dark with tannins greatly increasing algae growth, especially in the spring. You should also remove falling acorns. They fall into your pond, sink to the bottom and within days begin to decay. The increase in organic levels will eventually cause a deadly pH crash that can kill your fish and your biological filter. To prevent these problems, simply go out to your pond every day or two and take the time to skim out leaves and/or acorns.



The water temperature is dropping as night temperatures fall into the 60's. Begin feeding your koi and goldfish a steady diet of Wheat Germ food. This food is processed quickly by

your fish as their metabolism slows down in the cooler water. Wheat germ will also fatten up the fish in preparation for their winter dormancy.



If you have any tropical fish species in your pond like algae-eating Plecostomus (pictured above), African Frogs or Live-Bearers, they should be removed once the water temperature drops to 70 degrees. If the water temperature drops below 70, these tropical warm-water species will likely die. You can call the store and make arrangements for a trade-in on your fish or you can move them into an indoor aquarium for the fall and winter. Now is a good time to check your pond thermometers to monitor when these animals need to be removed. Your koi, goldfish and White Cloud Mountain Minnows are winter hardy fish.

Water lilies and other pond plants will soon begin to slow down, yellow and drop leaves and blooms. Simply cut away dead material from these plants as it yellows and remove it from your pond. Most pond plants can be left in the water year-round in Charleston even though they die back to the soil. Zone 8 plants or lower should return again in the spring. Stop fertilizing

all pond plants until next spring when new growth begins to appear.

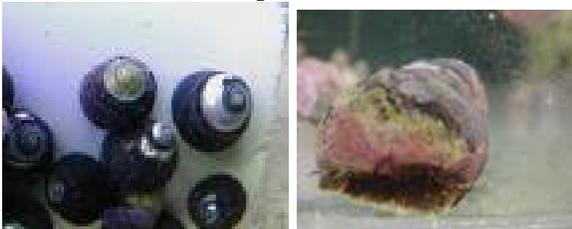
Last, as we talked about previously, service your biological filter. By removing the media and flushing it out with either Well Water or Treated Tap Water, you will remove trapped muck in the biological filter thus increasing the surface area for healthy bacteria to grow. Dirty or clogged biological filters can become breeding grounds for fish disease organisms.



By taking the steps listed here, your pond will be less likely invaded by algae problems in the spring. Your pond fish will be weaker than normal when coming out of dormancy. A clean pond with good water conditions will lessen their chance of developing problems when their immune systems are at their weakest point. So time to get out the skimmer net!!

## **A SNAIL FOLLOW-UP FOR REEFERS**

Last week we talked about good snails for the reef aquarium. We were unsure (after doing research for the newsletter) if the Pink Margarita Snail was a tropical or temperate (cold water) species. It turns out that both reef snails sold under the common names of black margarita snails, pink margarita snails, black turbo snails and pink turbo snails, are cold water species that will survive usually only 2 months in the warm waters of our reef aquariums.



That said, buyer BEWARE! We will no longer sell these snails at Tideline. Remember in the future that snails from the family Margarites are

poor candidates for thriving in warm tropical reef tanks.

## **NEW RARE SCORPIONFISH AT TIDELINE AQUATICS!**



The Species of Rhinopias Currently at Tideline

We just brought in one of the highly venomous Rhinopias species of Scorpionfish. We have hesitated from bringing this fish into the store mainly because they are so very expensive! One of our suppliers had them on special this week so we thought we would splurge and purchase one of these strange creatures.

Like most Scorpionfish, the Rhinopias will only accept live foods. Feeder goldfish should always be avoided as a live food for these fish (and all marine fish!). Instead, feed them guppies, mollies and ghost shrimp that have been fed nutritious foods like spirulina, cyclops and vitamin-soaked mysis shrimp. These fish sit completely still until a prey item comes within range. They tilt slightly back and forth as if to resemble macro-algae flowing in the current. Once the prey item swims close enough, the Rhinopias lunges forward and swallows it whole. This fish also regularly sheds off a layer of skin. This aids in the removal of damaged tissue, algae, encrusting organisms and parasites. We believe the Rhinopias currently at Tideline Aquatics is the orange colored variant of Rhinopias eschmeyeri. This fish is also found in several other colors. At \$299.00, it is certainly not the fish for everyone but if you want something completely different, this could be the fish for you! Remember, these fish have huge mouths. Rhinopias can reach 9" at full size and will certainly make a meal out of any fish small enough to fit into its mouth. On the next page, you will see some photos of other, more expensive Rhinopias available if you are interested. Good tankmates would be similarly

sized Lionfish species, equally sized Rabbitfish, larger Tangs (Surgeonfish) and Squirrelfish.



If you are interested in ordering one of these other Rhinopias, just see Chris at the store. We do require a 50% deposit on all special order aquarium fish. Break out the credit card! LOL!

### **BOTIA STRIATA – A BEAUTIFUL SMALL LOACH FOR THE COMMUNITY AQUARIUM**

Many aquarium stores carry the common Clown Loach but there are many other incredible loaches available to the aquarium trade. One of our favorites is the Botia striata, commonly sold as the Zebra Loach in the trade. This loach is

ideal even for smaller aquaria as they only reach about 4” in length when fully grown. Like most loaches, Botia striata makes an excellent addition to aquariums that contain live plants. These aquariums are often plagued with plant eating snails, a favorite treat food for this little Botia.



We suggest keeping this fish in groups of three or more as they are quite social with one another. Single fish will certainly survive but you will find your Botia striata to be shyer when kept alone. These fish enjoy soft water with a pH of 6.5 – 7.5. Though this fish is a good scavenger, supplemental feeding of sinking foods and frozen foods will ensure this beauty retains its bright colors. Botia striata is collected in the muddy slow moving streams of Southern India. Like other loaches, Botia striata enjoys the cover of driftwood, rockwork and plants to feel comfortable. Though not seen regularly in aquarium stores, this is a hardy loach that makes an good choice for the community aquarium. Check out the website coupons for a good deal on this exquisite little loach.

### **STILL ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS:**

#### **AQUATIC PROS AQUARIUM MAINTENANCE CO.**

Aquatic Pros is looking for HONEST, DEDICATED, HARD WORKING persons for possible employment with their company. You do not necessarily need to know all the odds and ins of the marine aquarium but experience with marine systems is a BIG PLUS. Their business entails the regular maintenance of freshwater aquariums, marine aquariums, reef aquariums and even garden ponds in homes and businesses throughout the Lowcountry. You must have a vehicle (small truck, minivan, etc) capable of transporting water and other maintenance

supplies to each job site you would be assigned to after an extensive training period. You must also have EXCELLENT people skills (you are not a jerk to your fellow American). Aquatic Pros offers good pay if you are chosen to work for this company. This job is not a “cake walk”, you must be hard working, able to lift heavy materials and flexible in your hours. If this sounds like you or someone you know, please call **Jason Sack at (843) 813-5006** for a possible interview. We recommend them to anyone that desires to have their aquariums and ponds serviced – because they are an honest business operation with strong work ethics and excellent people skills.

### **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)

## **Fish of the Week**



**THE BLUE SPOTTED JAWFISH - KEVIN RASSO'S PHOTO**

There are few fish that are more fun to watch than jawfish. These peaceful reef safe fish spend day and night digging in the substrate. Seeming never satisfied with their home design, jawfish drag small rocks, empty shells and mouthfuls of sand or gravel in and out of their many holes. This week we are featuring the **normally** quite

expensive but most beautiful Blue Spotted Jawfish (*Opistognathus rosenblatti*). Collected only from the Sea of Cortez in small numbers several times per year, this fish normally fetches about \$150.00!! We are offering them on our website coupons for only \$69.00 this week. This fish is not for everyone. Though the Blue Spotted Jawfish is extremely hardy, certain conditions may prevent you from owning one of these jewels from the Sea of Cortez. First, you must have a covered aquarium as ALL jawfish are jumpers. Without an aquarium cover, we assure you that your jawfish will be on the floor the very next morning if not sooner. Second, jawfish are extremely peaceful fish though they may open their mouths wide to scare a fish away from their dugout.



Aggressive fish will actively seek out your jawfish for a kill. Keep them with gobies, blennies, dwarf angelfish, tangs, rabbitfish and the like. Avoid keeping them with triggerfish, aggressive larger wrasses, groupers, lionfish, etc. Third, these fish enjoy the cover of rockwork and caves. A wide open aquarium setting will make your jawfish unsettled and more likely to jump out of the aquarium. Fourth, jawfish need a mixed diet. Flake foods will just not suffice with this fish. Frozen complete diets like Formula One and Marine Cuisine supplemented with frozen mysis, brine shrimp or finely chopped seafood will keep your jawfish fat and happy. Last, jawfish will eat very small shrimp like sexy shrimp and small anemone shrimp. Larger shrimp like cleaner shrimp, fire shrimp, peppermint shrimp and coral banded shrimp should be completely safe with your jawfish. Stable water conditions are also appreciated by Blue Spotted Jawfish. If you do not do regular partial water changes, leave this striking fish for another more diligent hobbyist. 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 (JUST ARRIVED TUESDAY):**

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

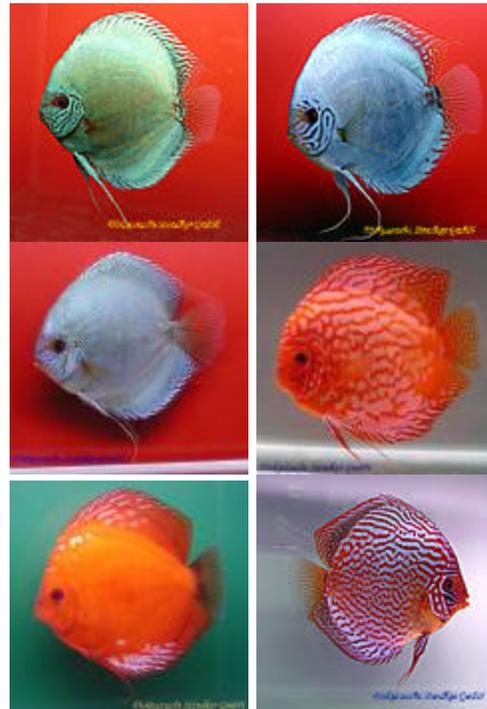
### **FRESHWATER FISH (ARRIVED TUESDAY):**

Marigold Swordtails, Red Tuxedo Swordtails, Dalmation Mollies, Male Bettas, Dwarf Red Flame Gouramis, Gold Gouramis, Opaline Gouramis, Zebra Danios, Small Common Plecostomus, Albino Corydoras Catfish, Queen Botias (**Botia Dario**)-(very nice!), **Botia Striata** Loaches (beautiful), Tiger Botias (for more aggressive tanks), **Australian Jardini Arowana**, **Redtail Freshwater Barracudas**, **M/L African Elephantnose**, **Halfbeaks**, Green Scatophagus, **African Baby Whales**, Black Skirt Tetras, Red Serpae Tetras, **Galaxy Rasboras**, Dwarf African Frogs, Red Starfire Glo-fish™.

### **COOL STUFF EXPECTED ON WEDNESDAY:**

Medium Royal Plecostomus, Double Red Cacaotoides Dwarf Cichlids, Chocolate Cichlids, Tiger Shovelnose Cats, Breeder Red Phantom Tetras, Many Nice Wild Collected Corydoras Catfish, Small Fire Eels, Jumbo Wild Collected Cardinal Tetras, Bright Red Rummynose Tetras, Black Neon Tetras, Silver Hatchetfish, Harlequin Rasboras, Mixed Balloon Mollies, Mixed Large Platies, Geophagus Daemon Eartheaters, Mudskippers, Regular Silver Dollars, Uaru Cichlids, Badis Badis, Large Hypostomus Plecostomus (Trinidad), Male Cobalt Dwarf Gouramis, Pearl Leeri Gouramis, Mixed Orandas, XL Black Coolie Loaches, Curviceps Dwarf Cichlids, Electric Blue Haplochromis Ahli, Black Angelfish, Long-fin Blue Rams, Colombian Shark Catfish, Otocinclus Dwarf Algae-Eaters.

### **German Stendker Discus Now In Stock!!!!**



We have 3"-4" juveniles of all of the adult hybrids pictured above. In order from left to right: Green Turquoise (Flachen), Blue Cobalts, Blue Diamonds, Pigeon Blood Reds, Marlboro Reds and Red Scribbled. These fish have been through dewormer treatment and fluke treatment. They are already eating all types of dry and frozen foods. Want to check out photos from the hatchery in Germany: Follow the link below - [www.diskuszucht-stendker.de/pages/about\\_us.html](http://www.diskuszucht-stendker.de/pages/about_us.html)

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

New Plant Varieties to Tideline: Ludwigia cuba, Bacopa myriophylloides, a new Limnophila, a new Myriophyllum, Pogostemon stellata (narrow leaf and broad leaf varieties), Blyxa aubertii, Blyxa japonica, Valisneria nana, Apart Sword Plants, Anubias nana 'petite', Dwarf Baby Teardrop (an excellent foreground plant). Also, we have coming: Isoetes Quill, Rotala macrandra, Assorted Cryptocornyes, Italian Valesneria.

### **GOLDFISH, KOI AND POND PLANTS (NOW IN STOCK):**

Check the website coupons for huge end of season sale on all pond plants and domestic pond koi!!

**SALTWATER FISH (ARRIVED TUESDAY AFTERNOON):**

Sea of Cortez Blue Spotted Jawfish, Indonesian Orange Rhinopias Scorpionfish (RARE), Bali Foxface Rabbitfish, Sri Lanka Show Size Clown Tang (AWESOME FISH), Hawaiian Pink Tail Triggerfish, Fiji Coral Beauty Angelfish, Hawaiian Flame Angelfish, Sumatra Ocellaris Clownfish, Sumatra Gold Bar Maroon Clownfish, Sri Lanka Sebae Clownfish, Indian Ocean Purple Firefish, Indian Ocean Rainfordi Gobies, Indian Ocean Powder Brown Tangs, Indian Ocean V-Tail Grouper, Indian Ocean Fuzzy Dwarf Lionfish, Hawaiian Humu Triggerfish, Bali Yellow Mimic Tangs, Indian Ocean Solorensis Fairy Wrasses, Bali Harlequin Tuskfish.

**EXPECTED ON WEDNESDAY:**

Caribbean Neon Cleaner Gobies, Caribbean Royal Grammas, Caribbean Pearly Jawfish, Caribbean Black Angelfish, Caribbean Porcupine Pufferfish.

**SALTWATER INVERTEBRATES (ARRIVED ON TUESDAY):**

XL Green Saron Shrimp, Sri Lanka Blue Carpet Anemone (special order), Red Hard Tube Coco Worm Feather Dusters, Nice Size Tonga Nassarius Sand Snails, Mexican Turbo Snails, Sebae Anemones, Long Tentacle Anemones, Bubble Anemones, Tridacna derasa Clams, Indonesian Assorted Mushrooms (a nice mix), Tonga Green Ricordea Mushroom Rocks, Tonga Hairy Purple Mushroom Rocks, Tonga Green Hairy Mushroom Rocks, Green Striped Mushroom Rocks, Blue Mushroom Rocks, Red Mushroom Rocks, Assorted Nano Corals, Red Chili Soft Coral, Wild Collected Xenia Rocks, Green Pipe Organ Corals, Green Metallic Zoanthid Rocks, Green Zoanthid Rocks, Orange Assorted Zoanthid Rocks, Green Cactus Pavona Coral, Spiny Cup Pectinia Corals, Green Hydnothophora Corals, Purple Porites Corals, Purple Polyp Montipora danae Coral, Green Torch Coral, Green Star Polyp Rocks, Orange Fungia Plate Corals, Fiji Platygyra Worm Brain Coral, Assorted A-Grade Favia/Favites Corals, Green & Red Trachyphyllia Corals, Super Red Blasstomussa wellsii Corals, Hard Finger Leather Corals, Yellow Fiji Leather Coral, Gold Ultra Spaghetti Leather Coral, Super Green Hairy Tree Leather Corals.

**EXPECTED ON WEDNESDAY:**

Caribbean Ricordea Polyps on tiny rocks, Caribbean Peppermint Shrimp, Atlantic Turbin Algae Snails, Scarlet Redleg Reef Hermit Crabs, Emerald Green Crabs, Blue Leg Reef Crabs, Caribbean Red Ball Sponges.