

November 13, 2007



# tideline aquatics Newsletter

## Tideline Aquatics Store Hours

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

## KEEPING YOUR NEW ADDITION SAFE WHEN INTRODUCED

How many of you have faced this scenario? You take a trip to your local aquarium store and spend quite some time picking out the new perfect fish for your freshwater or saltwater aquarium. The fish is carefully captured, bagged with plenty of oxygen and then you baby it all the way back home. You spend an hour or two acclimating the new fish to your aquarium conditions. Finally the moment arrives when you release your new fish into the tank and BAM – one of your established fish just wants to kill your new fish!!!

There are many fish that are territorial in nature. This is just their way of protecting their territory in the wild. In the aquarium, an established fish displays this same instinct when a new fish is introduced to what they claim is their complete territory. New fish already endure stress from being captured at the store, bagged and transported to your home. When introduced with your established fish, they take advantage of your new fish's stressed state and sometimes will cause the new fish harm if just left on its own. Your fish are just trying to protect their territory from this perceived invader of their space.

To reduce the chances of this happening to your new addition, there are a couple of tricks you can try. First, before adding your new fish rearrange the decorations in your aquarium. Change about rock formations, driftwood and/or decorative coral to break up the territories established by your older fish. Now turn off the aquarium lights and introduce your new addition to the tank.

Even covering the aquarium to keep it dark can help but leave enough of an opening for you to view your new fish to ensure it is not being abused. The method we use at Tideline works well for us. New shipments arrive every week or two and new fish can become the targets of established fish. After acclimating your fish, go ahead and capture your most territorial tank members and place them in a separate cage within the tank (we sell these for about \$5).



Fish like Yellow Tangs, Triggerfish, dominate African Cichlids and even Angelfish are notorious for attacking new additions. After caging the aggressors, add your new fish to the aquarium. Give your new fish 24 hours in your tank and then release your more territorial specimens back into the tank. By this time, your new fish has established some territory and recovered from the stress of capture and transport. Often, the new fish will not stand up to your established fish and the aggression quickly subsides with no damage to either party involved. Harmony in your aquarium has returned and your new fish is safely settled into its new home!

## **BETTAS ARE TROPICAL FISH – WINTER CARE IN YOUR HOME**

If you have a Male Betta (Siamese Fighting Fish) in a bowl in your home or office, you need to add a thermometer to the water and see what the water temperature is now that the cold weather has arrived. If you have your heat in the house or office set on 68 – 72 degrees, then your betta is COLD!!



**A HEALTHY BETTA DISPLAYING HIS BEAUTIFUL COLOR AND FINAGE.**

Bettas are warm water species that will not survive long in water temperatures below 75 degrees. Signs of being chilled are listlessness, “stiff” or clamped fins (no longer soft and flowing), reduced feeding and/or a trembling appearance as the fish swims about the bowl.



**A BETTA SUFFERING FROM VELVET DISEASE FROM BEING TOO COLD! NOTE THE CLAMPED FINS.**

Many bettas die in peoples home and offices from the fish being too cold in the fall and winter months. By adding a simple mini aquarium heater, your betta will remain healthy year round. Without a heater, it will be nearly impossible to keep your betta warm enough to remain healthy unless you keep your house temperature at 75 degrees or warmer. These mini tank heaters are not all that expensive when you consider keeping

your beloved betta healthy. Remember too that when you change out your bettas water, the new water will need to be warmed to the same temperature as its current water in the bowl (and treated with a proper water conditioner like Aqualife Complete).



**THIS MINI HEATER IS EXCELLENT FOR BOWLS AND AQUARIUM UP TO 3 GALLONS. IT WILL NOT OVERHEAT AND IS PRESET TO MAINTAIN WATER TEMPERATURE AT 76 DEGREES!**

## **AQUARIUM FISH NEED WARMTH IN THE WINTER!!**

Unless you are housing goldfish, koi or white cloud mountain minnows in your home aquarium, your fish will REQUIRE an aquarium heater. Check your aquarium temperature with a thermometer – it must remain at least 75 degrees for your fish to remain healthy. The aquarium heater not only keeps the water warm, it keep the water temperature stable which prevents your freshwater and saltwater fish from breaking out with parasite diseases! We cannot stress this more, tropical freshwater and marine fish will not survive if the water temperature gets too cold or fluctuates from morning to afternoon more than 2 degrees. Investing in a quality aquarium heater may cost you \$25 - \$30 but that is a fraction of what you have invested in live animals and filtration components. Be warned, cold fish will become diseased – keep them warm by simply adding a quality aquarium heater to your tank now.

## **CMAC MEETING THIS SATURDAY**

The Columbia Marine Aquarium Club is holding their monthly meeting here in Charleston this Saturday at Aquatic Imports in West Ashley.

This is a well organized large aquarium club dedicated to the care of marine fish and invertebrates. Go to their website for details of their meeting at: <http://www.columbiamac.org/>

### **CURING LIVE ROCK**

When purchasing live rock, you will always want to ensure it is fully cured BEFORE it goes into your established aquarium. When buying fresh live rock (uncured), many of the tiny organisms within the rock, sponges and damaged coral fragments die in the transport process. When this fresh rock is added to water, the dead animals begin to decay and will cause a substantial ammonia and nitrite spike if added directly into your aquarium. This will kill your aquarium inhabitants!! At Tideline Aquatics, you have two options when purchasing fresh live rock. If you pay for your live rock purchase in full, we will tag your rock and hold it for you until it is fully cured (we call you when it is ready). If you are purchasing a large amount of rock at once, we may not have the room at the store to hold your rock until it is cured but here is your other option. Just fill a container (cooler, Rubbermaid container, etc) with R/O saltwater. Add some strong aeration by using an airstone and perhaps a strong power head to break the surface of the water to create plenty of oxygen. Now add your fresh live rock to the water. Test the water in the container about once per week. When the water test is free of ammonia and nitrite, your rock is fully cured and is now safe to add to your main aquarium! The time for curing varies on the volume of rock you have to cure, the origin of the live rock (Tonga rocks takes more time) and the freshness of the rock when you purchased it. Though the live rock may bleach out much of its color while curing, the beautiful purple, orange and pink coralline algae will return after some time in your established reef aquarium if you provide it with good calcium levels.



## **Critter of the Week**



**AQUA-CULTURED TRIDACNA CROCEA CLAMS**

The shipment of aqua-cultured Crocea clams arrived in beautiful condition! These clams range from 4" – 6" in size and have varying colors of bright blue to blue/green. Crocea clams are shallow water clams that prefer intense lighting in the 10,000K range. Aquariums using 14,000K lamps are not good candidates for Crocea clams. In tanks using metal halide lamps, the clams can be placed directly on the bottom of the tank on a piece of live rock set in the sand bed. If your reef aquarium uses power compact lighting or T5 lighting, the clam will need to be placed high in the aquarium on the live rock. These animals are completely photosynthetic at this size and will require NO additional feeding. Giant clams require strong calcium levels of 400-450ppm and regular additions of iodine to thrive. Crocea clams also prefer good water flow so consider that when finding it a place in your reef tank. Once these animals attach themselves, leave them alone. If placed in a suitable location, your clam will use its byssus gland to extend byssus threads which is used to anchor itself to the live rock. If you ever need to move your clam, never pull it from the rock. Instead, use a sharp razor and gently cut the threads loose to avoid damaging its "foot". After recovering from the move, it will once again extend new threads to anchor itself to its new location. This is just one of the specials you will find this week on our website coupons. Print the coupon at: [www.tidelineaquatics.net](http://www.tidelineaquatics.net)

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

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

Ghost Shrimp (LIMITED), Guppies, Rosy Redds, Goldfish, Live Black Worms, Crayfish and Fiddler Crabs.

### **FRESHWATER FISH**

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

XL Assorted Angelfish, Red Serpae Tetras, Bright Yellow Spotted Vampire Plecostomus, Common Plecostomus, Harlequin Rasboras, Rummynose Tetras, Geophagus Jurupari Earthaters, 6" Black Arowana (RARE), 6" Silver Arowanas, Gold Spotted Motoro Freshwater Stingrays, L018 True Gold Nugget Plecostomus, Tank Bred Black Ghost Knives, African Butterflyfish, Super Red Flame Dwarf Gouramis, Tank Bred Red Spotted Green Severums (Beautiful!), Pygmy Corydoras Catfish, Tank Bred Archerfish, Small Green Spotted Pufferfish, Knight Gobies, Bumble Bee Gobies, South American Dragonfish Gobies, Longfin Blushing White Skirt Tetras, Dalmation Mollies, Silver Lyretail Mollies, Super Color Male Bettas, Gold Gouramis, Rosy Barbs, Small and Large Tiger Barbs, Medium Albino Tiger Barbs, Rubber Plecostomus, Green Scatophagus, Florida Bred Neon Tetras, Red Serpae Tetras, White Cloud Mountain Minnows, Dwarf African Frogs, Super Red Kribensis Cichlids, Red Chromides (Brackish), Roseline Denisonii Sharks, Tinfoil Barbs, Mixed Medium Angelfish.

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

### **SALTWATER FISH**

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

Red Sea Asfur Angelfish, Cortez Passer Angelfish, Pink Rhinopias Scorpionfish, Tank Bred Yellow Wathman Gobies, Tank Bred Clownfish, Tonga Coral Beauty Angelfish, Hawaiian Flame Angelfish, Hawaiian Blue Jaw Triggerfish, Hawaiian Naso Tangs, African Powder Blue Tangs, Indian Ocean Sailfin Tangs, True Black & White Ocellaris Clownfish, Bali Eiblii Angelfish, Indian Ocean Lamark Angelfish, Indian Ocean Pink Skunk Clownfish, Indian Ocean Tomato Clownfish, Indian Ocean Sebae Clownfish, Indian Ocean Pearlscale Butterflyfish, Fiji Mertensii Butterflyfish, Indian

Ocean Hooper Blennies (SUPER COOL), Indian Ocean Algae Blennies, Indian Ocean Firefish Gobies, Indian Ocean Steinitz Gobies, Bali Mural Sifter Gobies, China Sea Dragon Sifter Gobies, Indian Ocean Gold Spotted Jawfish, Indian Ocean Panther Groupers, Indian Ocean Bicolor Basslets, Indian Ocean Dogface Pufferfish, Fiji Pajama Cardinalfish, Indian Ocean Kauderni Cardinalfish, Indian Ocean Bursa Triggerfish, Hawaiian Humu Triggerfish, Bali Foxface Rabbitfish, Sri Lanka Blonde Naso w/ Streamers, Indian Ocean Blue Regal Tangs, Sri Lanka Clown Tangs, Indian Ocean Purple Fairy Wrasses, Hawaiian Red Coris Adult Wrasses, Hawaiian Green Bird Wrasses, Indian Ocean Snowflake Moray Eels, Indian Ocean Banded Moray Eels, Vietnam Tank Bred Kelloggii Seahorses, Bali White Sifter Gobies, Indian Ocean Red Louti Grouper.

### **SALTWATER INVERTEBRATES**

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

Our Live Coral, Mushroom Rock and Zoanthid Selection is HUGE at this time. Assorted Tonga Fancy Mushroom Rocks, Assorted Indonesian Mushroom Rocks, Assorted Color Zoanthid Rocks, Assorted Fiji Leather Corals, Assorted Star Polyp Rocks, Nano Toadstool Leather Corals, Assorted Varieties Nano Sized Reef Corals, Green Knobby Cucumbers, Red Skunk Cleaner Shrimp, Yellow Cucumbers, Yellow Brittle Starfish, Banded Brittle Starfish, Indian Ocean Sea Apple, Chocolate Chip Starfish, Purple Reef Lobsters, Sexy Shrimp, Bumble Bee Shrimp, Green Saron Shrimp, Candy Stripe Pistol Shrimp, Tiger Pistol Shrimp, Sally Lite Foot Crabs, Electric Blue Reef Hermits, Arrow Crabs, Red Tip Reef Hermits, Strombus Sifter Snails, Nerite Reef Snails, Nassarius Reef Snails, Cerith Reef Snails, Mexican Turbo Snails, Small Colorful Bubble Anemones, Sebae Anemones, Super Color Crocea Clams (in-house special), Hawaiian Feather Dusters and so much more.