



February 13, 2008

tideline aquatics Newsletter

Tideline Aquatics Store Hours

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

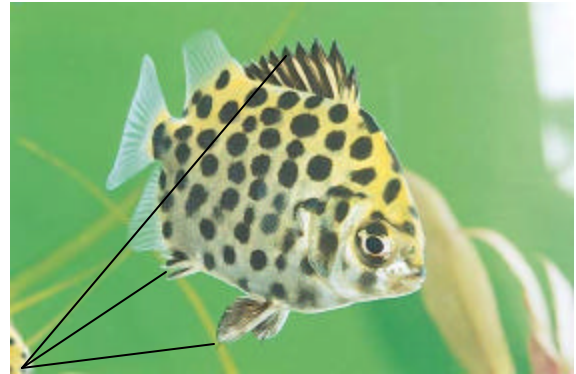
HAPPY VALENTINES DAY!!!

For all you ladies out there, we are giving you 10% off any purchase of non-sale items the entire day, Thursday, Valentines Day.

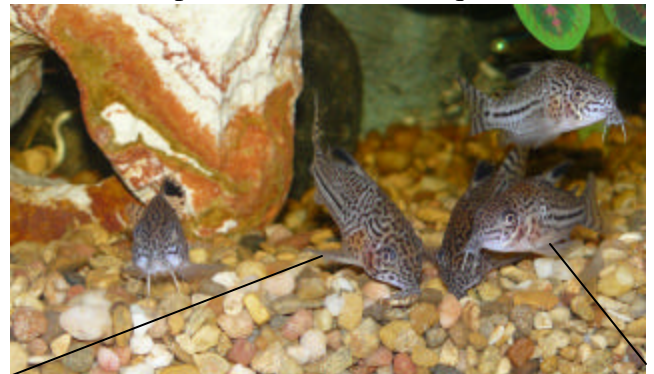
VENOMOUS AQUARIUM ANIMALS

First, let's clear up the confusion over an animal being poisonous compared to being venomous. Poisonous refers to being toxic by either eating or coming in contact with the organism. Take pufferfish for an example. Pufferfish contain a toxin called Tetrodotoxin. If consumed even in small quantities, it can result in death. The toxin is a poison. Venomous creatures cause harm from either a sting or puncture or from being bitten by the organism. Venom is injected into the unfortunate victim via this bite or puncture. There are some common animals we keep in our aquariums that should be handled with care to protect the owner from being harmed. Check out these animals that you should use caution with when either handling them or when working in your aquarium. Please note that a sting from one of these animals can be extremely painful but is rarely fatal. If you have allergic reactions to bee stings, etc, you may have a more severe reaction to one of these stings compared with other people. Always seek medical attention if you experience shortness of breath, hives, swelling of the tongue or throat or severe swelling of the injection area. Most of the venoms used by these animals are best treated by soaking the injection site in as hot of water as you can tolerate without being burned. The hot water supposedly breaks down the venom helping to prevent it from spreading further into the body. For some people,

it is just easiest to go to the emergency room and get a shot of pain medicine to give relief. The pain can be excruciating depending on the amount of venom the animal was able to inject.



All Scatophagus species have venomous spines in their dorsal, anal and pelvic fins. Scats can survive in fresh, brackish and saltwater environments. The spines are used solely for protection. If a predator approaches, the fish will merely tilt forward with its venomous spines erected. The pain from this fish is quite extreme.

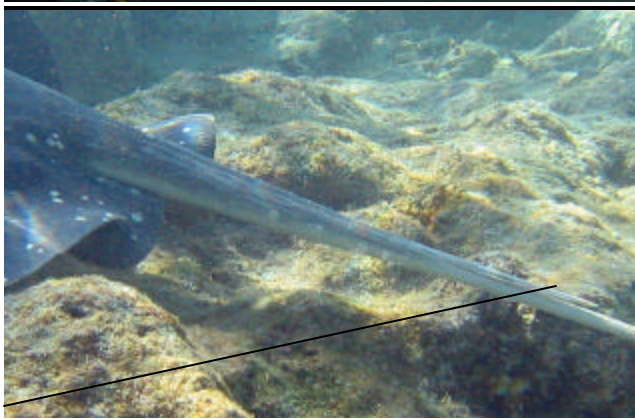
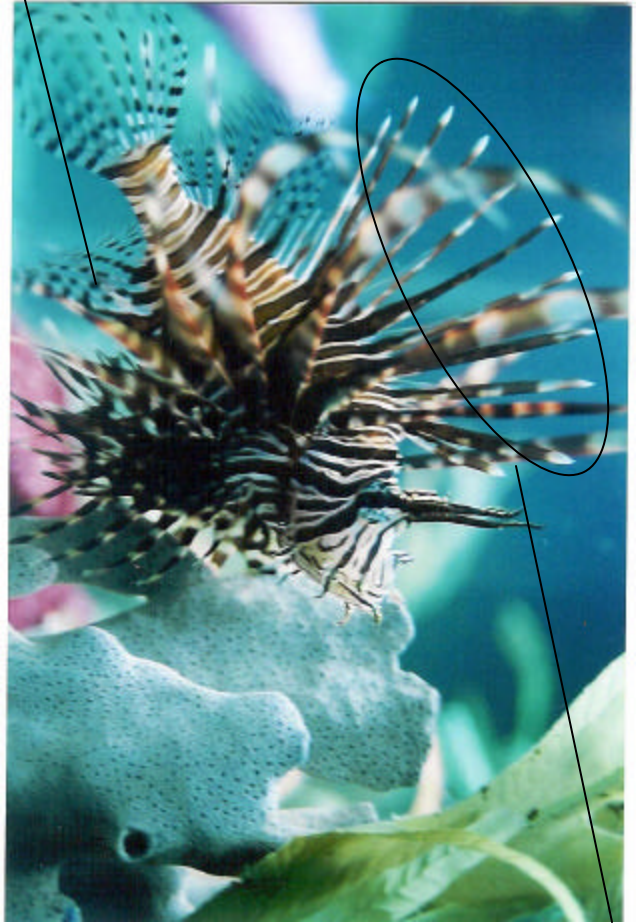


Nearly every catfish available in our hobby have venomous pectoral spines (excluding plecostomus species). Even a small stick from one of these spines can cause fairly intense pain and continuous throbbing of the injection site for an hour or more. I (Chris) was once stuck by one of these spines on a Corydoras catfish that arrived dead. I was barely pricked by this dead catfish but the venom was still painfully viable! Pictured below is the marine catfish, the Coral

Catfish. A sting from one of these guys is said to be extremely painful. Do not mistake this fish for your completely non-venomous juvenile engineer goby. Supposedly, the juvenile engineer goby mimics the coral catfish for protection from predators aware of the sting from these marine catfish.



Both freshwater and marine stingrays all possess a venomous spine located near the end of the tail. Though these are used mainly for protection, in the aquarium your ray could become nervous with you working closely overhead. The stingray can quickly lunge its tail upward leading to the owner being punctured by the tail spine. The sting from one of these animals is said to be of the extreme. Always use caution around these animals even if your stingray becomes tame.



Likely the most painful sting of all aquarium fish can be from a lionfish. Lionfish belong to the family Scorpaenidae, all of which possess venomous spines. Though lionfish stings rarely require hospitalization, other members of the scorpionfish family can result even in death! These animals do not swim about trying to sting their tankmates or owners but they will protect themselves if they feel threatened. A spooked scorpionfish may accidentally dart forward causing the owner or a tankmate to be stung so always use care when working in your aquarium around any member of this family. Here is a list of some of the more common members of scorpionfish found in the aquarium trade: Volitan lionfish, Dwarf Lionfish, Antennata Lionfish,

Fuzzy Dwarf Lionfish, Radiata Lionfish, Sailfin Scorpionfish, Rhinopias species, Marine Leafyfish, Toadfish (family Batrachoididae).



Another popular group of aquarium fish that contain venomous spines is the Rabbitfish. There are many species of rabbitfish sold for the aquarium and they all contain venomous dorsal spines and anal spines. All rabbitfish are nervous fish that can sometimes dart about the aquarium erratically when spooked by a hand reaching into the aquarium. This is the most common time when the aquarist is stung as the fish accidentally slams head forward into the owners hand or arm. Though these stings are rarely serious, it will result in the owner having a new respect for this fish when he/she cleans the tank next time!



Though “Dori” never nailed “Nemo”, she very well could have if he’d annoyed her! Blue regal tangs can inject venom via their sharp tail spine. I (Chris) have been lightly hit by one of these spines when releasing fish quite some time ago. My skin was barely punctured but the pain was nothing to laugh about. Once again, this fish uses this as a defense mechanism only. Hobbyists are only stung when being careless around this fish.

Use caution when working around any venomous animal. Though they become tame with time, carelessness can cause you great pain and a possible expensive doctor visit!!

SPRING IS COMING – TIME TO GET YOUR POND READY

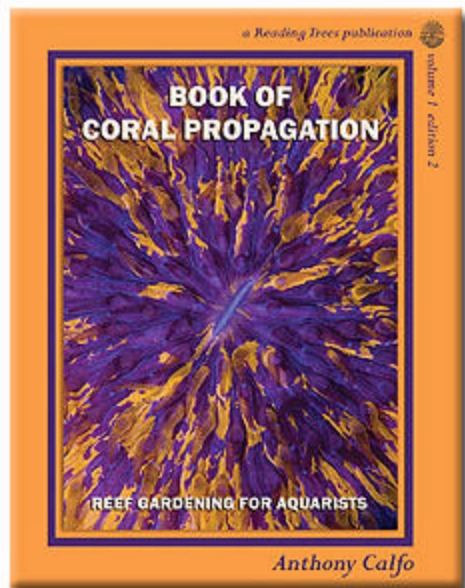


After the cold winter season, most ponds become crystal clear. The fish are eating very little, the water is cold and algae seems to be a thing of the past. Then comes Spring..... You can prevent your pond from becoming riddled early with algae by taking a few steps now while the weather is still cool. First, remove all debris from the bottom of the pond (leaves, limbs, acorns, etc). Clean your biological filter media with either well water, treated tap water or pond water. Rinse the biological media free of all pond sludge that has accumulated over the winter months. Also rinse out, or even better replace, all of your filter pads. Cut away all dead material from your pond plants but avoid repotting them or fertilizing them for now. Unplug your ultra-violet (UV) clarifier, remove the hoses from the unit and flush water forcefully through the unit to remove any muck that has settled there. Use a flashlight and view the condition of the quartz sleeve in the unit, remove it and clean it if it has become discolored or coated with debris. If your UV lamp is more than 12 months old, consider replacing it now. Perform a 30% partial water change on the pond to dilute accumulated organics from the water that feed algae. Remember to properly treat the new water for chloramines, chlorine and ammonia. If your water is tinted yellow (place some water in a white cup), add fresh activated carbon to the filter in a nylon bag. After several days, the water will once again be bright and crystal clear. Finally, test the water for pH, ammonia, nitrite and carbonate hardness (KH). Adjust the water

parameters as needed. The pond water will soon begin to warm up and your fish will become more active. Once the water is above 55 degrees, begin slowly feeding your fish a wheat germ based food. Feed in small amounts only until the water temperature gets above 60 degrees. Take these preventative measures now! Your biological filter will bounce back more efficiently, your UV will be functioning at full capacity and the organic load in your pond will be substantially less meaning less food for algae to thrive.

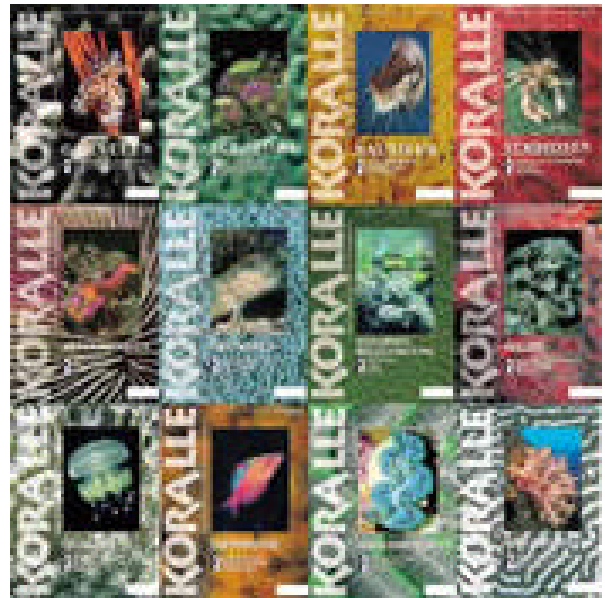


NOW IN STOCK AT TIDELINE!!



The exciting new coral propagation book by author Anthony Calfo is now in stock. This book covers the cultivation of many coral species kept in the home aquarium. This book also covers the care of shipping and receiving new corals, pests, predators and disease, coral identification and coral placement in the reef aquarium. We are

selling this book for only \$39.99 and quantities are limited!



The newest issue of the spectacular Coral Magazine is now back in stock. This issue covers gobies and their symbiotic pistol shrimps. If you have never purchased one of these magazines, you are certainly missing out. Even if you do not have a marine aquarium, this magazine is worth a look with unbelievable photographs and information you will not find anywhere else.

What's New At Tideline

FEEDERS (SEE BELOW!): Feeder Guppies (PLENTY), Feeder Goldfish (SOLD OUT), Feeder Rosys (GETTING LOW), Feeder Crayfish (SOLD OUT), Feeder Fiddler Crabs (PLENTY), Live Black Worms (LOTS), Ghost Shrimp (RUNNING LOW).

NEW FRESHWATER FISH:

Livebearers – Black Yucatan Mollies, Assorted Platies, Mickey Mouse Swordtails.

Catfish/Loaches/Plecostomus – RARE! True Tigrinus Shovelnose Catfish (awesome), Albino Corydoras Catfish, Punctatus Corydoras Catfish, Schwartzi Corydoras Catfish, Zygatus Corydoras Catfish, Veiltail Hifin Corydoras Paleatus Catfish, Clown Loaches, Banded Kuhli Loaches.

Brackish – Anableps anableps Four-eye Fish, Asian Mudskippers, Bumble Bee Gobies, Red Scatophagus, Archerfish, Figure Eight Puffers.

Tetras / Rasboras / Barbs / Danios – XL Florida Bred Cardinal Tetras, Rummynose Tetras, Odessa Barbs, XL Florida Bred Neon Tetras.

Gouramis / Bettas – Ctenopoma ansorgii, Tank Bred Chocolate Gouramis (very hard to get).

Cichlids (Dwarf, South American, African) – Large Oscars, XL Jaguar Cichlids, Large Jack Dempseys, XL Convict Cichlids, Large Altispinosa Bolivian Rams.

Other – Monster Size Silver Arowana, Jumbo Tiger Shovelnose, Jumbo Gold Osphrenemus Gourami, XXL Clown Knifefish, Blackberry Japonica Shrimp, Blue Dolphin Sharks, Yellowtail Cigar Sharks, Medium Silver Arowanas (very nice), Common Freshwater Stingrays, Albino Clawed Frogs, Asian Mudskippers.

Goldfish – (**Now in Stock**) Celestial Eye Goldfish Mixed, Medium Mixed Chinese Ryukins, Medium Mixed Chinese Orandas, Small Black Moors, Mixed USA Fantails, Lemon Head Orandas.

HANS GERMAN DISCUS NOW IN STOCK AND READY FOR SALE – INCREDIBLE!
The following color strains are available in a 3”-4” size: Flache n (Green Turquoise), Blue Pigeon Blood, Red Pigeon Blood, Marlboro Red, Blue Cobalt & Blue Diamond.

The list above represents only the most recent livestock shipment. We have MANY other species available at the store!

SALTWATER FISH (Arrived Wednesday Morning):

Angels / Butterflyfish – Koran Angelfish, Coral Beauty Angelfish, Male Watanabei Angelfish (beautiful).

Clownfish – African Allardi Clownfish, Solomon Island Maroon Clownfish, Sumatra Ocellaris Clownfish.

Gobies / Blennies – Bicolor Blennies, Orange Spotted Guttata Gobies, Dragon Sifter Gobies, Firefish Gobies, Algae Blennies, XL Mandarin Dragonets, Cool Checkered Blenny (Tonga),

Starry Algae Blennies, White Ray Yashia Goby, Candy Cane Gobies.

Wrasses / Hogfish – Fiji Sixline Wrasses, Mexican Rainbow Wrasses, Juvenile Hawaiian Red Coris Wrasse.

Tangs / Rabbitfish – Hawaiian Yellow Tangs, Sailfin Tangs, Chocolate Tangs, Foxface Rabbitfish, Orange Spot Rabbitfish.

Triggerfish / Eels / Puffers – Clown Triggerfish, Humu Triggerfish, Niger Triggerfish.

Lionfish – M/L Beautiful Antennata Lionfish.

Other – Panther Groupers, Glass Cardinalfish (only 1), Kauderni Cardinalfish, Fiji Pajama Cardinalfish, Flame Hawkfish, **Blue Spotted Jawfish** (hard to get this time of year), Blue Damsel fish, Fourstripe Damsel fish.

INVERTEBRATES:

Snails / Cucumbers / Starfish / Urchins – Vietnam Turbo Snails, Caribbean Astrea Snails, XL Nassarius Snails (elephantnose snails), Orange Linkia Reef Starfish, Red Fromia Reef Starfish, Red Tile Reef Starfish, Cool Black Spike Starfish (not for reefs), Tuxedo Algae Urchins.

Crustaceans – Caribbean Peppermint Shrimp, Green Emerald Crabs, Algae Eating Reef Hermits, Orange Michael's Pistol Shrimp (beautiful), Red Pistol Shrimp, Candy Cane Pistol Shrimp, **Red Fire Shrimp**.

Corals / Polyps / Mushrooms – Rare Orange Scolymia Meat Coral, Neon Blasstomussa wellsi Coral, **Rare Orange Branching Hammer Coral**, Metallic Cynarina Modern Meat Corals, Lime Green Pectinia Coral, Rasta Leather Corals, **Super Pulsing Xenia Corals**.

Other – Beautiful Bubble Anemones, Pink/Peach Tube Anemone, Long Tentacle Anemones, **Green Hairy Seahares**, Fiji Premium Live Rock (100lbs).

This list is based on our most recent shipment of saltwater livestock. There are many other species available in the store not included in this list.