



June 18, 2008

tideline aquatics Newsletter

Tideline Aquatics Store Hours

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

A CHALLENGING GROUP OF FISH: THE PIPEFISH – GOOD & BAD CHOICES



THE COMMON BANDED PIPEFISH - DORYRHAMPHUS DACTYLIOPHORUS

One of the biggest mistake aquarists make is purchasing an animal for their aquarium before they are aware of what kind of care the animal will require to survive. This is often the case with



THE JANSSE PIPEFISH – DORYRHAMPHUS JANSSEI

seahorses and pipefish. While most seahorses available in the hobby today are tank bred and will accept a mixture of frozen foods, pipefish are still collected from the wild and have no idea

what to do with food that is not live (frozen or freeze-dried). Regardless of the pipefish species you choose to buy, you must first consider whether your aquarium will support one of these delicate animals. The common banded pipefish is offered by most retailers (not Tideline Aquatics) yet this pipefish nearly always dies within 4-6 weeks of being added to the aquarium. Why? Banded pipefish almost never accept any food choice unless it is live and then it must be a tiny size live food choice that is offered 2-3 times per day. Pipefish must be housed in an aquarium with established live rock, low current and with fish that will not out-compete them for food. The best tankmates for pipefish would be seahorses and tiny gobies like Priolepsis species, Clown Gobies and perhaps Trimma Goby species. Most other fish are just too competitive at dinner time and will eventually starve out your pipefish and seahorses.

There are over 200 species of pipefish, most being marine species, some being brackish species and even a few species found in freshwater. Like seahorses, the males carry the eggs in a pouch-like area near the tail. After the eggs hatch, the fry are released and there is no parental care from that point forward. Due to the tiny mouths of pipefish, tiny food items are preferred like live brine shrimp nauplii (not a complete diet), tiny amphipods and copepods. A good home for a pipefish would be in an established refugium filled with seagrasses and macroalgae.

At Tideline, we have found only one species of pipefish that seems to easily adapt to prepared foods like frozen mysis shrimp, Cyclops, reef plankton and similar frozen foods. This species is the Janss' Pipefish (*Doryrhamphus janssi*). This is not an easy pipefish species to obtain but they are worth the wait. The Janss' pipefish is a nocturnal species meaning they are out feeding once the lights in the aquarium are off. This is

also when you should offer them food. You should be able to actively see your pipefish eat BEFORE you take it home. After some research, it appears best if only one species of pipefish is housed per aquarium. Some species can become territorial and may intimidate another species to the point where it may not come out to feed thus starving itself to death.



**THE DRAGONFACE PIPEFISH –
CORYTHOICHTHYS HAEMATOPTERUS**

Regardless of which pipefish species you choose, remember that none of them are considered hardy unless you are willing to meet the nutritional requirements needed for these animals to survive. Be smart and choose a species with a good record for captive survival. If consumers continue to purchase species that die in captivity, collectors will continue to import them into our hobby.



**THE FRESHWATER PIPEFISH –
DORYICHTHYS BOAJA**

We wanted to mention the Asian freshwater pipefish here for you freshwater hobbyists. We have brought these in to the store several times in the last couple of years. Each time, we have had ZERO success with getting them to eat anything but live newborn guppies and a few other tiny live foods. We have even tried tiny grass shrimp, live mosquito larvae and even live blackworms.

Though the freshwater pipefish have taken some of these food choices, it has never been enough to sustain their health. For this reason, we will no longer stock this species of pipefish. Perhaps, like seahorses, tank bred pipefish will one day be available to our hobby. Until that time, we suggest only dedicated hobbyists take on the responsibility of keeping the delicate pipefish in captivity. There are many other incredible marine and freshwater fish to choose from that have a much better record for captive survival.

THE YELLOW CITRON GOBY (GOBIODON CITRINUS)



Unlike the picky eating common clown goby, the Citron Goby is a bold feeder accepting most meaty frozen foods in captivity. In the reef aquarium, the Citron Goby will perch in branching Acropora species and/or branching Leather corals. This fish is hardy, disease resistant and peaceful with other tankmates but NOT with each other. Keep only one Citron Goby per tank unless you are sure you have a pair that has bonded before you purchase them. As far as other fish, just be sure to house them with peaceful tankmates like shrimp gobies, sifter gobies, dwarf angelfish, smaller peaceful hawkfish, cardinalfish, mellow clownfish species and the like. Rowdy fish like triggerfish, lionfish, groupers, etc will likely make a dinner out of a laid back Citron Goby! As with any fish you purchase, ensure that the Citron Goby you are planning on purchasing actively feeds in the store BEFORE you take it home. Never purchase a marine fish that does not actively feed or has a sunken belly. The Citron Gobies we currently have in the store were all collected in Fiji and have full bellies with good color! This is an

excellent choice even for nano aquariums as they only reach about 2” long at full size.

THE NEWLY IMPORTED –
FRESHWATER SAMURAI GOBY
(STIPHODON SAMURAI)



In the last year, we have seen several new Stiphodon goby species arriving from Malaysia. Most reach about 3” at full size and require a peaceful aquarium with low organic levels (clean water), high oxygen content and good circulation. Though the gobies of this group appear to accept meaty frozen foods, we have had little success with getting them to eat flake or pellet type foods. For this reason, ensure you are willing to give this fish an accepted diet BEFORE you take one home. These fish are relatively inexpensive and at this time, they appear quite secretive. What little information we have been able to obtain on these fish has included that they tend to graze on algae in the wild and an algae-based food should be included in their diet. We have been unable to get them to accept any type of algae pellet thus far. The group that arrived on Tuesday has a metallic sheen as the one pictured above. If you do purchase one of these beautiful freshwater gobies, be sure to share your experience with us to further everyone’s knowledge on these beautiful new gobies from Malaysia.

WHATS NEW AT TIDELINE?

FEEDERS: (ARRIVED TUESDAY!!)

Feeder Goldfish, Feeder Guppies, Feeder Crayfish, Feeder Fiddler Crabs, Ghost Shrimp.
NOTE: Live Black Worms & Rosey Redds were back-ordered!!

FRESHWATER FISH:

Livebearers – Candy Mickey Mouse Platies, Marigold Painted Swordtails, Red Velvet Swordtails, Assorted Platies, Silver Mollies, Black Yucatan Mollies, Dalmation Mollies.

Catfish/Loaches/Plecostomus – Gold Nugget Plecostomus, M/L Common Plecostomus, Rubber Plecostomus, Albino Corydoras Catfish, Jullii Corydoras Catfish, Arcuatus Skunk Corydoras Catfish, Corydoras Schwartzi Catfish, Cool Zorro Shovelnose Catfish, Clown Plecostomus, Common Plecostomus, Four-line Pictus Catfish, Small & Medium Clown Loaches, Angellicus Loaches, Yoyo Lohachata Loaches, Striata Loaches.

Brackish – Black River Pufferfish, South American Tiger Pufferfish, Figure Eight Pufferfish, Bumble Bee Gobies, Green Scatophagus, Tank Bred Mono Sebae, Green Spotted Pufferfish, Archerfish.

Tetras / Rasboras / Barbs / Danios – Large Cardinal Tetras, Red Cherry Barbs, Tiger Barbs, Medium Silver Dollars, Red Serpae Tetras, White Cloud Mountain Minnows, XL Neon Tetras, Marble Hatchetfish, Green Fire Tetras, Lg Emperor Tetras, Black Skirt Tetras, Pristella Maxillaris Tetras, Rummynose Tetras, Gold Barbs, Giant Danios.

Gouramis / Bettas – Green Emerald Fighter Bettas (Betta smaragdina), Opaline Gouramis, Super Male Bettas, Gold Honey Gouramis (nice size), Neon Dwarf Gouramis, Powder Blue Dwarf Gouramis, Red Flame Dwarf Gouramis, Lg Gold Gouramis, Mixed Color Female Bettas.

Cichlids (Dwarf, South American, African) – Wild Caught Altum Angelfish (Nice), Silver Veil Angelfish, Zebra Lace Veil Angelfish, Koi Angelfish, Gold Veil Angelfish, Medium Assorted Angelfish, Frontosa African Cichlids, Assorted Premium Mbuna African Cichlids, Curvicep Dwarf Cichlids, Lg Geophagus Jurupari Eartheaters, Small Tank Bred Geophagus Jurupari Eartheaters, Pike Cichlids, Assorted Small Oscars, Assorted Medium Oscars, Texas Cichlids, Red Salvini Cichlids.

Other – Medium Silver Dollars, South American Dragonfish Gobies, New Samurai Gobies, Dwarf African Frogs, Albino Clawed Frogs, African

Mudskippers, Roseline Denisonii Sharks, Mixed Mystery Snails, Japanese Trapdoor Snails, Freshwater Nerite Snails, Bala Sharks, Iridescent Sharks, Rainbow Sharks, Redtail Black Sharks, Lg Tiretrack Eels, Medium Silver Arowanas, Red Starfire & Orange Glo-fish, Orange Japonical Shrimp, Red Cherry Shrimp, Common Japonica Shrimp.

Goldfish – Small Assorted Fantail Goldfish, Small Black Moors, Medium Black Telescope Eyes, Medium Assorted Orandas, Medium Assorted Ryunkin Fantails.

**Koi, Pond Fish and Pond Plants –
New Shipment!!!**

M/L Butterfly Koi, M/L Domestic Koi, S/M Red Pond Comets, M/L Red & White Sarasa Pond Comets, Medium Shubunkins, Small Domestic Koi, Bright Blue Varieties of Tropical Water Lilies, Mixed Color Hardy Water Lilies, Blooming Potted Lotus (awesome), Night Blooming Tropical Water Lilies, Parrots Feather, Mixed 1 Gallon Bog Plants, Pitcher Plants and more!!!

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

SALTWATER FISH:

Angels / Butterflyfish – Fiji Coral Beauty Angelfish, Hawaiian Flame Angelfish, Rare Goldflake Angelfish, Super Rare Blueline Angelfish, Juvenile Koran Angelfish, Juvenile Annularis Angelfish

Clownfish – True Black Ocellaris Clownfish, Goldbar Maroon Clownfish, Small Common Maroon Clownfish, Sebae Clownfish, Ocellaris Clownfish, Tank Bred – Skunk, Tomato, Ocellaris, True Percula Clownfish.

Gobies / Blennies – Cebu Starry Algae Blennies, Yellow Priolepsis Gobies, Fiji Yellow Citron Clown Gobies, Common Yellow Clown Gobies, Firefish Gobies, Red Neon Trimma Gobies, Black Cap Jawfish, Orange Striped Randall Gobies, Bluefin Watchman Gobies, Scooter ‘Blennies’, Green Mandarin Dragonets, Two Spot Sifter Gobies, Candy Cane Gobies, Diamond Sifter Gobies, Golden Head Sifter Gobies, Klausowitz’s Blennies, RARE Dracula Gobies, Yashia Haze Gobies, Yellow Watchman

Gobies, Helfrichi Firefish Gobies, Dragon Sifter Gobies.

Wrasses / Hogfish – Male Scotts Fairy Wrasses, Fiji Sixline Wrasses, Male Balteatus Fairy Wrasses, Temminck’s Fairy Wrasses, Lunare Wrasses, Banded Wrasses.

Tangs / Rabbitfish – Orangefin Tominensis Tangs, Hawaiian Yellow Tangs, Two Bar Rabbitfish (little guys), Small, Large & XL Blue Regal Tangs, Maldives Powder Blue Tangs, Lineatus Clown Tangs, Red Sea Purple Tangs, Unicorn Tangs, Powder Brown Tangs, Red Sea Sohal Tang.

Triggerfish / Eels / Puffers – Bursa Triggerfish, Stars and Stripes Dogface Pufferfish, Small & Medium Dogface Pufferfish, Bluespot Sharpnose Pufferfish, Magnificent Foxface Rabbitfish, XL Bluespot Rabbitfish, Clown Triggerfish, Niger Triggerfish, Black Indicus Triggerfish, Snowflake Moray Eels.

Lionfish – Hawaiian SpheX Lionfish (cool), Fuzzy Dwarf Lionfish, Zebra Dwarf Lionfish.

Other – Large Kauderni Cardinalfish, Yellow Anglerfish, Royal Grammas, Green Chromis, Blue Devil Damsel fish, Fiji Blue Devil Damsel fish, Small Red Flame Hawkfish, Janss’ Pipefish, Tank Bred Yellow Seahorses, Whiptail Snapper, Dark-Banded Fusillers, Bartlett’s Anthias, Assorted Damsel fish, Neon Velvet Damsel fish

INVERTEBRATES:

Snails / Cucumbers / Starfish / Urchins – Awesome Spiny Star Astraea Snails (Caribbean), Black & White Spiral Trochus Snails, Chestnut Turbo Snails, Blue Tuxedo Urchins, XL Nassarius Snails, Indian Ocean Sea Apple, Chocolate Chip Starfish, Green Brittle Starfish, Cerith Snails.

Crustaceans – Red Tip Reef Hermits, Yellow Tip Caribbean Reef Hermits, Cleaner Shrimp, Neon Blue Knuckle Reef Hermits, Coral Banded Shrimp, Tiger Pistol Shrimp, Candy Cane Pistol Shrimp, Pom Pom Crabs.

Corals / Polyps / Mushrooms – Neon Hydno-phora Coral, Ultra Blasstomussa wellsii Coral, Beautiful Cultured Acropora Coral Species, Green & Purple Frogspawn Corals,

Metallic Hammer Corals, Spiny Cup Pectinia Corals, Green Seriatorphora Coral, Red & Green Lobophyllia Corals, Orange & White Lobophyllia Corals, Australian Super Symphyllia Coral, Australian Super Red Lobophyllia Coral, Yellow Leather Corals, Green Mumps Leather Corals, Super Caulestra Candy Corals, Green Fox Coral, Yellow Branching Porties Corals, Green Pipe Organ Coral, Red Chili Soft Coral, Green Star Polyp Rocks, Yellow Polyp Rocks, Assorted Color Zoanthid Rocks.

Other – 150lbs Fresh Premium Fiji Live Rock, Red Hard Tube Coco Worm Dusters, Quality Bubble Anemones, Bright Color Long Tentacle Anemones, Sebae Anemones, Saddle Carpet Anemone, Assorted Crocea Clams, Golden Derasa Clams.

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