

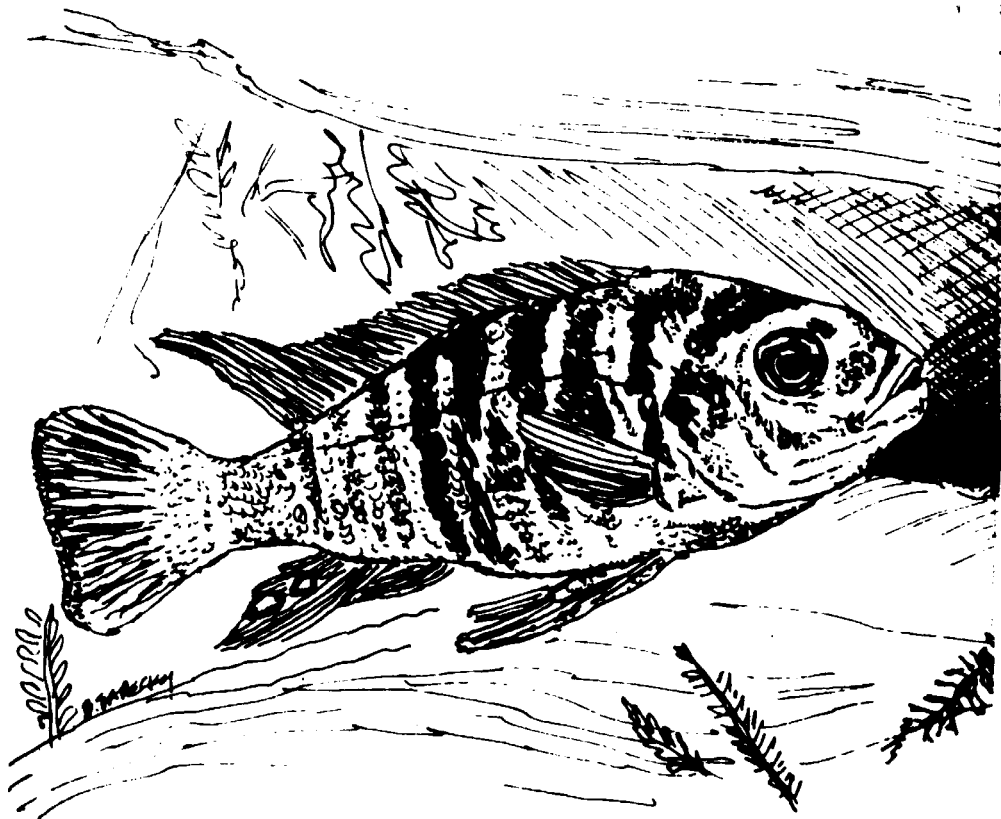
* DELTA TALE *

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Inc.



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From The President

Here's a few words that sound just like something that I wrote last year, probably because I felt the same way last year too. I'm talking about the Open Fish Room in February at Jim Lonz's. There certainly was lots to enjoy and observe. There were plenty of people there to see just about anything you could imagine in the aquatic hobby although African Cichlids were conspicuously at a minimum. Even Jim keeps some Goodeids, although they are on the lowest level so you have to crawl around to see them. I missed them, because I refuse to stoop so low for them. (It is getting hard to think up all this stuff about Goodeids.) Back to Jim's place. At the peak of excitement there was very little elbow room between tanks or people. Everyone can learn something at Jim's as well as other Open Fish Rooms we will be having. Try and be there.

One word of importance to all and to no one in particular; come a little early to the meeting if you wish to register fish for the mini-auction or the bowl show. Everyone seems to come right at 8:00 and we have been starting late. The building opens at 7:15 and people are there by 7:30. So why not come a few minutes early and socialize and then we can get started on time and be out at a reasonable hour. Some of us live so far away that it is 11:30 before we get home. And if there are fish to put away...

Work is moving along for the Spring Show. How about your favorite fish? Is he/she ready to be put on display? Sure, why not. Let's make this year a good one for PVAS and prove that our Show can be a big one. So pamper your babies and lets see how they stand up against the rest in May.



* ed. note- when you have something very special it's worth taking a little extra effort to look at it. That's why the goodwids were on the bottom row instead of something like dwarf cichlids, or tetras, which aren't worth the effort of bending down evrytime you want to look at them. J.M..

WHATS HAPPENING IN MARCH

Program: not known at press time but sure to be something good.

Mini- auction: lots of good stuff for sale as usual. If you'r bringing something to sell please try to arrive early to register it so we don't have to listen to Gerry whinning.

Raffle: lots of stuff to be raffled off plus the usual door prize.

Bowl show: bring fish!!! Lets make Nathan really work this month.

MAKING A BIG CANISTER FILTER

by Alan Coltri

After experimenting with various types of aquarium filtration I have become a devoted fan of the external canisters of the type made by Eheim, Hagen (Fluval), Sacem and others. At first I used them only on display tanks where I wanted concealed filters, but the low maintenance requirements and the ability to use buffering materials like crushed coral in the filter soon had me wanting to use these devices on all my tanks. But, there was a problem. Money. To equip all my tanks with external canisters would cost a fortune. The immediate problem was a 100 gallon tank which I had acquired used, and for which I needed a filter.

As I pondered this problem my eye was drawn to one of my aquarium buckets. I am sure you know the type, one of those white 4 gallon buckets you can get from bakeries and donut shops. A quick comparison of my bucket's dimensions with the dimensions of the commercially available canister filters revealed that the height of the media stack was usually about 10 inches, the same height as my bucket. Even better, the cross sectional area of the bucket would permit the use of pumps rated at about 400 gallons per hour, more than ample to service my 100 gallon tank. The bucket, I decided, would be the basis of a homemade canister filter.

Having decided to try making a canister filter based on the bucket, my next move was the selection of a pump. Cost and availability were major factors, but I also wanted an easy installation. Another idea was also running through my mind. I knew that the canister would seldom need to be cleaned and past experience had shown that charcoal, removed from a 6 month old canister, showed little sign of still being active as an adsorbant. Perhaps I could design my filter so that the charcoal could be replaced easily without breaking down the canister. The solution to both my pump selection and my charcoal problem was found in the Vortex Diatom-XL filter. The flow rate was right and the one gallon jar of the XL could easily hold the carbon with room to spare.

I decided to use conventional media for my filter so the only remaining design problems were related to designing a top for the canister, sealing it and providing the proper fittings for water flow. The accompanying drawings show how I worked these out in the design.

The top is made of two pieces of 3/4 inch plywood glued together with epoxy and painted with epoxy paint, a type intended for the refinishing of sinks and appliances. The bottom piece had to be cut round to a size that would fit snugly into the top of the bucket after it was painted. This piece is not part of the seal, its purpose is to make the bucket round since any bucket which has been carried by the handle will have been distorted to an oval shape. Cutting this piece to a precise circle with a sabre saw was harder than expected. I had set up my saw in a jig with a pivot point at the center of the circle. But when I tried to go around the circle with the sabre saw the blade began to bend and walk out away from the circle creating a most

distressing situation. All you people with band saws please stop laughing. In the end I finished the cut without the jig. It took a little trial and error to get a snug fit and I ended up using a router with a planing bit, and my circle jig, to trim the part down to size. The top piece I made as an octagon, since I had discovered that cutting circles was so hard. It extends about 2 inches beyond the bucket edge at all points. On this top piece I also routed a circular channel 1/4 inch deep, 1/2 inch wide and the diameter of the top of the bucket. This channel holds the silicone sealant which forms the seal for the top.

A third wood piece also had to be made. It forms a collar which fits around the bucket butting up against the flanges which run around the bucket about two inches below the top edge. Carriage bolts passed up through this collar, and through the top described above, hold the top down firmly. I used eight carriage bolts with washers and wing nuts to distribute the load evenly.

PVC pipe was used for the hose fittings. The inlet and outlet are both 1/2 inch I.D. which fits perfectly with the XL hoses. The outlet is set flush with the bottom surface of the wood top, and was placed near the edge to make it easier to purge air bubbles from the canister. The inlet tube passes through the wood top and extends down to the bottom of the bucket where the bottom edge of the tube was cut at an angle to permit water flow. Both the inlet and the outlet tube were cemented to the wood top with epoxy. A grating was needed at the bottom of the bucket to allow the water to be distributed. I made my grating out of a white plastic grid made for ceiling lights with 3/4 inch PVC legs attached by silicone sealant. As part of this assembly I attached a 3/4 inch I.D. PVC pipe which extends from the bottom of the bucket to just below the bottom edge of the installed top. The inlet tube slides into this pipe. A good seal was made between these two pipes by placing a rubber band around the inlet tube up near the top.

The critical element of this design, the sealing of the canister, was left until the end. When all the parts described were assembled and painted I was ready to tackle the silicone seal. Using a wide bead of silicone sealant I filled the channel in the top and went over it once with a putty knife to get a smooth surface. After the sealant developed a hard skin, but while it was still soft inside, I put the top on the bucket and pressed it down firmly. I had smoothed the top edge of the bucket lightly with very fine sandpaper and had coated it with silicone "o" ring lubricant. Hoping for the best I let the thing sit for a couple of days.

Although the silicone sealant did not really stick to the bucket it did stick well enough to give me a real fight getting the top off the first time. In order to get it off I finally had to hook up a hose to a faucet and attach it to the bucket inlet to pressurize the bucket. A second hose, attached to the outlet, was pinched to control the amount of pressure applied. With some pressure and a good deal of pulling it finally came off and gave me a perfect molded silicone seal. I did this job in the bathtub, and it was a good thing I did.

The only thing that remained was to load up the filter. I used Biomech, which doesn't fall through the holes in the bottom grating, and above that Ehfimech which is slightly smaller. This was followed by a 3 and 1/2 inch

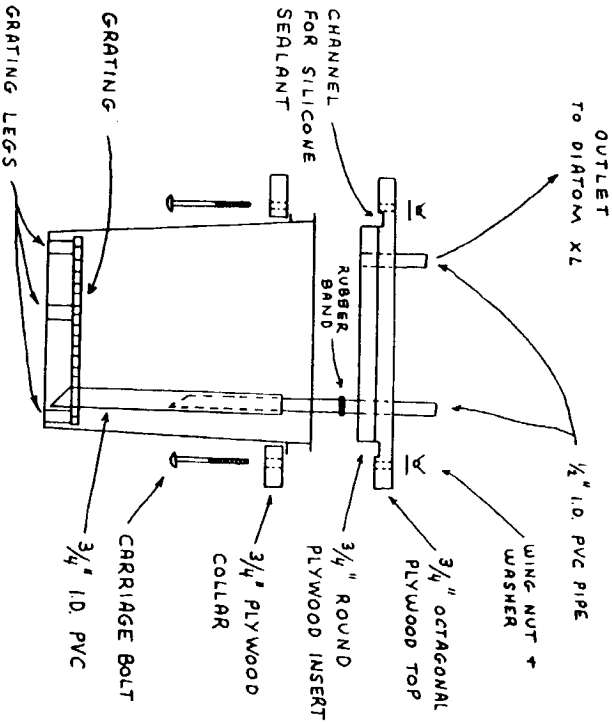
layer of Aquaclear 1200 sponges cut to fit, and a 3 inch layer of coarse crushed coral. Using a generous amount of "o" ring sealant I put the top on and tightened the carriage bolts finger tight. The filter was now ready to attach to the XL.

I used the XL with the diatom filter bag replaced by a homemade carbon canister made from a Biomech plastic container and fiberglass window screen. The label on the Biomech container came off with the help of a hair dryer and some ammonia to remove the remaining glue. I drilled a great many holes in the container and in a section of 1" airlift tubing. I then cut a hole in the bottom of the container and passed the airlift tube through it. Both the tube and the container were covered with fiberglass screen held in place by rubber bands. The accompanying drawing will help give you the idea.

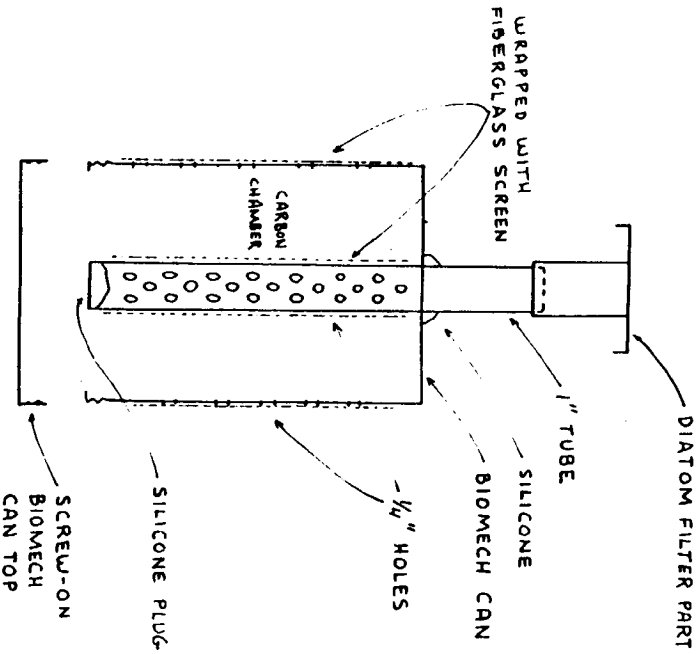
As installed, with complete plumbing and media, my set-up gave a flow rate of 180 gallons per hour. This decrease from the rated flow of 400 gallons per hour at a one foot head is typical of other canister filters that I am familiar with and is due to the resistance of the plumbing and the media. The total cost was only \$35 for materials, \$45 for media, plus the cost of a Diatom filter. I am exceptionally happy with the filter so far and am anxiously looking forward to the time (about 6 months from now) when it will be time to tear it down for cleaning.

If anyone else out there would like to try this type of design I would love to hear from you.

4 GALLON CANISTER FILTER



XL CARBON CANISTER



Corydoras paleatus

by Nathan Manwaring

Corydoras paleatus is a very attractive grey-green catfish with black mottling. According to Exotic Tropical Fishes by T.F.H. it originates from southern Brazil and northern Argentina. It prefers neutral to acidic water and a temperature of 70° to 80°F.

Corydoras paleatus was at one time one of the most popular catfishes in the aquarium hobby after its introduction in the 1930's. For some reason it eventually disappeared from the aquarium hobby. Recently, however, it has again become available, though not in great numbers. Most of the fish now available are young fish about one inch in length. These are obtained by pet shop owners from local breeders.

I obtained my two pairs from one of the breeders in our club. The two males were 1½ inches long and the females were 2 inches long. I housed the fish in a ten gallon aquarium. The aquarium was planted with Vallioneria. They first spawned two weeks after I got them. I was busy with other fish so that I did not save the eggs.

They next spawned a month later. I scraped about 40 eggs off the side, and placed them in a two quart bowl with a drop of Acriflavine. About 35 fry hatched, but all of them died a day later. The next time they spawned, I repeated what I had done before, except that I did not use Acriflavine. I had collected 40 eggs and about 35 hatched again, but this time they survived. I moved the fry to a 6 quart all-glass rectangular aquarium two days after hatching. The fry took newly hatched brine shrimp as their first food. After two weeks, I also fed them powder food and flake food.

At thirty days, I changed their diet to almost entirely flake and powder food. The fry continued to thrive at 60 days. The fry were ¾ inch long. So I moved them to a five gallon aquarium where they are still located. They are now 1 inch long and still doing quite well. There are about 25 fry.

The adults continue to spawn about every two to four weeks. I have not saved any more of their eggs. This fish is good for beginners, because it is a very hardy and prolific fish. There is supposed to be an Albino variety. It is pictured in Exotic Tropical Fishes. It is a very handsome fish and would be a good addition to the aquarium hobby.

Ed. note- the following is part of a letter sent to me by PVAS member Beth Lindenburg. I thought it was worth reprinting here.

J.M.

ps. I just wanted to tell you about a courageous little fish I own. It's not every day that one encounters a life-loving "Angel"!

I purchased a small dime-sized angel fish from a friend recently, which I thought was very beautiful. This little babe was my new pride and joy. I respectively named it HIGH HOPES, since I had high hopes for it's showing career.

One morning I walked into my "fish room" and, alas, HIGH HOPES was no where to be found! My first thought, "I am soon going to find a dead, black-colored, flat as a dime, fish!" My first reaction was to look thoroughly around the tank and then check the filter, ugh!

I found HIGH HOPES on the hard, cold floor, still glistening, but he had been out of the water for a considerably long time, his fins were sticking to the floor! I gently picked up his flat, mangled body and put him back in his watery realm. He slowly glided down to the bottom of the tank. His fins were stuck together and he looked as though he would die any minute. I felt a thousand regrets in that short period of time. I decided not to watch him, I would feel too depressed.

The next morning I decided I had enough nerve to go and look in his tank. To my amazement he was swimming around, picking at the gravel for food. It has been about 1 - 2 weeks since his "air expedition", though he looks like he's been through the "toilet" and back, he still has HIGH HOPES to live! Maybe his fins will mend, but he still is gorgeous and any expert fish person can tell he is (was) show-worthy!

Sincerely yours,

Beth Lindenburg

Beth Lindenburg

THE DIAMOND TETRA: MOENKHAUSIA PITTIERI

Gerry Hoffman, PVAS

The name says it all: Diamonds. Who wouldn't love to possess those gorgeous gems that are the symbol of beauty par excellence? The iridescent sparkle that one sees in the stone is also seen in the glitter reflected from the scales of a Tetra that once was very popular in the aquarium hobby. The fish carries the same name as the expensive gemstone, Diamond Tetra. Scientifically it is known as Moenkhausia pittieri.

Its name is appropriate, for it is a beauty when placed in a dimly lit aquarium. Under these conditions, its scales glitter and sparkle with a brilliance to match the most expensive of diamonds. Males flare and spread their finnage while engaging in mock battles, and the pale violet color of their elongated dorsals and anals add to their royal splendor. Females have slightly shorter shorter fins, but a definite plumpness to the abdomen. With lighting from behind and through the fish, the numerous eggs appear pinkish within the belly of the fish. Actually they are the typical clear/amber color of Characin eggs, but seem to be pinkish while inside the female.

Literature on the fish recommends that a large well-planted tank is best for their maintenance. My four pair of young adults were given my most thickly planted 55 gallon set-up. With adequate room and sufficient food, they grew rapidly and began to display to their opposite sexes. Flake foods, frozen foods, and live foods were all equally accepted, but the introduction of live foods into their environment really got their excitement level up.

Once the group reached sexual maturity and the fish were observed to engage in spawning behaviors, a large mass of Java Moss was positioned at one end of the long tank. The surface area was covered with floating Ceratophyllum which was thick and robust. No filtration was used, nor were there any other species of fish present. Water changes were done weekly or biweekly depending on my desire to spawn the fish. Since the fish were freely pairing off around the Java Moss, I elected to let them spawn in their large surroundings and attempt to retrieve the eggs from the tank.

Approximately every other day I would place a one gallon drum bowl in the tank and underwater stuff the Java Moss into it, immediately removing the bowl from the tank. Upon shaking the moss, eggs could be seen falling to the bottom of the bowl. Sometimes I would miss a day or two and the shaking would reveal a fallout of newborn fry, not old enough to swim but alive enough to wiggle around. These wigglers often made a hasty exit from the clump of Java Moss before it could be moved into the drum bowl, so I often siphoned water from the bottom of the tank and recovered several more fry this way. I rotated batches of Java Moss so there was always a spawning site for the fish if they were in the mood to breed.

Later on the adults also spawned in the thick growth of Ceratophyllum. Removing these eggs presented a problem, until I discovered a method. Gentle shaking of the plants let the eggs slowly sink downwards, and they could be sucked up in a kitchen-type baster. Newly hatched fry would twist and swirl through the water and it was hard to suck them up before they were eaten by the parents. A good days catch would be about 25 fry or eggs. Presumably most of the eggs were sought out and eaten by the hungry adults. Occasionally a baby was observed hiding among the plants. Five or six grew large enough to freely come out for

food and play with each other. If they were big enough to do this they were left alone.

Care of the fry was relatively simple. Allowed to hatch within the Java Moss, there was a natural flora of microorganisms. This was supplemented with regular feedings of the rotifer *Philodina*. Almost after hatching the fry seemed capable of eating newly hatched brine shrimp. Growth proved to be astonishingly rapid with continuous feedings of the baby brine and later on flake foods.

Moenkhausia pittieri is an easy Tetra to maintain and does well under most any conditions. The very soft acid water required by many difficult to spawn Tetras is not a must for this species. In fact, I have been told that Lake Valencia, in Venezuela, where this fish hails from, has relatively hard water. In addition, industrial pollution may be slowly destroying the only known habitat of a very beautiful fish. This fish is rarely seen in the aquarium trade these days and such only hobbyists may be the main source of distribution. If enough interested hobbyists keep this fish alive, then we will truly be able to say Diamonds are forever.

THE MIRROR

PAT MAHONEY

REPRINTS

Spawning Two Species of Dwarf Cichlids, Mark Steele,
CICHLID TALES, The Texas Cichlid Association, JAN-FEB 1985.

REVIEWS

Cloudy Water, John Mangan;

REPORTER, North Jersey Aquarium Society, JAN 1985.

TROPIQUARIUM, Motor City Aquarium Society, JAN 1985.

FINS 'N TALES, Kitchner-Waterloo Aquarium Society,
JAN 1985.

HOT CHOCOLATE

by Klink Cook, NCAS

One of the prettier, although quite delicate, aquarium fish is the chocolate gourami (Sphaerichthys osphromenoides). It is a chocolate brown colored fish with pale white or yellow vertical stripes. Its body shape follows the classical gourami lines. The fish is a member of the anabantids, or air breathing fishes. The chocolate gourami, as other gouramis, posses a special organ which enables it to take oxygen out of the atmosphere. It also breathes through the normal methods of gills.

The auxiliary breathing organ is located in the top portion of the gill area. It has a complicated system of lamella where the exchanges between the blood and the air gases occur. The lamella, or layer system, is covered by a thin tissue. Because of this ability to extract vital oxygen from the air, the chocolate gourami can survive in polluted water and in waterways where decay and rot are rampant. The fish does well in oxygen poor water where any number of things can drain the oxygen supply.

Although the fish can also breath through its gill mechanism, it is generally believed that it cannot survive without the aid of the air-breathing apparatus. Some authorities say the fish actually will drown if kept from surfacing!

The chocolate gourami is also well suited for its natural habitat, the humid hot areas of Sumatra and Malaya. It lives in the shallow, sluggish waterways and stagnant ditches of jungles and farms where the atmosphere hangs heavy with humidity and the temperature is virtually steaming.

Most of the natural homesites for the chocolate gourami are choked with dense vegetation, the waters are dark, soft and rich in humic acid. Bottoms of the creeks, ditches and ponds are sometimes sandy, but most often are covered with much rotting plant material. Such conditions make the water, combined with the temperature, generally extremely poor in oxygen. The hotter the water the lower the oxygen supply, and these fish like it 82°F (27.77°C) or hotter. In such waterways, they compete with the dense vegetation for oxygen at least a third of the time or more.

The chocolate gourami, according to Dr. Herbert Axelrod, has been taken from waters as hard as 0.3 to 5 DH with a pH of 5.5 to 7.0 and temperatures ranging from 85° to 92°F. Only by breathing air, it seems, could the fish survive.

The species was first described in 1860. It ranges in color from gray brown to deep chocolate with some reddish undertones. The extremely healthy chocolate gourami will acquire such a reddish tint. In some of the chocolate gouramis, the front part

Hot Chocolate cont.-

of the belly and the throat may have a pale, yellowish cast to them. Scales have a dark edge, mottled mostly over the largest portion of the body which is thick and relatively short with definite lateral compression.

Markings on the sides are irregularly arranged pale yellow or white bars. The first bar runs from one eye, over the forehead, to the other eye. A well marked bar usually reaches over the gill cover to the pectoral fins. Other vertical bars - two to three or more - are on the rear half of the body.

In spawning, the dark spots of the body turn almost black and the pale markings either become paler or appear so because of the dark color change. However, the fish tends to lose color at night or when frightened.

The dorsal and anal fins begin way up front on the anterior half of the body. One ventral fin ray is threadlike and elongated. Fins are believed to be poorly developed in females. It is not a very prolific fish, even in its native habitat, and the fry are slow to develop.

Although known to aquarists for more than half a century, not very much is known about the chocolate gouramis life style or spawning habits. Because of this, many believe it is a hard to keep fish. Considerable controversy has surrounded its spawning. Because it is a gourami, a labyrinth fish, it was believed for a long time that it was a bubble-nester, as are most of the labyrinth anabantoids. Others who have witnessed spawnings, say the fish is a bottom egg-layer. And yet others, such as Hans Richter (famous German fish keeper), say it is a mouthbrooder!

Most authorities are now contending that the fish is a mouth-brooder. And they note that breeding it is difficult and therefore, there are few reports available of it having been done. One author hints that the chocolate gourami is all three. J. J. Hoedeman, who wrote the voluminous Naturalists Guide to Freshwater Aquarium Fish, advances the theory that the chocolate gouramis breeding methods change to suit its environment. He says flatly that all previous observations should not be trusted and notes that the three methods of spawning - bubble-nesting, mouthbrooding, and bottom laying - are not very far apart.

Additionally, says Hoedeman, there is the possibility that several varieties of the species exist. Pellegrin described in 1930 a second variety Sphaerichthys vaillanti from Borneo's Kapulas River. The fish was first thought to be identical to Ctenops nobilis. Examination of the specimen revealed it did not have the glands in the mouth for producing the special saliva needed by bubble-nesters. Additional dissection showed that the

Hot Chocolate cont.-

fish did not contain necessary organs for live breeding. But this left unanswered just how spawning occurred.

One authority claimed, from observing the fish, that eggs were laid on a stone overgrown with fine thread algae. One of the pair would pick up the eggs in its mouth, spit them out and pick them up again. However, Dr. Axelrod, in his book *Breeding Aquarium Fishes Book 3*, says the chocolate gourami is a mouthbrooder and claims that the first documented spawning of the fish was done by Hans Joachim Richter of Leipzig, East Germany, in Oct. 1971.

The specimens used were given to Richter by Dr. Axelrod who was in West Germany for a book fair and crossed the boarder with a dozen chocolate gouramis as a gift to the East German aquarist. According to the story, a pair spawned in a relatively naked tank without sand, gravel or plants. However, there was a log in the tank for the pairs use. Water was 85°F. The pair embraced on the bottom under the log. A dozen or so large amber eggs were released during the embrace. One picked up the eggs and incubated them. During the incubation period, the fish regularly and constantly pulled air from the surface, forcing it over the eggs and out the operculum. More definite information about which fish did what is difficult because sexing is imprecise. The size of the abdomen is not of much value and it is not certain which sex has the deepest color, although it is believed that the male does. Also, it is reported that the males anal fin is deeper and its dorsal fin more pointed than the females.

The male lures the female by spreading his fins and chasing her in a circle. It seems that the circle becomes increasingly smaller until the pair embraces and eggs are laid on the bottom. Despite its considered delicacy and the reputed difficulty in keeping the chocolate gourami, some aquarists say they have managed to keep them. But the fishs requirements are different from most of the more common tropicals in the living rooms of millions of Americans.

Its prime requisite is an adequate supply of heat. Water should be 82°F or hotter, ranging up to 92°F. The chocolate gourami will die if the temperature falls below 76°F. The fish comes from a hot climate where streams are slow moving, often stagnant or heavily polluted and densely vegetated. The fish lives close to the surface.

Aeration is not necessary. But a cover on the tank is a must, not so much to keep the fish from jumping out as to keep the air at the waters surface hot and humid, approximating the steamy jungle air of Sumatra and Malaya. The fish prefers a dark bottom with a lot of weedy plants. It will not hurt, in most instances probably, for mulm and plants debris to collect on the tank bottom.

Hot Chocolate cont.-

Authorities differ on the best food for the chocolate gourami. One says that it needs live food and rarely shows an interest in dried, frozen, or prepared foods. Of course, the fish's natural diet is mosquito larvae but it will take other live foods such as Daphnia, Cyclops, brine shrimp, and worms. One expert says the fish will learn to accept dried foods. However, live foods are deemed an absolute pre-condition for spawning. Fry are big and accept newly hatched brine shrimp or the equivalent.

A word of caution! The chocolate gourami is very susceptible to skin parasites and other such enemies in the tank. Water should be supplemented with a peat extract or the water should be conditioned with peat and the tank should be planted with Cryptocoryne or other shade loving plants. The tank should be kept dim.

The chocolate gourami is a peaceful fish, but because it also is quite timid, it should be kept by itself although it can survive nicely in a community tank if the temperature conditions are met. Other water requirements do not seem to be so critical.

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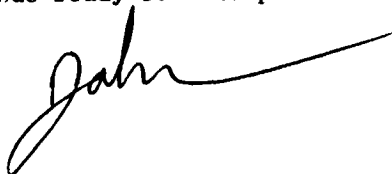
FROM THE EDITORS DES K

It seems like I just finished writing last month's page and here it is time to write another one. Well, here goes nothing...

Turnout at our first open house of the year, at Jim Long's, was very good. Jim has a lot of interesting stuff and I'm sure everyone learned something. Did you notice the breeding group of Farlowella catfish and their baby? Well they've spawned again. This time with no baby eaters in the tank. Hopefully this time Jim will end up with many more than just one fry.

The Ohio Cichlid Assoc. will be holding a fish and equipment auction on Saturday, March 16, 1985 in Middleburg Hts. Ohio. Anyone interested in more information can contact me for a list of phone numbers to call.

I don't have anything else worth saying. That's never stopped me before but this time I think I'll let it. I still have a lot of other work to do to get this issue ready for the printer. So that's it until next month....



Q and A

Any questions on fish, plants, live foods, or anything else having to do with aquariums can be sent to Delta Tale, c/o John Mangan, 9770 Oleander Ave. Vienna, Va, 22180.

Q. Since I have moved to Manassas, I have had a problem with algae. It grows uncontrollably on the glass, gravel, and even on the live plants! I have never encountered "monstrous" algae before! The water is hard water, but the ph is correct, there is salt in the water(it is not salt-water, just the required amount for livebearers). The light is fluorescent and sunlight from a neighboring window is minimal. I thought that maybe if I cut down on the light the algae would stop, but it has not. What should I do? The algae has already killed an amazon sword plant in another tank. The algae is hair-like on the amazon, but it starts off dark brown-green and turns a dark green when matured. Help!!

Thanks alot! I hope you know what to do about this crazy stuff! I didn't have a problem with it in Reston!

A. I believe that the type of algae you are describing grows better in hard water. Rosy barbs do the best job of eating it. I have it in two tanks myself. It's hard stuff to totally get rid of. I don't know how the water in Reston and Manassas differs. Does anyone out there in Manassas have a similar problem? If so what have you done about it? Let me know so I can pass the info along to the rest of our members.

Trading Post

Ads for the Trading Post should be sent to Delta Tale c/o John Mangan, 9770 Oleander Ave., Vienna, VA, 22180 by the 20th of the month prior to publication.

For Sale: 2- 10 gallon tanks, 1-5 gallon tank, 1- 2½ gallon tank, also heaters, corner filters, and lots of accessories. call Michael Rininger (703) 860-1734.

For Sale: large, black, male angel; A. steindachneri.
Want: Apistogramma agassizi, A. corumbae, A. ortmani, A. pertense, A. pleurotaenia, A. reitzeigi, Pseudotropheus zebra.
Contact Andy Hill (703) 281-6484.
(ed. note- will someone please sell Andy some fish so I don't have to type this list again next month.)

For Sale: young Cichlasoma synspilum. contact Kurt Schwarz, 232- 2049.

BOWL SHOW REPORT FOR

February

CICHLIDS

New World Medium

1st Firemouth-Julie Lamberth
2nd
3rd

Haplochromis

1st
2nd
3rd

Open

1st Ps. scolofi-David Sun
2nd Blue cobalt-David Sun
3rd

EGGLAYERS/LIVEBEARERS

Guppies

1st Redtail-Julie Lamberth
2nd
3rd

Barbs

1st
2nd
3rd

Open

1st Bleeding heart tetra-Bob Rosen
2nd Longfin zebra-Bob Pallansch
3rd Rosy tetra-Bob Rosen

Judge ^{Judge John Mangan} ~~Choice~~-Bleeding heart tetra-Bob Rosen

	<u>MONTH QUARTER ANNUAL</u>			<u>MONTH QUARTER ANNUAL</u>			
Amy Stirman	0	16	16	Nathun Manwaring	1	16	16
David Sun	10	10	10	Joe Metzger	0	14	14
Julie Lamberth	6	6	6	Gerry Hoffman	0	9	9
				Bob Rosen	8	10	10
				Julie Lamberth	9	14	14
				Bob Pallansch	4	4	4
				Amy Stirman	3	3	3
				David Sun	1	1	1
				Jason Kooken	1	1	1

Next Month

<u>Cichlids</u>	<u>Egglayer/Livebearer</u>
<u>New World dwarf</u>	<u>Killifish</u>
<u>Riftlake non-mbuna</u>	<u>Catfish non-corydoras</u>
<u>Open</u>	<u>Open</u>

Bring in some of those prize killifish and dwarf cichlids you are hiding in your fish rooms!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

BREEDER'S AWARD PROGRAM

Garland Neese	1,040	++++
Gerry Hoffman	895	++++
Pat and Maggi Mahoney	735	++++
Darrell Holman	640	++++
John Jessup	585	+++++
Ruth Brewer	305	+++
Roser Family	170	++
Wagner Family	165	++
Frank Anzilletta	140	+
Alex Cummins	125	+
Nathan Manwaring	100	+
Kenny Warren	90	+
Amy Stirman	50	+
Pat Gore	10	
Ray Krause	10	

Recent Spawnings:

Gerry Hoffman - *Glossolepis incicus*
Poecilia reticulatus
Betta picta
Julidochromis ornatus
Julidochromis dickfeldi

Nathan Manwaring - *Corydoras paleatus*

BAP Checkers:

Alex Cummins - 656-6355
Ray Hughes - 424-3531
Pat Gore - 522-3884
Jerry Stirman - 941-6729
Frank Anzilletta - 670-8980
Kenny Warren - 378-8838
Jim Long - 280-1753

POTOMAC VALLEY AQUARIUM SOCIETY, inc.



POST OFFICE BOX 6219 SHIRLINGTON STATION ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22206

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

DATE _____ 19 ____

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE CONTACTS H _____ B _____

Number of tanks _____ Time in hobby _____

Fish you have spawned _____

What can this club do for you _____

What do you want to do for the club _____

Which sub-groups of fish interest you _____

How long do you plan to be in this area? _____

Occupation _____

Membership dues for the Potomac Valley Aquarium Society are:

Family \$12.00
Individual \$10.00

Corresponding \$7.00
Junior (under 18) \$5.00

Please send application and check for dues to address above.

Potomac Valley Aquarium Society
P.O. Box 6219 Shirlington Station
Arlington, Virginia 22206

BAP - PAT
FAPS HAP Report
Call for HAP
Set up HAP

Cummins, Alexander
4422 Stanford St. 20815
Chevy Chase, Md.

Potomac Valley Aquarium Society Meets on the Following Dates in 1985

Jan. 14	May 13	Sept. 9
Feb. 11	June 10	Oct. 14
March 11	July 8	Nov. 11
April 8	Aug. 12	Dec. 9

Meetings are held at the John C. Ford Facility, Rt. 237 (Old Lee Hwy.)
Fairfax City. Everyone is welcome.

Meetings start at 8:00 P.M.
Doors open at 7:30