

The Cichlid Chronicles

SUMMER EDITION




2014



And now a message from our CCY President

There is only one thing that makes my smile like the picture above and that's summer! Warm weather, golf, cook outs and.... Oh yeah golf!! It's probably the one thing I'm as passionate about as cichlids. This newsletter I have combined the months of June, July and August into one jam packed issue! Why? Well because it's summer of course and after this long and cold winter all I really want to do is be outside. So far the CCY summer has been great! Our June meeting was a huge success with Matt Quinn returning to share with us his great trip to Uruguay. Matt brought some amazing cichlids from his trip and even invited many of us to join him on his next collecting trip! Very cool! Our auction as always had a tremendous amount of cichlids and everyone left very happy. In July several of us joined CCY member Chris Cornell for a native fish collecting trip. Inspired by Matt Quinn's presentation we all had a great time jumping into the water and collecting fish found in our very own back yard! A few weeks later and still in July we had our annual CCY cookout. Thanks to Elizabeth for cooking this year as we had no burnt burgers and better yet no injuries. Well I take that back, Shane Mell did peg a few CCY members with his Nerf Sling Shot.... I had a bounty put on Elizabeth's head and I'm sure I owe him close to a grand in cash! LOL!! August we will be taking a much needed break in preparation for our huge September meeting which will center around our 2nd annual Cichlid show- Clash of the Cichlids! This is the one time out of the year to show off your cichlids and let everyone in the area see what a great cichlid keeper you are. So get involved and who knows you may walk away with the Grand Champion trophy and your name forever immortalized! - See ya there! Scott McLaughlin




THE CCY Presents:



The Cichlid Club of York

2nd annual

CLASH OF THE CICHLIDS!!

The Cichlid Show of the Century

SEPTEMBER 27th 2014 1pm



The Cichlid Club of York



CCY JUNE MEETING



Matt Quinn

Matt Quinn made a 2nd trip to the CCY clubhouse in June to share with us his trip to Uruguay. In the meeting Matt brought many amazing cichlids that are only available for purchase in a few remote places. Matt as always captivated and educated a large CCY crowd. We really appreciate Matt visiting us and spending some time with the CCY. After Matt's presentation we ate as a large spread of food consisting of hot dogs, deviled crab eggs, cake, cookies and etc. waited for us. It was quite the feast! After our meal we began our CCY auction that was full of some amazing cichlids. We hope to see many of you at our next meeting on September 27 2014 where Kevin J Carr will be making a repeat visit as well as helping conduct our very big Clash of the Cichlids CCY Cichlid Show! If you haven't already marked it on your calendar it's going to be a blast!

-Packed Room at the CCY-





Mike Mull auctioning off another bag of great cichlids at the June meeting



WHAT GREAT CICHLIDS!!!!

-THE HOT SPOT OF EVERY MEETING THE AUCTION TABLE-



-Ain't no auction like a CCY auction cause a CCY auction knows how to rock! Ain't no auction like a CCY auction cause the CCY has the best in stock!- Sing It!!!!-



The Cichlid Club of York PA Presents:

Clash of the Cichlids

2014 Cichlid Show

9/27/2014 1pm

5.00 Entry Fee for all CCY members and
affiliated clubs (ACLC/CCA/NJAS) 7.00 Free
all others -Up to 3 Entries per contestant

Here's your chance to become a
champion!!!!



Division A:

Central/North and South American Cichlids

Class: 1 New World 5" and under

Class 2 New World 6" and over

Division B:

African Cichlids

Class 3 Malawi Cichlids (all sizes)

Class 4 Victorian Cichlids (all sizes)

Class 5 Tanganyika Cichlids (all sizes)

Division C:

Ornamental/ Other Cichlids

Class 6 Discus/ Angels

Class 7 Dwarf Cichlids

Class 8- African Non- Rift lake, Madagascar and Asian

Class 9- Hybrids/Flowerhorns





Presents:

CARR/ LEIBEL / LOISELLE

(CCY)

(ACLC/CCY)

(CCY)



**September
27th**

**October
25th**

**November
8th**

CCY Cichlid Show - ACLC/CCY Dual meeting -CCY Birthday Bash

3 months of excellence and cichlid education



CCY President Scott McLaughlin

Ending my CCY presidential run of 2 years on a high note.

I proudly present : "**CARR-LEIBEL -LOISELLE**"-

3 months of back to back to back
Excellence and cichlid education.

Don't miss a month!

- *Scott J McLaughlin*

THE CCY Presents:



The Cichlid Club of York

2ND ANNUAL CLASH OF THE CICHLIDS!!



The Cichlid Show of the Century

SEPTEMBER 27th 2014 1pm

Inviting all neighborhood clubs from New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Maryland to enter and compete for Grand Champion Cichlid of the Year!! Cash prizes, trophies and most importantly club bragging rights at stake!!



**GUEST SPEAKER- KEVIN J
CAIRR**

Topic- Cichlids & Cichlid Shows



ALL STAR JUDGES TO BE ANNOUNCED!!



A Wonderful Year of Cichlids

CCY article of the month!!

By: Brooke Moore



If you told me a year ago that I would have 26 fish tanks going, I would probably call you crazy. I knew I wanted one fish tank with tropical community fish like I had when I was growing up, but that was it. My husband wanted goldfish. If you asked me if I wanted cichlids, I would have been confused and asked what are those? Actually that is exactly what I asked, and the answer changed my life forever.

I started out with a 10 gallon tank with 3 goldfish (side note they are in a 40 gallon now, they quickly out grew that 10 gallon!). Now, I liked the goldfish, but I still had my heart set on tropical fish. So with much bugging from me, my husband got a 36 gallon tank for tropical community setup. I had mollies, tetras, and a gourami, amongst others. I was content, until my husband's good friend, Shane Mell, suggested cichlids. My husband and I went to his house to see these cichlids to help us decide if we wanted to

keep some of these fish. I fell in love instantly!

The beautiful colors of the African cichlids, the size and beauty of the Central/ South American cichlids, drew me in. As I watched his fish, I noticed that they were a lot more interesting than the goldfish and tropicals I was currently keeping. I could tell right off the bat that they were full of personality, each one unique in its own way. I never knew fish could be like that, always thought they were kind of stupid, actually. How wrong I was.

So when I got home, and went to my tropical community tank, I was bored. After seeing the amazing fish Shane had, how could I not get bored with them! Don't get me wrong, I still like tropical fish, but I absolutely love cichlids. My husband and I talked it over, we read a book on cichlids that Shane gave us, and made up our minds. Less than a week later, we had our first cichlid tank going, a new world tank, with help and guidance from Shane.

Looking back, it still makes me sad thinking about my first tank of cichlids. Being new to the hobby, we weren't very knowledgeable. We got a used tank, which was good. It came with a used filter. We didn't think to clean it or test it out. Within 2 weeks our tank had the ick. We treated as directed per the medication we got, we ended up losing 2 fish out of 5. Once I was sure that the disease was out, I told my husband I wanted an Oscar. So we went to Petco and I picked out the cutest little Albino Tiger Oscar. He was my favorite out of the bunch. I was teaching him to eat out of my hand and he would always come up to the front when I was in the room. After about a month, tragedy struck once again. We were about to move the quick growing juveniles to a 55 gallon from the current 29 gallon, when all the fish took a turn for the worse. I watched in horror as each fish died. Come to find out that the filters impeller broke and released tiny bits of metal into the water. Only one fish survived, a firemouth, which I still have today. I cried when my first Oscar finally passed. He was the last, RIP Piggie the first.

We learned a hard lesson, and we were very careful about what we did in the future. It took me awhile to get attached to the fish we got after, in fear that they would die. At this point we had 4 tanks, 2 with cichlids, the goldfish and tropical. The tank that we had issues, we deep cleaned and got all new equipment / decorations for it. I had been wanting to get Africans, so we got a few juveniles, knowing that we had to set up something bigger for them.

Around that time, I noticed something amazing. My 2 year old son who was diagnosed with Autism and had not began to speak, said "fishie". When he would be having a break down, I would lead him over to a tank and he would calmly watch the fish. He would want to feed them, and he always reminded me when it was feeding time, by saying "fishie" while pointing to a tank. As a mom with a son who has this learning disorder, it made my heart swell with joy, and it made me love the fish even more. Not only did they make me happy, but they were helping my son.

As the months passed, our fish tank collection grew quite rapidly. My love of Oscars meant we needed big tanks. Being a stay at home mom, I had the time to regularly check craigslist, and anytime I saw a good deal on a tank, I would tell my husband multiple times until we got it. We always made sure to thoroughly clean the tank, and we never got used equipment again, unless from someone we knew. My personal favorite craigslist deal was the 175 gallon bow front we got for free.

As I checked craigslist for tanks, I kept coming across free fish ads. At first we didn't have the accommodations for more fish, but as our tank collection grew, I started getting free fish. I also would get fish from local breeders. I would go into pet stores and see sick fish, improperly cared for fish. It made me sick. It got to the point where I couldn't bare going to pet stores. I can proudly say that only around 5 out of close to 150 fish came from pet stores.

After my first Oscar died, I went through a mourning period. My husband offered to replace him soon after he passed, but I wasn't ready. One day we went to get cat food at Petco and there was one lonely little Albino Oscar in a tank by his self. He looked at me and my heart melted. I couldn't resist his face. So he came home with us and in memory of my very first Oscar, I named him Piggie the second. I still to this day get sad about the passing of my first Oscar, but his memory lives on in Piggie the second. Now, due to my love of the Oscar fish, I have 11 wonderful Oscars, each with its own personality and special little quirks. I name my Oscars, which some people think I'm crazy for, but I don't care. They are, in my opinion, the best fish and they deserve a name.

It's been almost a year sense I got into the wondrous hobby of keeping the amazing fish known as cichlids. I can't imagine my life without my tanks full of my amazing fish. When I wake up, first thing I do is turn on my tanks and I'm greeted by them. Makes my day. Within this year I went from one lonely 10 gallon with 3 goldfish, to 26 tanks, all filled cichlids, African and new world cichlids alike, with the exception of the goldfish tank (I ended up giving my tropical fish to my neighbor to make room for more cichlids!!). My "non fish" friends call my house the Moore aquarium, that makes me laugh. They get shocked when i mention I know people with more tanks than I have.

Through this hobby, I have learned much and I'm excited to learn more. I've met some pretty awesome people. When I joined the Cichlid Club of York, it made me feel good to know there was other people who loved cichlids as much as I did. I love the fact that I have people I can talk to about them as much as I please, without getting annoyed for me just talking about fish. The members welcomed my family with open arms, and I look forward to every meeting. When people ask me, "isn't it annoying or hard to take care of so many fish tanks?" my response is "I don't think it's annoying at all. Yes it can be time consuming and at times a bit challenging, but it is well worth it. I love cleaning my tanks, to give the best quality care for these amazing creatures, it makes me proud." I never will live my life without cichlids ever again!!!

Going Green....in fish tanks

By Kerry Dilks



Passing aisles of lush green aquatic plants was what I generally did. Once a gardener and a florist this could spell danger for me. I will find myself setting up tanks of gorgeous greenery just to give my house a splash of color. They are more than a tank but a work of art. My past design aspect also did help as I always had an itch to decorate anything and everything. I decided to go plastic and turn my head the other way. I knew plants would become a passion of mine.

A few months ago my daughter and I took a drive and went to ACLC to enjoy their monthly meeting. The auction started. There was nothing I was question for or had in mind. Then the plants hit the air and I bid. I gave in and bought one of my first aquatic plants. This was not good. By the end of the meeting I had went home with a large tote full of aquatic plants.



I began converting my 40 gallon hexagon into a planted tank. Note to short folk....planting a deep hex tank stinks. I was soaked from arm to chest in water making a sore attempt at planting since I could barely see. I also mixed some fluorite substrate into my gravel bed. This helps fertilize the plants for growth and eye appeal. Now it was time to hit EBay and find a little CO2 system. If we are going to grow plants we want them to flourish and look amazing. Yes I must confess I find it enjoyable to watch the plants grow. A gardener will tell you there is nothing better than the fruits of our labor. Anyhow hooked my little Red Sea system up and away they went.

Stocking the tank is a wee bit tricky due to cichlids being famous for eating or trashing your beloved plants...at least most of the ones I kept. Since I had a strict financial budget I went with good ole' Angelfish. Joining them would be some schooling neons, asian rummy nose tetras, some peppered cory cats, and of course a few snails. Along the way I sneakily added a L201 Inspector to the mix.



I was quite pleased by the end of the month after frequent water changes, CO2, and Seachem flourish. I now had a tank no short of the Amazon Jungle. At the end of the month I clipped my plants and too my surprise filled an entire large mixing bowl of varied species.

I do notice the fish species residing together seem more calm and content in their surroundings as opposed to faux plants. Due to the plants benefit to the fish it also keeps them healthier and the water as well. Make sure prior to selecting your plants you do a little research on each species. There are many to choose from but all contain different requirements. You want something that is going to flourish in your tank. Also some plants do better planted while some prefer just rooting on driftwood or even hanging.

When planting you want to start with your background plants. These are any species that grow taller as opposed to wider...for example Fanwort. If planted in the front you will obviously have an obstructed view in a matter of time. On your midground you will to select things such as different sword species or anubias.

These plants tend to grow wider. These make nice focal points in the tank as well. You can use your driftwood as a focal point in tank with anubias attached. Last but not least is your foreground. This can be very tedious varying on what foreground plants species you select. For beginners I suggest java moss. This gives great floor coverage and grows well under most tank set-ups.

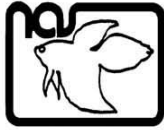
On my planted tanks I do two water changes a week. Fresh water will help with plant growth as well. I usually do two 25% water changes after three to four days. Please follow directions on CO2 hook up and settings. Many things could go array if you wing it on your own. Also do not keep tank temp. too warm. Plants tend to wither if the heat is above 80 degrees.

I began a planted tank with the intention of one and one only. The abundance of plants resulted in me running five planted tanks. I keep my sale tank for plants without livestock so disease is spread through water. It also keeps all plants in mint condition.

You, as well, can start a planted tank and before you know it plenty of wonderful plants to sell, trade, gift, and of course enjoy.

Tips and Supplies for Planted Tanks

1. Proper Lighting varying on choice of plant species
2. CO2 system to provide essential elements and keep plants growing and green. CO2 is not necessary but is extremely beneficial.
3. Add nutrients to your tank such as Seachem Flourish or API CO2 Booster
4. Research your plant species prior to purchasing and planting.
5. Choose livestock that will not damage, uproot, or eat plants.
6. Keep Temperature around 76
7. Small water changes more frequently for plants
8. Add Flourite substrate on bottom before planting(not necessary but helpful)
9. Research how each plant is planted prior to adding to your tank.
10. Also learn how to clip each plant as well.
11. Last but not least enjoy watching your plants grow and give a therapeutic enjoyment.



Norwalk Aquarium
Society



**48th ANNUAL
TROPICAL FISH SHOW**

Sponsored by the
Earthplace, Nature Discovery Center
Saturday, September 27th, 2014 (9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.)

Special Feature

For those of you that have a creative/artistic mind, this is your chance to show us your talent. This year we will have a new specialty class.....

“Planted Tanks”

Sponsored by CAPE (Connecticut Aquarium Plant Enthusiasts).

&

Auction

NAS Annual Auction
Sunday, September 28th, 2014
Auction Starts at 12:00 p.m.

At


**Earthplace, Nature Discovery Center
Westport, Connecticut**

For more information visit websites: www.norwalkas.org or Call Barry at (203) -363-9808 or contact Sal at salsily44@yahoo.com

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2014

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Freehold

Knights of Columbus
70 E. Main St.

Bank

Bank

Center Street

Veterans Mem. Bldg.

Main St. to Freehold Mall

Spring Street

Route 337 (East Main Street)

Elks Club

Route 79 (Broadway)

Jackson Ter.

Dutch Lane

to Red Bank

to Matawan

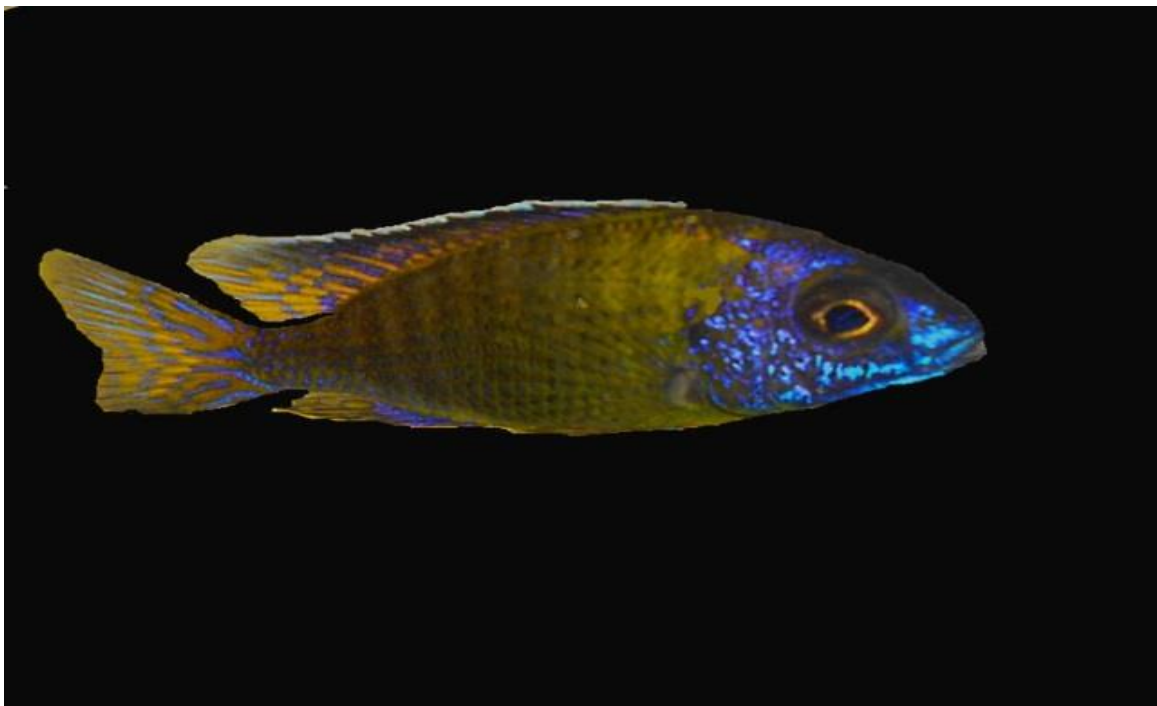
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<p>1545 Auction 11,021:4 Knights of Columbus 70 E Main St., Freehold www.jersiproperties.org nrlhite@optonline.net (732) 928-2838</p>	<p>1545 Auction 11,021:4 Knights of Columbus 70 E Main St., Freehold www.jersiproperties.org nrlhite@optonline.net (732) 928-2838</p>	<p>1545 Auction 11,021:4 Knights of Columbus 70 E Main St., Freehold www.jersiproperties.org nrlhite@optonline.net (732) 928-2838</p>	<p>1545 Auction 11,021:4 Knights of Columbus 70 E Main St., Freehold www.jersiproperties.org nrlhite@optonline.net (732) 928-2838</p>
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Where has my fish store gone?

By Jay Stephan



Aulonocara Blue Neon

The tropical fish industry is changing. With the entrance of the national chain stores into the market, many mom and pop stores are closing. They just cannot compete, especially on fish supplies, with the bigger chains. Because the chain stores have multiple locations through-out the country and often in the same town, they are able to purchase supplies in bulk at a discount that the smaller single owner stores cannot. Some may also be able to get better deals from the wholesale fish farms prices, than a smaller store can.

In the York area, this process started with the loss of Lonny Langione's store at Delco plaza. In 1997, Tony's Tropical fish store closed as well. At the end of 2013, Getty's pet store, which also sold a limited amount of fish closed. This leaves Brad's York Pet store as the only non-chain retail brick and mortar store that has tropical fish in York to my knowledge. York Pet does not have a large supply of fish, only a few at a time. Brad's store is more geared to bird and dog food.

Recently the last tropical fish store in Harrisburg, PA also closed. This leaves That Fish Place, That Pet Place, in Lancaster, PA as the only standing brick and mortar non-chain store in the area that carries a wide variety of tropical and salt water fish. There store is one of the largest around and they sell on the internet as well. This is how they are able to compete with the Chain Stores and Amazon.com. Amazon.com sells a lot of fish supplies through their web site. Their prices are hard

to beat because like the chain stores they can buy in bulk at larger discounts from the manufactures. Over the past few years, I have noticed a shift at That Fish That Pet Place toward more dog, cat, reptile, and bird items and a reduction in some of the fish supplies. I am guessing this is being caused by the difficulty to compete with the larger chain stores as well.

On big problem with the chain stores is their selection of fish. Most of these stores tend to buy assorted groups from the wholesalers. Many use the same wholesaler which only sells to brick and mortar stores and primarily to the chains. What the chain stores may not realize is that when you buy assorted groups from the wholesalers, in most cases you are getting what the wholesaler cannot sell otherwise. Sometimes this is because they simply have a glut of a certain fish; but, many times it is because these fish are slow sellers and often less desirable fish. Many of the African Cichlids that come in these type mixes are ones that can get quite aggressive. Compounding the problem is the fact that most chain stores rarely hire people with fish knowledge or train their pet area employees on fish. Many times this results in bad mixes both in their tanks and bad mixes of fish being sold to their customers. One example that I have seen frequently is mixing Aulonocara with aggressive mbuna. Another is mixing Central and South American Cichlids with African Cichlids. As a result, the customer tends to end up with a mix where the more aggressive fish kill off the more calm fish. This causes customers to get discouraged and get out of the hobby.



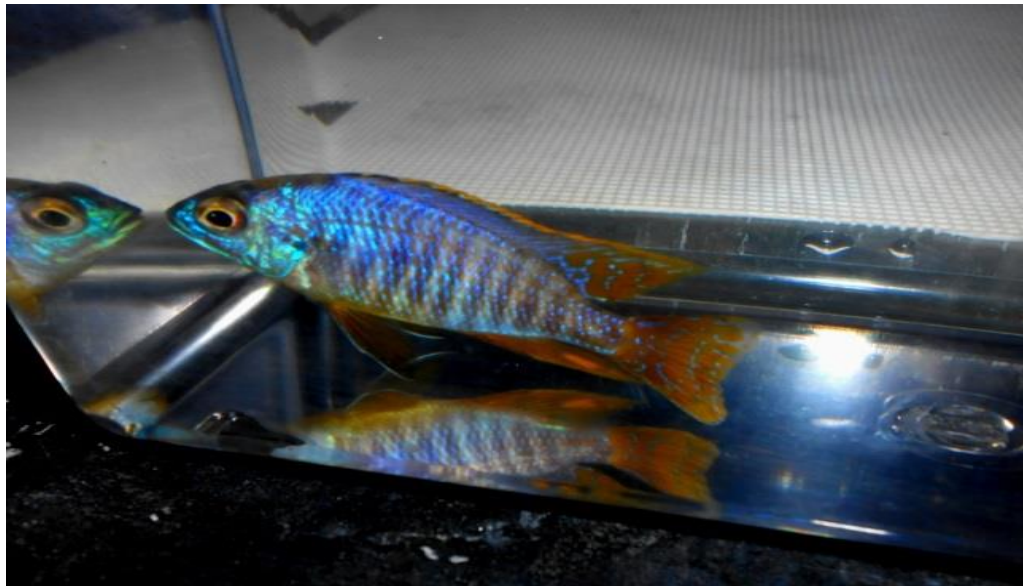
Cynotilapia Ntekete

In response to this situation, many on-line Tropical fish dealers have entered the market to take up some of the void. In the York area, there are three on-line fish dealers to my knowledge. They Include: Cichlids Are Special, which specializes in African Cichlids mostly from Lake Malawi and Lake Tanganyika; Invertebrates by msjinkzd, which specializes in smaller fish, shrimp, and invertebrates, and Fins and Scales of Hanover which specializes in Lake Tanganyika fish, some central and South American cichlids and a few odd and unusual types of fish. As you can see, most internet dealers specialize in one group of fish. The more generalized stores

which carried a mix of live bearers, African Cichlids, Central and South American Cichlids, and Saltwater Fish has not carried over to the internet. This is mostly because of the limited space most internet fish stores have available.

A number of the wholesalers also specialize in specific types of fish. Many specialize in cichlids primarily. Others specialize in Salt Water Fish. This is leading to a reduction in the amount of live bearers available. A few of the cichlid wholesalers I deal with also carry a limited amount of live bearers. But, most do not. A lot of this has to do with the price that these fish bring on the market and the difficulty in spawning a given fish in adequate numbers to be profitable.

Some wholesalers import fish. Even a few of the on-line retailers import fish as well. Importing fish can be tricky. You are never really sure who you are dealing with. Some imports are better than others. Occasionally they can send you the wrong fish. And yes even the fish farmers that have been in the business for many years that import can occasionally get fooled by the wrong fish. Adding to this problem is the constant reclassification and name changes some of these fish go through. When this happens, retailers can get a fish from a wholesaler that is not correct. This is especially true of African Cichlids. Many times these fish are sold at a very young age when all of them look like the female. Females from the same classification tend to look alike making this problem even more difficult. This is why I leave the importing to the more expert wholesalers.



Placidochromis jalo

As most of you know, I run an on-line store called Cichlids Are Special. Due to space and other considerations, I specialize in African Cichlid mouth brooders. One of the reasons for mouth brooders is that I can breed a number of these fish on my own which helps me to keep down cost and helps me be more competitive. I depend on the rest of my fish and my new varieties from wholesalers. Over the years, I have developed a good group of wholesalers to choose from. Most have been around for over 35 years. One is younger; but, he is a marine biologist and usually very careful with his fish. He also helps to supply some of the other farms and is

trusted in the industry. Errors, however, still can occur and when they do, I do my best to correct them. Mistake fish that are left in stock are changed to their proper name on my web site, as soon as I am aware of the error. If I have consistent problems with a specific wholesaler, I either discontinue using them or if I cannot find a reliable alternative, I only reorder fish from them that I know I can trust to be correct.

Because internet dealers like me tend to specialize in specific types of fish, this means they tend to offer many varieties that cannot be found elsewhere. In my case, I try to offer as many rare varieties that will sell frequently and mix well with most of the rest of the fish I offer. Some of the more rare varieties I carry include: Aulonocara Chitande ethelwynnae, Aulonocara Maylandi, Aulonocara Masinje, Aulonocara Blue Neon, Copadichromis borleyi yellow fin, Copadichromis geertsii, Cynotilapia Afra. Ntekete, Metriaclicha cyneusmarginatus, Placidochromis Makonde, Placidochromis Jalo, and Protomelas taeniolatus Chizumulu, I also do my best to carry as many endangered C.A.R.E.S. program fish as possible including: Astatotilapia aeneocolor, Aulonocara baenschi, Paralabidochromis Chromogynos, Pundamilia Nyereri Ruti, Xystichromis Kyoga Flame back, and Xystichromis sp. dayglow. In case you are not familiar with the C.A.R.E.S. problem, it is a conservation group that promotes the keeping of rare endangered fish in the hobby. It also hopes to possibly reintroduce some of these fish in the wild when possible. Without the help of the hobbyist many of these fish man disappear and go extinct.



Astatotilapia aeneocolor

What all this means for the hobbyist is that it is very important to support your local non-chain stores and on-line dealers in order for this industry to continue to provide many of the more rare varieties of Tropical fish in the future. With-out customer support these stores will also close. If the hobby is left to the chain stores and nothing is done to improve the way they currently sell their fish, the fish

industry and the hobby is likely to die. It is up to the hobbyist to keep the tropical fish industry going.

Fish clubs are vital to the Tropical fish industry as well. They help to educate hobbyists and keep the hobby going. In the York PA, we have the CCY which meets in Spring Grove, PA. One of the things the CCY does best is try to promote the hobby to young people. Young people are the future of the hobby and need to be encouraged. Nearby in Lancaster, the ACLC meets at That Fish That Pet Place. To our south is the CCA which meets in Silver Spring, MD. It is important for the hobbyist to get involved and support their local fish clubs. Join one today and join the fun. These clubs are not only educational; but, often offer fun activities. Fish clubs are also a great way to meet new friends that share a common interest.

In conclusion, get involved, buy fish from your local non-chain stores and on-line dealers, support your local fish club, and let's keep this wonderful hobby going for generations to come.





Refreshments
& Food Available

Get the
Best Fish!

**22th Annual
New Hampshire Aquarium Society**

AUCTION

(FISH & DRY GOODS)

Sunday, October 19, 2014

Newington Town Hall

Nimble Hill Rd., Newington, NH

Directions on back

Auction will begin at 12Noon. Arrive early for viewing.

If vendors would like to set a minimum bid on any of their items, a non-refundable \$1 charge will be applied per item. Bump-ups are \$2.

Preregistering of lots is appreciated. Mail preregistration sheets to Bill Janetos, PO Box 32, Rollinsford, NH 03869 by Oct 12 or email to w.janetos@janco-electronics.com . Less waiting for labels!!!!

Donations accepted or sell your extra fish & equipment, 60/40 split.

**BACK BY POPULAR
DEMAND!
NEW & RARE
SPECIES SHIPMENT
FOR AUCTION!**



FREE
Bidder Card

Please join

The Aquarium Club of Lancaster County
for a great day of Fishy Fun at our

GIANT FALL AUCTION

Sunday, November 2, 2014

Witmer Fire Hall

455 Mt. Sidney Road, Witmer PA 17585

Less than 2 miles off US Rt. 30

For some GPS units, you may need to use Lancaster as the city.

Registration 9:00 AM to 12:00 NOON

Auction Starts at 11:00 AM

For all registered auction lots, 70% seller - 30% ACLC. All lots registered after 12:00 NOON will be black tagged and auctioned last. *All lots that sell for \$2 or less will be considered donations to the ACLC.*

Directions: From US Rt. 30, go north on Witmer Rd (left from Rt 30 eastbound, right from Rt. 30 westbound). There is a Target and a PetSmart on the corner. Go to light at Rt. 340, turn right. At the next light (about 100 ft.) turn left on Mt. Sidney Rd. Fire Hall is about 3/4 mile on the right. There is plenty parking in the rear.



Visit us at www.aclcpa.org for complete auction rules!

The Cichlid Circle

By Scott McLaughlin



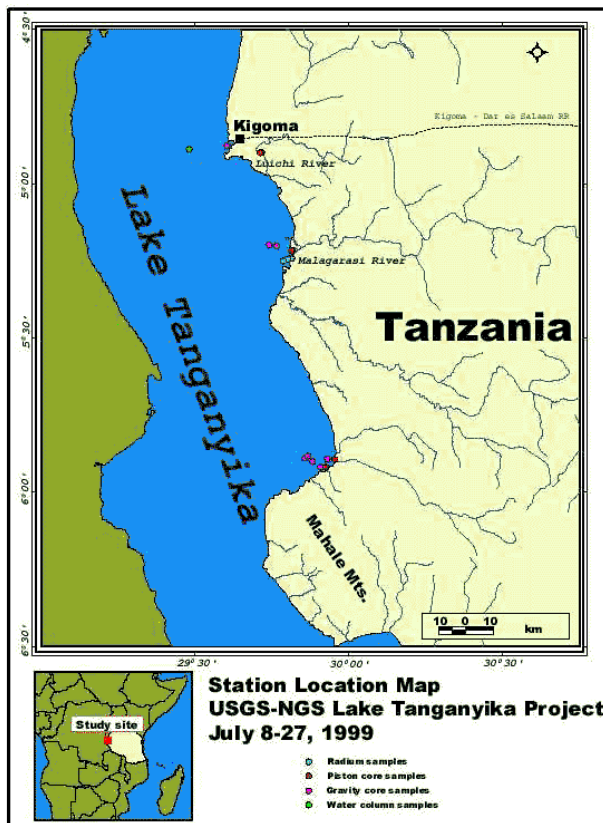
The True Story of "Flopper" my Oreochromis Tanganicae Cichlid

Very early on I knew that our club the CCY was very special. There is nothing quite like the excitement of enthusiastic and passionate people all converging together for the love of one common subject. In our case of course that subject is "cichlids" and our love affair with them. At our 2nd meeting CCY member Eric Meyer brought in an unidentified 7"inch long beautifully blue and speckled cichlid. He had posted pictures of this cichlid on our Facebook site asking anyone if they could identify this very different looking cichlid with little response. He decided to bring the cichlid (in a really large pail) to our meeting and put him in our auction feeling the cichlid needed more

room than his 30 gallon tank he could provide. As we all gathered around this pail to take a look at this mystery cichlid, Lonny Langione threw both his hands into the pail and pulled the unsuspecting cichlid out. Full of vigor and attitude the cichlid put up a good fight but Lonny and his experienced hands was able to hold him long enough to smile and say "What a great cichlid! What you have here is an **Oreochromis tanganyicae!!**

This awesome cichlid went into our auction and I stole it for the grand price of 15.00! Feeling guilty that such a glorious cichlid sold so cheaply I threw Eric an extra 5.00 for his trouble and thanked him for being more concerned about his cichlid than money and wanting to give his cichlid a proper home. Luckily for me I had plenty of large tanks to provide a great home for him. From day #1 my new cichlid showed personality and lots of attitude. I put him in my 110 gallon tank with some larger South American cichlids (at

the time I didn't have an African tank setup) and he quickly became the boss of the tank. Oreochromis Tanganyicae cichlids have large mouths which made it very easy for my new cichlid to keep the other cichlids at bay. To see him man handle my larger 9"inch Jaguar cichlid was simply fascinating. I was hooked on this cichlid and quickly hit the internet to find out every detail on this cichlid. I found an article on the Greater Chicago Cichlid Association website written by **Rick Borstein** and in the article Rick said the following:



"Oreochromis tanganyicae is mouthbrooding Tilapia cichlid from Lake Tanganyika in Africa. This fish was first identified by Günther way back in 1894. This is a large, robust cichlid with a huge appetite and, interestingly, is the only Tilapia cichlid found in the lake." "Male Oreochromis tanganyicae have an overall tan-green color, with many blue and green iridescent speckles. The dorsal fin on breeding males extends mid-way

through the caudal and the anal is pointed. It is fast-growing, eats anything, and can withstand extremes in temperature. I suspect that *Oreochromis tanganicae* is also quite an intelligent fish."

Inspired by the latest facts and information I had discovered via the internet I quickly decided my *Oreochromis* was just too special to share a tank with any other fish and he needed his very own tank to showcase him in. So I was able to find a really nice 90 gallon tank that was drilled and came with everything needed. All the plumbing and filtration could be stored underneath the cabinet that came with the tank giving me a great amount of freedom to decorate this tank effectively. Like the *Oreochromis* natural habitat this tank would be full of rocks, crushed coral and sand with light vegetation.



Image of my 90 gallon show tank

As I told you this cichlid has loads of personality and as quickly as I got him into his new tank he began to show great satisfaction that this was indeed solely his own territory. He colored up even more and he swam back and forth, up and down flaring his fins and gills as if to challenge even me. Man I loved this cichlid! Months went by and I fed my favorite cichlid a wide variety of foods from frozen brine shrimp to Hikari large pellets. He really enjoyed Seachem flake food and would skim the top of the water with his mouth open eating all the flakes before it could drop to the substrate. He continued to grow and he continued his over the top demeanor- this was some cichlid! It was an early Saturday morning and I was preparing to play my traditional round of golf when I walked down to my fish room and gasped in shock! There on the floor not moving was my *Oreochromis* !!! There was no water around him which to me meant he had been there a long time. He wasn't moving and his body was hard to the touch. You see although I said my new tank had "everything", in reality it had everything but the most important thing (especially for this type of cichlid) that being a glass lid top. I quickly picked my prized cichlid up and threw him back into his tank he sank immediately to the bottom as did my stomach. Feeling horrible I went upstairs to get my cell phone. There was no way I could play golf after this tragedy so I called my buddies to tell them I would be a no show. As I came back down to the fish room a miracle took place, my *Oreochromis* began to show signs of life! Slowly but surely his gills began to move, his fins began to show life, and his body began to wiggle. My grand cichlid was still alive!! An hour later he was swimming although his body was not as fluid and his left fin was clamped, his proud dorsal fin was torn having dried up on the floor. I was so happy that my cichlid was still alive but I never thought he would look the same again.

For 2 months my passion became nursing my sick cichlid back to health. I was either too proud or too embarrassed to tell anyone what happened but I was determined to get him back to good health. As the months past my *Oreochromis* healed rapidly, his spunk and attitude returned and there seemed to be a stronger bond between owner and pet as if he knew I somehow saved him. I began to take pictures of him again as this great cichlid returned to form better than ever. I could breathe a sigh of relief. Summer began to fade as cooler temperatures signified the coming of winter months lay just ahead. The NJAS was celebrating its 60th anniversary in November and had invited the CCY to join the fun especially their tropical fish show.



Lonny Langione and I decided we would make the trip to Jersey to support our NJAS friends. I always had a curiosity about entering a tropical fish show and this NJAS 60th event seemed like the perfect chance to do so. Weeks before our trip to Jersey I asked Lonny to come over to my house and pick out what he thought were my best cichlids for show. He picked two- my [Paratheraps bifasciatus](#) and my Oreochromis. The games would soon begin. Lonny and I arrived in Jersey on a cold and rainy night. I had placed both my cichlids each in separate 5 gallon buckets with battery operated air pumps for the 3 hour journey to Jersey. They both seemed no worse for the wear and seemed anxious to get out of the confines of the buckets. I checked in and immediately took my show contenders to the official NJAS tropical fish show area. There I was assigned tanks for both my prized cichlids.

My bifasciatus was quite easy putting into his show tank. We simply tilted the tank and poured him into the show tank. A large and robust cichlid, my bifasciatus had no desire to put up any fight going from bucket to tank. My Oreochromis on the other hand was not going to take the transfer lying down. Just lifting up the bucket to the tank, this great cichlid splashed and moved aggressively. I tried the same bucket to tank trick and was met with what seemed like a gallon of water to my face. This would not be an easy task. So then I tried to tilt the bucket and grab him with my hands. I was able to get two hands on him but as I pulled him out and towards his show tank he made a mighty

lunge. This mighty maneuver was so strong that he broke my grip on him and my Oreochromis dove into a waterless tank! Oh my God!! Flopping around in this empty tank I quickly grabbed him and threw him into his assigned show tank just a few inches away. My hands and arms were shaking in disbelief. Lonny who was with me and saw the entire event, just smiled at me and said “for now on your Oreochromis will forever be known as “Flopper”. **The legend was born.** I will not recap the entire story of the NJAS 60th event as I covered that in last year’s column (back issues of this publication can be found at cichlidclubofyork.com) but the “true” fairytale ending to my story is Flopper went on to win NJAS “Grand Champion” Best of Show award that weekend beating out over 200 other tropical fish entries! Today Flopper now enjoys the plush life of living in his own 125 tank. He has retired from the show trade but continues to be full of attitude and one of the greatest cichlids I’ve ever had the pleasure of keeping.



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Members of the Boston Aquarium Society are organizing a
"Shop Hop" for Sunday Nov 2nd, the day after their Show and
Auction.

BAS members and guests will be visiting several Boston Area
Tropical Fish Stores. Some stores that are planned for the visit:

Rivers and Reefs
Lovely Pets
It's a Pet's World
Uncle Neds
Tropic Isle Aquarium
Unique Aquaria

If you would like to advertise your monthly meetings or special events, please forward the information to Barbara Romeo by the tenth of each month. Be sure to include all pertinent information (location, time, contact person or website for additional information) in your announcement



Native Fish Collecting By- El Presidente

Keeping tropical fish is a fun and rewarding hobby. I always love walking into a pet store and checking out the latest fish and picking out something new to go in my tanks. That was until I enjoyed my first experience at native fish collecting. What's better than picking out fish in a pet store? Try catching them in the wild! Thanks to CCY friends Chris Cornell and Jose Fadhel who acted as our tour guides. I along with some CCY/ACLC friends Michael Mull, Glen Davies, Steve Arnott and Shane Mell had an experience of a life time. We went deep into the woods of Grantville PA to a secret spot that Chris and Jose had discovered some time ago. The place is Swatara creek which is a beautiful area that looks like God had just created it yesterday. It's truly stunning.



Always prepared for anything and everything Chris and Jose unloaded buckets, nets, chairs, tanks, tables and everything else you could think of that would be needed for our collecting trip.

(Images of some of our native catch)

I happily walked down to the creek with 2 buckets and a net that had holes too big to catch anything other than a baby whale. LOL! Luckily for me everyone brought enough gear that there was plenty to share. Michael Mull ever the gadget man of our group brought a really cool “cast net” that by the end of the day he had mastered. The ability to stand in one location and throw a net 20 to 30 feet away onto unsuspecting fish is quite the tool. I caught my first fish with the help of Michael Mull as we used sifting nets and searched along the banks and roots that hovered in and out of the water. My first big score was a rock bass and later I caught sun fish, minnows and darters. It was a great experience and getting the chance to enjoy nature as God meant it to be with some good friends was an experience I will look forward to every year. I kept a rock bass and a sun fish and they are doing well today in a tank. It took some time for them to acclimate to commercial prepared food but once they got the hang of it they have been doing extremely well. It is my hope that more members will experience this great yearly event. I know next July I will be there again with a lot more buckets and the right size net! Cheers!!!



(Looking similar to a jaguar cichlid this Rock Bass was my favorite catch)



AQUARIUM CLUB OF LANCASTER COUNTY



COMING SOON

JEREMY BASCH



EXPERIENCES WITH GEOPHAGUS

Jeremy is originally from Westlake, OH and currently lives in Columbus. He started keeping fish 22 years ago when he purchased his first aquarium for his birthday. Jeremy started working at a local fish store as a teenager and started to acquire various sized aquariums and fish. He was hooked!

In 2004 Jeremy setup his first fishroom and is on his third modified design, which contains 100+ aquariums ranging in size from 2.5 to 150 gallons. He has bred over 40 species of fish including many cichlids, catfish, rainbows, killifish, livebearers and invertebrates.

Jeremy's main focus is on the cichlids and catfish from South America and killifish from West Africa. He is a current member and the chairman of the Columbus Area Fish Enthusiasts (CAFÉ). He has belonged to the Ohio Cichlid Association, the Greater Cincinnati Aquarium Society, the American Killifish Association and the American Cichlid Association. Jeremy has written a few articles which have appeared in the Buntbarsche Bulletin & the CAFE Menu newsletter. Jeremy can be seen at many fish shows and conventions throughout the Midwest.

Jeremy's program will include information about what Geophagus are, their distribution, keeping them in the aquarium and their various methods of broodcare.

TIME & PLACE

SATURDAY

SEPTEMBER 20TH 2014

1:00 PM

THAT FISH PLACE
237 CENTERVILLE ROAD
LANCASTER PA 17603



AQUARIUM CLUB OF LANCASTER COUNTY

&

CICHLID CLUB OF YORK

PRESENT



WAYNE LEIBEL

ACARAS, THE FORGOTTEN CICHLIDS OF SOUTH AMERICA

TIME & PLACE

SATURDAY

OCTOBER 25TH 2014

1:00 PM

THAT FISH PLACE
237 CENTERVILLE ROAD
LANCASTER PA 17603

A review of the biology and Aquarium Husbandry of South American cichlids historically all classified in the genus *Aequidens* (which has since been split into several distinct genera) and commonly called 'Acaras'. These include such well-known aquarium favorites as Blue Acaras, Flag Acaras, Green Terrors and many more (over 50 species and counting). Despite the popularity of these few fish, Acaras in general remain the poor cousins of the cichlid world, all but forgotten by aquarists. This talk will attempt to (re-) acquaint cichlidophiles looking for something different, with this interesting group of cool fish.

Wayne wrote the columns 'Wayne's New World' and later 'Cichlidophiles' for Tropical Fish Hobbyist for more than 20 years. He was also the author of the series 'Going South, Cichlids of the Americas' in Aquarium Fish Magazine,

Wayne is a Fellow of the ACA, Recipient of Jordan Lifetime Achievement Award (ACA). For seven years he was editor of "Buntbarsche Bulletin" the Journal of the ACA and is the current editor of Cichlid News. Wayne is also the author of two books on South American Cichlids.



The Cichlid Club of York

PRESENTS:

“THE LEGEND”



**DR. PAUL
LOISELLE**

CCY BIRTHDAY BASH



CICHLID BASICS 101

**NOVEMBER 8TH 2014 1PM
50 NORTH EAST RD SPRING
GROVE PA 17362**

Dr. Paul V. Loiselle is an accomplished aquarist. This internationally published author has numerous articles on the care and breeding of aquarium fishes. He was for many years a Contributing Editor for

Freshwater and Marine Aquarium.

Dr. Loiselle has his Master's degree from Occidental College in Los Angeles, and took his doctorate at the University of California at Berkeley. His professional background includes five years as a Peace Corps fisheries biologist in West Africa, where he carried out faunal and environmental impact surveys in Togo and Ghana. During the course of his career, Dr. Loiselle has had the opportunity to observe the behavior of cichlids in Lakes Victoria and Tanganyika, in Mexico and in Central America. A founding member of the American Cichlid Association, he currently serves the A.C.A. as Technical Editor of its journal, *Buntbarsche Bulletin*, and as Chairman of the Special Publications Committee. -*Courtesy of Cichlid Companion*

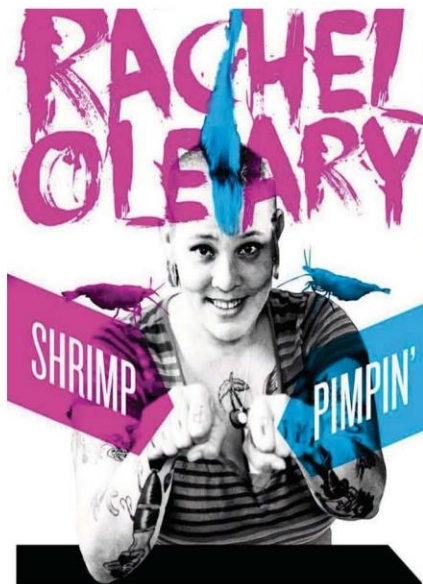
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invertebrates
By Msjmkz

What food is the best for your cichlids?

“You are what you eat”



Feeding your cichlids is not as simple as picking up whatever is closest to you at your local pet store and dropping it into your tank. No, if you want your freshwater fish to thrive, you need to make sure you are feeding them a balanced diet. It is vitally important to know if the cichlids you keep are herbivorous (eating plants), carnivorous (eating animals), or omnivorous (eating both). There are an enormous number of commercially prepared foods that can be used in your fishes' diets, and many are made with high-quality ingredients, designed to provide fish with optimal nutrition. But before you go out and buy any fish food it would be wise for you to learn the basics about aquarium fish

food. Different kinds of fish have different nutritional needs so, unless you understand the basics, your fish may not get the nutrients they need.

Dry Foods

- These come as flakes, pellets, wafers, or sticks. They are available in formulations for herbivores, carnivores, and omnivores, as well as for specific fish such as bettas, goldfish, cichlids, growing fry, conditioning breeders, etc.
- Each type has its pros and cons. Flakes, for example, are easily crumbled or pulverized to service different size fish, but they are not bulky enough to sustain truly large-bodied fish. Sinking wafers are excellent for bottom feeders like catfish, but they are of little use for surface feeders like hatchetfish.

Some foods are designed with floating, sinking, and slowly sinking particles to provide for fish that feed at different levels of the tank. These foods are available in a range of sizes from tiny pellets for growing fry up to hefty sticks for large predatory fish.

Frozen & Freeze-Dried Foods

- Although some frozen and freeze-dried products are formulations or mixtures of ingredients, the majority of them are processed food organisms such as blackworms or brine shrimp. Some people argue that freeze-drying conserves more vitamins than freezing, since the cells in the frozen animals burst, releasing some of the nutrition, but freeze-drying obviously results in some nutrition loss, too. The usual advice to feed a variety of foods will make up for deficiencies in any one of them.
- Freeze-dried foods are much more convenient, but frozen versions sometimes seem to have more fish appeal. One nice thing about freeze-dried foods is that you can easily crumble them for smaller fish. Brine shrimp, daphnia, blackworms, tubifex, and krill are among the commonly available freeze-dried choices.
- While you can store freeze-dried products on the shelf, frozen foods obviously must be kept frozen until ready to use. Never use foods that have thawed and refrozen, as they can kill your fish. You do not have to thaw the food to use it; just break off a small piece and float it in your tank. The fish will greedily pick it apart as it thaws in the warm water.

Live Foods

- In the early days of the hobby, live foods were the only choice to provide fish with the nutrients they need. Fortunately this is no longer true. While a few diehards still feed only live food, most hobbyists take advantage of the excellent quality and variety of commercial foods, which are actually superior to live foods in many cases.

- All fish, however, greatly enjoy live foods as a treat, whether they are chasing daphnia around the tank or munching down on a juicy stalk of anacharis. Many live foods, like white worms and microworms, can be cultured easily at home.
- There are a very few fish that will not survive without live foods, and a few more that will not spawn unless they are fed live foods, but none of these are popular species common in the hobby. There are, however, quite a few species in which wild-caught individuals may not recognize nonliving items as food. It is a fairly simple task in most cases to wean such fishes to prepared foods.
- Sometimes just feeding pieces mixed with the living organisms will do the trick. You can also condition large predators to strike at worms or crickets that you throw on the surface until they will strike at anything, including pellets or sticks. For stubborn cases you can use a string or feeding tongs (see “Feeding Accessories”) to wiggle food in front of the fish until it learns to take anything you offer, whether it is moving or not.
- Piscivorous predators often present the greatest challenge, but in most cases you can train them to take nonliving food items with a little patience. Even wild-caught fish learn quickly who brings supper, and they are likely to strike at anything you offer after a little training. Prepared food items are nutritionally superior to common “feeder fish,” which are poor choices.
- Remember also that if you are feeding live fish to marine predators you must offer marine fish, not goldfish, guppies, or other freshwater species, which are not nutritionally suitable

Types of Commercial Foods

There are many different kinds of commercial foods available on the market because there are many different kinds of aquarium fish. Some of the major distinctions between types of commercial food is food for saltwater versus freshwater fish and foods for herbivores versus carnivores. Carnivorous species of fish require a high-protein diet while herbivores require a diet based on plant matter. If you don't provide your fish with a proper diet, they could fail to thrive and may be more likely to become sick and die.

In each classification of commercial fish foods you will find a variety of different types. Some of the most popular types of fish food include flakes, pellets, granules and sinking wafers. Commercial fish foods are designed to appeal to different kinds of fish – those that tend to swim near the surface prefer flakes while bottom-feeders or mid-level swimmers may prefer pellets or sinking wafers. It is important for you to know what kind of food the fish in your tank prefer so you can cater to their specific nutritional needs.

Recommended Commercial Foods

The following commercial foods are recommended as a staple diet for freshwater aquarium fish:

Omega One Freshwater Flakes

These flakes are perfect for all species of freshwater fish. Omega One Freshwater Flakes are made from a blend of cold water seafood to provide fish with high-quality protein and Omega-3 fatty acids. This formula is also designed to reduce waste while also enhancing the growth and health of your aquarium fish. These flakes also have a very appealing flavor which makes them a favorite among many species of fish.

Hikari Sinking Wafers

These wafers are designed for bottom feeders that require a diet high in vegetable matter. Hikari Sinking Wafers are made from easily-digestible plant sources supplemented with Vitamin C to help reduce stress and boost the immune system of your fish. These wafers don't dissolve quickly, which means they won't cloud your tank water, and their concave design makes them easy and safe for fish to swallow.

TetraMin Tropical Flakes

Produced by Tetra, TetraMin Tropical flakes are designed to provide fish with balanced, easily digestible nutrition. The "clean and clear water formula" guarantees that the flakes won't cloud your tank water while the blend of vitamins, biotin and Omega-3 fatty acids boosts the health and nutrition of your fish. This formula was designed to provide fish with well-balanced nutrition while also enhancing color and vitality. This product contains a patented blend of "ProCare" nutrients to give your fish extra energy and to boost their metabolism.

Hikari Cichlid Bio-Gold

This product is designed specifically for cichlids and it comes in two different sizes – mini and medium. The Cichlid Bio-Gold formula is made with bio-technology to enhance the coloration and accelerate the growth of South African Cichlids. In addition to providing balanced nutrition, this formula also provides probiotics and other supplements to reduce waste and to boost immune system health.

Omega One Veggie Rounds

These veggie rounds are the ideal staple diet for herbivorous species of fish, especially those that are bottom-feeders. Omega One Veggie Rounds are made with spirulina algae and kelp – the same kind of kelp that is harvested for humans to eat, so it is of the highest quality. In addition to providing excellent plant-based nutrition, these rounds are

also loaded with other vitamins and minerals needed to support the growth and health of your freshwater aquarium fish.

Hikari Sinking Carnivore Pellets

Designed specifically for carnivorous species of fish, Hikari Sinking Carnivore Pellets provide high levels of protein as well as a balance of other essential nutrients. These pellets are packed with Vitamin C to support immune system health as well as other supplements to enhance the health and coloration of carnivorous fishes. Unlike many sinking pellets, these do not lose their shape as they absorb water – thus, they remain appealing and palatable to fish.

Hikari First Bites

This formula was specially designed for newly hatched fry that require very small food at first. Hikari First Bites is made from high-quality protein sources, designed to provide fry with the nutrients they need to grow. This food is made in a semi-floating formula so it is good for both top-feeders and mid-level feeders. One pouch of this food goes a very long way and it is packaged in a re-sealable pouch.

So there you have the very basics on foods based on my personal experience and information I gathered from various tropical fish food manufactures and websites. I think this is a great starting point for those just getting into the hobby or those wanting to get the best color, condition and attitude from your cichlids. You can find many of these foods in sample bags at our meeting so make sure you pick up a few on your next visit. In parting I would like to say as a hobbyist who shows cichlids at various events a cichlids diet is very important in how they look and perform. So as our big CCY Cichlid Show “Clash of the Cichlids” gets closer you may want to examine what you’re feeding your cichlids because like they say **“You are what you eat!”**

Jason's Fish Room

This is my 75-gallon Mbuna tank, aquascaped with caves, driftwood and plants. It houses various species.



Species in tank include:

Bullhead Catfish, Blood Red Jewel, Inspector Pleco, Christmas Fulu, Venustus cichlid. Zebra obliquidens, Johanni cichlid, Bumblebee Cichlid, Malawi Eyebiter, Fuelleborni cichlid, Rusty Cichlid, Blueberry Cichlid, OB Cichlid, Maingano Cichlid, Yellow Lab Cichlids, Red Zebra Cichlids, Lions Cove Cichlids, Nkhomo Reef Cichlid, Ntekete White/Red Cichlid, White Top Hara, Exasperatus Red Cichlid (Hybrid)

This is my 30-gallon Frotosa tank aquascaped with rocks, grass, driftwood and plants. This tank houses 4 species of fish. Njassae catfish, Petricolacatfish, Albino Bushynose Pleco, Burundi Frontosa





This is my 75-gallon community tank which is planted with live plants and a little bit of aquascaping. This tank houses various species of fish including Black Angelfish, Marble Angelfish, Golden Angelfish, Tiger Barbs, Bala Sharks, Tiger Oscar, Cory Catfish, Common Pleco, Green Phantom Pleco, Red Eye Tetras, Blackfin Tetras, Buenos Aires Tetras



These two are 5-gallon tanks both house a Killifish Trio of Gardneri killifish and Orange Killifish



This is my 125-gallon Central/South American Cichlid tanks (AKA the mean fish). It is aquascaped with plants, driftwood and rocks. This tank houses a few species including

Red Devil

Jack Dempsey

Common Pleco

Vieja Bifasciatus

Amphilophus Hogaboomarum

Gorillus blue umbee

Parachromis managuensis Jaguar





The Cichlid Club of York

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