FOTAS

Federation of Texas Aquarium Societies

Fish Tales

Volume 13 Issue 1

Jan - Mar 2023

Tank Shape

Breeding *Cyrtocara moorii*, the Blue Dolphin

IBC - FOTAS Convention Preview

Guide to the Healthy Betta Part Three: Parasitic Worms and Flukes

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Fish Tales Submission Guidelines

Articles and Art Submissions:
Please submit all articles, photos and art in electronic form. We can accept most popular software formats and fonts. Email to herpchat@yahoo.com. Photos and graphics are encouraged with your articles! Please remember to include the photo/graphic credits. Graphics and photo files may be submitted in any format, however uncompressed TIFF, JPEG or vector format is preferred, at the highest resolution/file size possible. If you need help with graphics files or your file is too large to email, please contact me for alternative submission info.

Next deadline……
May 30th 2023

Tank Shape for Planted Tanks

Article by Alex Brown

Hi everyone! Your friendly neighborhood plant nerd here with another edition of Brain Ferts. This edition is about aquarium shape for planted tanks. You're probably thinking "Dude. This has nothing to do with plants ya weirdo." But it really does! From scaping to lighting to flow issues, the tank you choose can be really important. So let's dive in.

Be the Sun.

One of the important factors of growing plants is lighting. Light doesn't travel through water as easily as through air. This greatly affects the Photosynthetically Active Radiation (PAR) that the plants use as fuel. "Don't throw your science at me Mr. Brown." OK, fine. But at the very least, remember that while you may have plenty of light at the top of your tank, you won't have enough to grow that carpet plant you found on tha Googles, that you want so bad, unless you consider this. The easiest way to get good lighting to the plants is to minimize the distance the light must travel through the water. Short tanks are better for planted tanks. Tall tanks (and I would consider anything taller than 18-20" a tall tank) make it much harder to get lighting down to the lower part of the tank. This means you will need to spend more money on better lights to give the plants the light they need to be successful at the bottom. Not ideal for new plant enthusiasts. Don't get me wrong, I'm not telling you that you can't grow a carpet in a tall tank. And I'm also not telling you that you CAN grow a carpet easily in a shorter tank. There are a lot of other factors involved (Hello, science? Is that you again?). But what I do want you to understand is that you will give yourself more of a fighting chance at growing the plants you want in a shorter tank, with less lighting required (save those dolla bills yo). Additionally, on the subject of lighting, odd tank shapes like hexagonal, half circle, corner tanks, etc. make it tough to find economical lighting that will easily work. Keep it simple! Get a low and long rectangular tank. Remember that most strip LED lights will come in length increments of 6". You'll usually see them as 18", 24", 30", 36", 48", etc. A lot of them (the cheap ones) will have adjustable legs so you can stretch them out to fit a longer tank. But you want to be successful right? So, unless you only want plants in the middle of the tank to thrive, you want a light that spans the whole length of the tank. This is also why odd shaped tanks make it more difficult. Half circle and corner tanks have nowhere for you to put those legs. Those and hex tanks also make it hard to get good coverage with a strip light. For these tanks, you either need multiple strips of different sizes, or bump up to a more expensive spotlight style. Also, most of those odd shaped tanks seem to be taller. And we already discussed that nightmare.

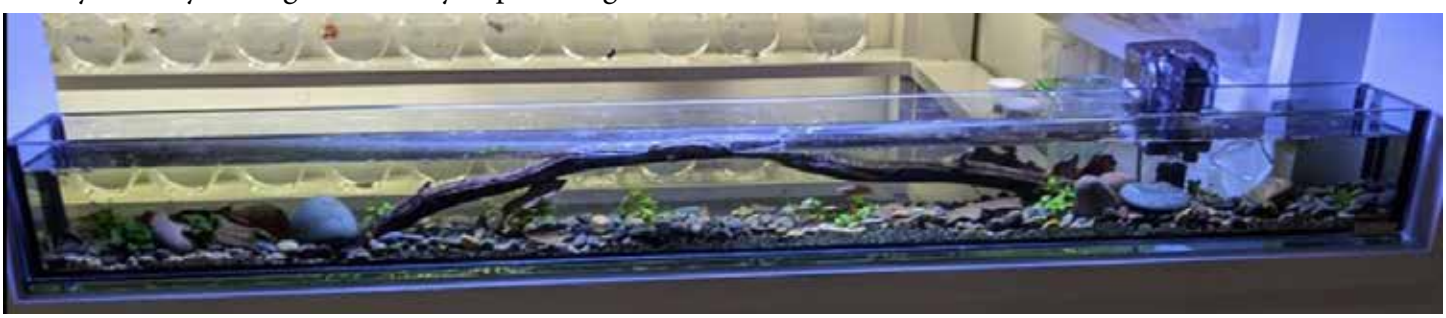
Let's consider tank shape and size from an aquascaping standpoint. Wider and deeper (front to back) tanks make scaping easier because they provide actual depth of field for you to work with. This makes it easier to create a dynamic scape. With the deep front-to-back dimension, you can have changes in substrate elevation. It gives you more room to create more interesting relationships with hardscape. I don't mean the needy, selfish relationship I have with my hoard of hardscape

materials in my shed. I'm talking about the ability to have a piece of wood point forward in the tank instead of only sideways. You get the ability to place large stones in the middle of the tank instead of right up at the glass. This leaves room for smaller stones to fan out in front of the large stones creating a more natural look. It's just better. Trust me on this.

"OK, Alex. Since you're obviously so opinionated on the subject, how about some examples of tanks you DO like?" I'm glad you asked! For a beginner, a 20gal Long or a 40 Breeder is a great first planted tank size. They are wide (30-36"), and pretty deep front to back relative to their height. They're not too tall and exist in nominal sizes that you can easily find lighting for. If you want something smaller, don't hesitate to start practicing with a normal 10gal tank. Or spring for something without a rim. Most of the rimless tanks out there are ideally sized for creating dynamic planted aquascapes. A 12 gallon long "bookshelf" tank is a great looking size for planting. Although it is a bit shallow front-to back, which limits that depth perspective.

That brings me to my last thoughts about tank shape. FLOW. Not your aunt. Water flow. Plants like it. Algae doesn't. If that right there doesn't pique your interest in this section, then you must do more research, grasshopper. I recently saw an AMAZING tank at the Fish Gallery. It's a REALLY long, thin and short tank. It's almost 5 feet long. Such a cool tank. But maaaaaan, the only thing filtering it is a single small hang-on-back filter. Long-term, I don't see that working out well. There is probably only 1/3-1/2 of the tank actually getting any flow. Filtering issues aside, the far end away from the HOB will have little to no water flow at all. Not very good for a successful planted tank. So be sure to consider how the tank shape will allow good water flow when choosing a tank for a planted aquarium.

That's it for this episode. Hope you all are staying safe and washing those hands. Not only is it good to keep away Tha 'Rona, but it stops you from getting nasty stuff in your tank water while taking your fish for their daily walk!



Guide to the Healthy Betta Part Three: Parasitic Worms and Flukes!

Helicometria sp. Fluke of a flame cardinal fish in the digestive tract. Photo courtesy of the New Yord Aquarium

Gerald Griffin

Many years ago, a fellow Betta keeper and renown breeder Victoria Parnell (those that do not know her, she was Betty Splendens and ran the Betty Splendens site) contacted me and said, "OK I have a weird question for you. "I know that you know a lot about fish diseases and parasites so I am asking you because you would know the answer. Can Bettas get anchor worms?" I was a little puzzled and had to get some follow up information. Normally Bettas would not have contact with these creatures because of how we keep them. I asked her about new plants in the enclosure to which she replied negatively. I then wanted to know and asked for the specifics. Victoria replied with "This guy ordered some female Bettas from me, and he is now claiming that my fish were infected from Anchor Worm and was wanting some sort of refund." My first reply was OK, ask him if he had Goldfish in the tank prior to the Bettas. She contacted him and he confirmed that he had kept Goldfish prior to the Bettas. I then informed her that the mystery was solved and that the anchor worms were in the tank prior to the Bettas so it was not her fault.

In my many years of keeping fish, worms are something that one typically does not encounter but when you do, they can be very problematic. But what constitutes a problem worm? First let us get into what worms are. When we think of worms we think of the three categories of worms, Flatworms, Roundworms and Segmented worms.

Flatworms are in the phyla Platyhelminthes. There are a lot of these that are primarily aquatic, and they fill a lot of niches. Some are kept for their beauty or interest either by themselves or in a community (mainly saltwater). They are acoelomates (meaning they have not body cavity) so therefore they have no specialized circulatory or respiratory organs, so oxygen is diffused through the body. They have only one opening so eating and waste disposal are done by the same tube. The problematic flat worms we might encounter in the Aquarium Trade are Trematoda and Monogenea. These groups are entirely parasitic. The group Turbellaria is nonparasitic which includes the planarians which may be common in fish tanks and typically show up if there is a lot of detritus in the tank. Flukes are parasitic and will attach to the fish's skin, gills, eyes or anywhere else they can find and feed off the fish.

Monogenea are flukes that have only one host which is the one they feed off.

Dactylogyrus are known as gill flukes. *Dactylogyrus* are known for having over 900 species which are hermaphroditic and lay eggs. The number of species discovered is indicative of the large number of species they feed upon.

Life Cycle
The adult parasite typically lays 4 to 10 eggs per day which are released into the water column. Eggs typically hatch within 4 days and depending on the temperature determines how quickly they must find a host to survive. This time frame for finding a host is around 6 to 8 hours.

Symptoms
Fish effected may flash against objects, rubbing their gills or holding their gills open. Other symptoms include lethargy, excessive respiration, and mucous secretion (sloughing). In severe cases the fish may appear anorexic, darting and jumping out of the water.

Treatment
Fortunately, there are a number of treatments that are effective. Praziquantel, fenbendazole, albendazole, potassium permanganate, formalin, and organophosphates. Formalin and Organophosphates are very powerful treatments so use care.

Gyrodactylus sp. are very similar to *Dactylogyrus* except for they are commonly found over the body of the and not primarily the gills however some species are more commonly found in some species gills. There are more than 500 species of these parasites.

Life Cycle
The adult parasite are live-bearing worms with a direct development cycle. They are most dangerous to fry and young fish as their population can build up quickly. *Gyrodactylus* has up to 16 hooks that are used to attach to the fish's body which appears to be irritating to the fish.

Symptoms
Fish affected may flash against objects, rubbing their bodies. Other symptoms include lethargy and excessive respiration. In severe cases erosion to the skin and fins can appear to be mottled and necrotic with excessive mucous secretion (sloughing).

Treatment


Gyrodactylus - note the attachment hooks.

Photos courtesy of the Alaska Department of Fish and Wildlife


Dactylogyrus - note the eye spots (arrow) which *Gyrodactylus* does not have.

Fortunately, there are a number of treatments that are effective. Praziquantel, Nichlosamid, Levamisole HCl and Metrifonate have been shown to be effective. Unfortunately to wipe out this parasite requires total desiccation of equipment that came into contact with the fish. In the wild, waterways can be treated with rotenone which kills all fish and then the fish are restocked.

Trematodes
The most diverse group of fish parasites and may be present as larval or adult forms. The majority of these are endoparasites. They belong to the group Digenea which are parasitic flatworms with an alteration of generations which means a complex life cycle. There are more than 18,000 species that affect a wide range of organisms, even including humans.

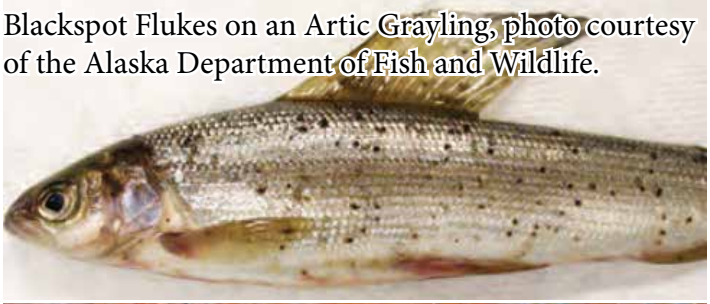
Life Cycle
This group is the most complex as they may have two, three or even four hosts during their life cycle. The three-host system being the most common. Typically, the life cycle starts with the eggs leaving the primary host in the feces and then the eggs hatch and enter the first intermediate host. This is typically a snail however could also be a worm (annelid). The parasite then gets transmitted to the snail or worm either directly or indirectly. Indirectly would be the snail or worm eating the egg whereas direct would be the egg hatching in the water producing a miracidium and directly finding and penetrating the host. The miracidium then metamorphoses into a sporocyst which undergoes asexual reproduction creating clones to produce a large number of cercariae. These cercariae then become free swimming in the aquatic environment and are then typically consumed by the fish or penetrates the fish's body and starts the final stage (fish parasite) or in the case of a third host, the fish is eaten, and the parasite enters a new host. The final host is the definitive host. Out of over 6000 species only 12 are known to infect humans.

Symptoms
When it comes to fish they can be found both as endoparasites and ectoparasites. As ectoparasites they appear as an off-color blotch or spot that can be white, yellow, or black on the skin of the fish. Fish do not normally show any outward signs unless they are severely infected.

Treatment
Fish responds to Praziquantel and Chloroquine Phosphate for treatment of the black spot (ectoparasite). This version is also referred to as Black Ich.

Tapeworms
Cestoda are the tapeworms which are common in mammals. Although not as common in fish, they still


Scanning Electron Micrograph of a Fish skin Fluke (*Gyrodactylus*). Photo courtesy of SciencePhotoLibrary


Blackspot Flukes on an Artic Grayling, photo courtesy of the Alaska Department of Fish and Wildlife.


Blackspot Flukes found internally in the muscle. Photo courtesy of the Government of Canada, Alberta Fish and Wildlife.

occur and can be very problematic. For most species it is the larva of the tapeworm that is a parasite on the fish however some species the adult can be the parasite. Tapeworms tend to be more common in commercial fisheries instead of the aquarium due primarily to the stocking (or should I say overstocking) of commercial fish vats. Due to the large volume of livestock kept in close quarters these fish are far more prone to disease and are often times medicated to cut down on parasites.

Life Cycle
Fish tapeworms resemble the majority of tapeworms with the scolex and the proglottid segments. Some can get larger than 1 meter in length. The lifecycle starts with the egg released from the adult which travels out into the water by feces. The eggs hatch in 1 to 5 days in warm water and 10 to 28 days in cold water. The

larva is typically eaten by copepods. Once eaten by the copepod the larva then penetrates the gut wall and transforms into a procercoid in 6 to 10 days. Once eaten by the fish the parasite transforms into the plerocercoid stage and attaches to the intestinal wall of the fish.

Symptoms
Typical signs are weight loss, anemia, and mortality in smaller or younger fishes. Another issue could be blockages if the infestation is heavy. This could lead to necrosis and hemorrhages.

Treatment
For the most part these internal parasites respond quite well to Praziquantel (Biltricide) and Nichlosamide (Nichlocide).

Roundworms
Roundworms are by definition Nematodes. They have a body cavity with internal organs, complete digestive organs from mouth to anus, and a simple nervous system and brain. It is thought that every species on Earth has a specific Nematode that is a parasite to that species and some species have many Nematode parasite species. Nematodes may be definite hosts or intermediate hosts in fish.

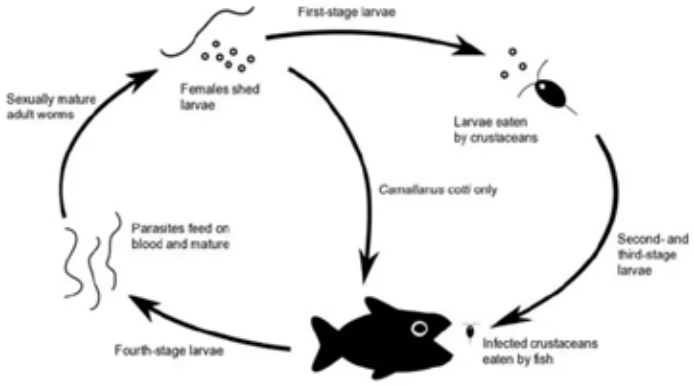
Life Cycle
For a number of species cyclops and daphnia are the intermediate hosts for these parasitic roundworms. As with other types of parasites the adult worms release the eggs into the water. The larva are eaten by crustaceans and undergo development and when the crustaceans are eaten by the fish they develop into their final form. One of the most common of these parasites is *Camallanus* spp. The *Camallanus cotti* worm can release their larva directly into the host fish. This occurs due to this species internally hatches their eggs so they can release them directly into the host. Encysted or free nematodes can be found in almost any tissue of the fish.

Symptoms
The most common way these worms are discovered is when they are hanging out of the anus of the fish. Often times these worms are never discovered unless a necropsy is done on the fish.

Treatment
Treatment is best done by giving medication orally. Treating the water may paralyze the part of the worm protruding from the anus but does not kill the worm inside the anus. Of these medicines Levamisole is found as the active ingredient in Fritz Expel-P. Fenbendazole is the most effective medication for the treatment of these worms.


Western Mosquitofish *Gambusia affinis* infected with an Asian Tapeworm. Photo courtesy of University of Southern Mississippi


Camallanus worms protruding from an *Ancistrus* Catfish. Photo courtesy of AquariumScience.org



Camallanus Life Cycle. Diagram courtesy of Chewy.com

Next time on The Guide to the Healthy Betta Part 4: Other Possible Parasites!

Annelida
Annelids are the segmented worms. This group has a body cavity, complete digestive system, nervous system with brain and segmentation. They also have setae which are movable bristles that are used for a variety of functions. This group is primarily detritivores however some groupings are predatory and others are parasitic.

Hirundinae is a subclass of Annelida which are both predatory and parasitic. The most common parasitic form that people are familiar with are the leeches. Leeches are segmented and muscular with suckers on both ends which they use to attach on their prey. They can be found freshwater, marine and terrestrial environments.

Life Cycle
Some 680 species have been identified. Of those about 480 species are freshwater, 100 species marine and 100 being terrestrial. Leeches are hermaphroditic with a pair lining up with their clitellar regions where they fertilize their eggs. They then will produce cocoons which are typically placed under rocks. After the young hatch they look for fish or other organisms to parasitize. Leeches secrete chemical hirudin which is an anti-coagulant and then they feed upon the fluids of their host.

Symptoms
If noted it is evident as they might crawl on the fish. Fish leeches are typically about one centimeter in length although young will be smaller.

Treatment
One of the most effective treatments is formalin. Other treatments include salt baths in a 2.5% solution for 10 to 15 minutes. Copper treatments can also be used however these treatments kill a number of invertebrates so are not the best choice. Also, Potassium permanganate, hydrogen peroxide and bleach can also be used. Use caution with these treatments. Note that these treatments will affect the adults but not the eggs. Removal can also be attempted with planaria traps.

Notes: Detritus Worms are normally not a problem. Do not treat a tank to remove them. They typically appear when the tank is not properly maintained or when there is a lot of biological activity in the tank. Personally, if I see them I try to keep them for use in the classroom.

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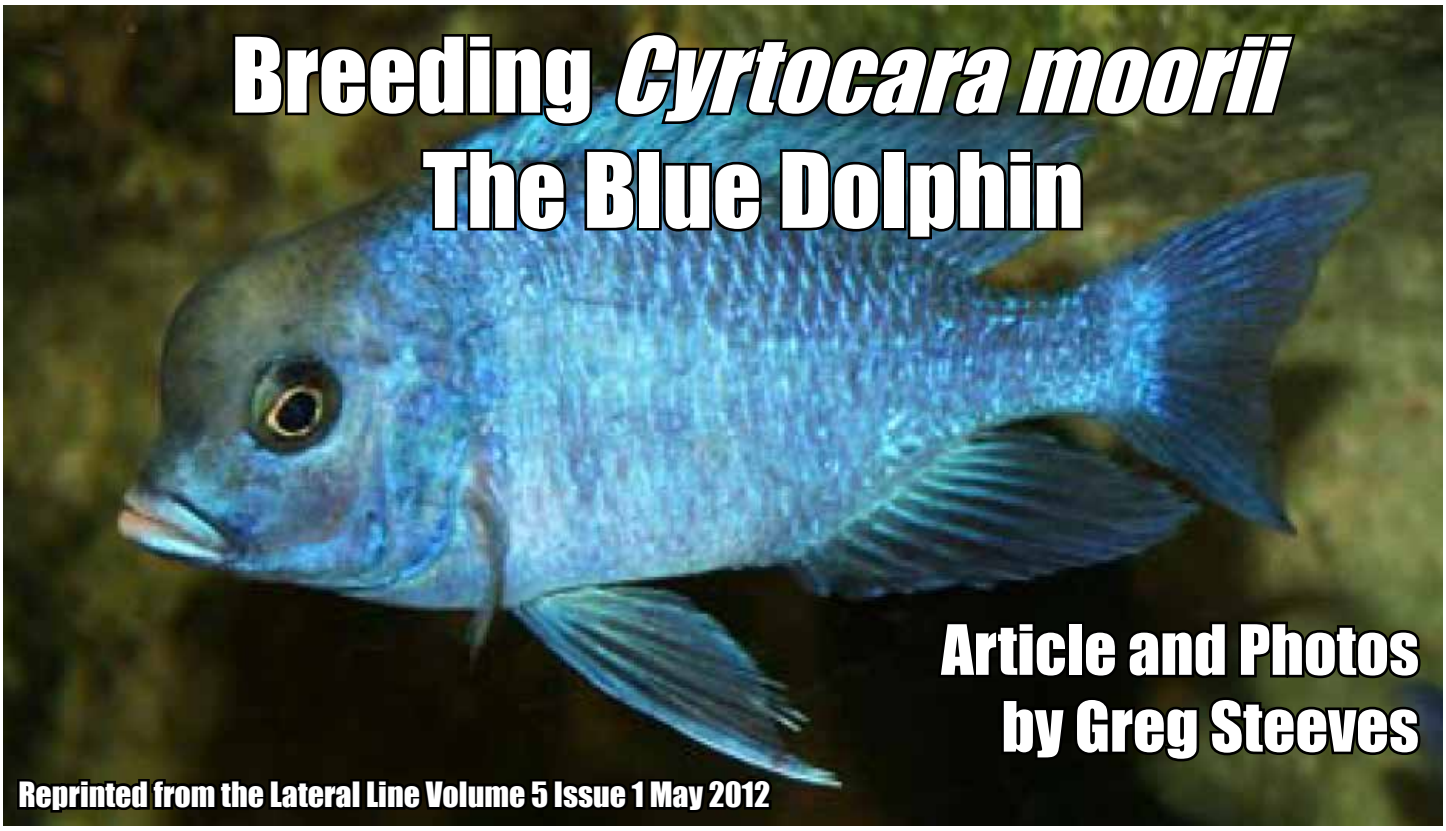
Piscicola geometra leech on a trout. Photo courtesy of Hundsbuckler via Wiki-Commons



Breeding *Cyrtocara moorii* The Blue Dolphin

Article and Photos by Greg Steeves

Reprinted from the Lateral Line Volume 5 Issue 1 May 2012

It has been a while since I've deviated out of my comfort zone and wrote about anything other than haplochromine cichlids. Although I consider the former group of cichlids my favorite, many of the species from Lake Malawi slide in a close second. I, as most cichlid hobbyists, would someday like to go to this great African Rift Lake and see those colorful fishes first hand.

The nomenclatural history of *Cyrtocara moorii* is not nearly as complex as the name game with other Malawian fishes. It is, in fact, fairly simple and the players are familiar names within the haplochromine realm. The British scientist George Albert Boulenger initially described *Cyrtocara moorii*, a monotypic genus, at the turn of the 20th century (1902). In 1935, Ethelwynn Trewawas, the first in a line of remarkable British female ichthyologists reclassified the species as *Haplochromis moorii*. For us oldtimers, we can recall that in the not so long ago past, everything that came out of Lake Malawi that was not an mbuna, was usually called "*Haplochromis*". Trewawas cited a Regan (another one of those British fish scientists) hallmark for inclusion into the "*Haplochromis*" group considering "a continuous margin in the dorsal fin" as reason (Konings, 2007). Eccles and Trewawas again examined the fish in 1989 reinstated Boulenger's original genus name "*Cyrtocara*" and that is where we stand today, one of the few monotypic cichlid genus' of Lake Malawi.

The genus name stems from Greek roots. "*Cyrtocara*" translates to "curved-face" while "moorii", the species name, is in dedication to J.E.S. Moore, the first collector of this species. At an adult size of 20cm, I consider this to be a gentle giant in our tank. The striking powder-blue coloration is shared by both sexes. Some black blotching or faint vertical barring along the flanks is visible and largely mood oriented. The most striking feature of this fish has to be the large nuchal hump that again, both sexes possess. This fleshy head bump causes a resemblance with a well known aquatic mammal. Hence the common name of the dolphin or blue dolphin cichlid. Large lips line a weak jaw and are used to forage food that other digging species uncover and leave behind. So there you have it, a little background. Now let me relate my experiences with this fish.

In 2007, our club hosted FOTAS in San Antonio. One of the speakers was Spencer Jack. Spencer brought some really great fish along with him. As the guest of Lee Ann and I, he, after the convention, had a few *C. moorii* fry left over. Instead of making arrangements to fly them home to Winnipeg, he graciously gave them to Lee Ann. There were a dozen or so and I did my best to hide my feelings that these fish would be

taking up valuable tank space that I could better utilize for a vic! Fast forward ahead to 2009: The *C. moorii* are now about 10 cm in length and I've killed all but six. I am experimenting with outdoor ponds (thanks to J B) and I decide to test my water quality by throwing these in. This is what I refer to as the "sink or swim" method of fish acclamation. Shortly after their introduction, something a rookie pond keeper like me hadn't bargained for occurred. The water got pea soup green and had lost every bit of clarity. I discovered the magic of UV sterilization the next year. For the remainder of the summer however, I had no idea if they were still in there alive or not. I had forgotten (sublimely on purpose) that Lee Ann was less than thrilled on my putting her dolphins outside without her approval. 2009 was a long summer but she started talking to me again when I drained the pond and not only still had her six *C. moorii* but discovered they had nearly doubled in size with a coloration that could only be described as using the cliché as "stunning"!

Now, as fate would have it, I had just acquired a group of *Lipochromis melanopterus*, a paedophage from Lake Victoria. As the name would imply, L. melanopterus is a baby eater in nature. I really wanted to see this behavior if only I could find a compatible species that was not overly aggressive, a ready spawner, and fairly attractive (that last distinction would be a bonus). Wouldn't you know it, the only tank I had available to house the *C. moorii* was the 125 gallon tank it could share with *L. melanopterus.* Despite my carelessness, this combination has worked very well. These two species of similar temperament, have co existed in this aquarium ever since. I have not been able to witness the behavior (engulfing the snout of the brooding donor female) that I wanted to see from the *L. melanopterus*, but I'm very satisfied with the pleasing display these fish present.

I have a tough time sexing these fish based on sight alone. When considering aggressiveness, colorations and displays, Lee Ann seems to think we have five males and a female. I would agree with this as we have only had one fish brood. The spawn we got from *C. moorii* nearly went unnoticed. We realized that one fish hadn't eaten in some time and, as generally a species with a ravenous appetite, we were pretty sure something was up. There was very little sign of a buccal extension so we figured that the spawn was very small. After at least a month, curiosity got the better of me and I tore the tank apart to catch her. Finally managing to get her into the net, the female immediately spit

A portion of the breeding group of *Cyrtocara moorii*.

A holding female *C. moorii*. The buccal cavity extension can be subtle.

Cyrtocara moorii was recently placed on the CARES priority list by Ad Konings.

out about 30 fully formed and free swimming fry. I think the fry were probably ready to be released a week beforehand but she held on to them out of fear of them becoming a snack for the large *L. melanopterus* or the *Synodontis ocelifer* that some how found their way into that tank as well. Up until this point, that was the only spawn we have saved but just recently, the lone female has dropped an ovipositor and is drawing much attention from what seems to be the most dominant male.

We have found that feeding *C. moorii* is not a difficult task. They readily take everything from live foods (blood worms, brine shrimp, etc) to flake and pellets and even algae wafers. As of late we have switched our regiment of feeding prepared foods to a new product called Repahsy Super Foods. This powdered product allows the aquarist to easily configure the food to whatever is needed. I won't present a commercial on this product but I will say that to me, it is the greatest innovation to happen to fish keeping since the invention of the breathable bags and Bag Buddies. We are able to easily adjust the protein content for the various species we keep including *C. moorii*. The fry are fed the same formulae as given to the adults only instead of feeding gelled cubes; we mash the product for easier ingestion. As much as I hate to admit it, I've become kind of attached to our dolphins. Before each auction I have tried to bag them up and sneak them out of the fish hut. I consider it good fortune that my efforts were repeatedly foiled. Because now, not only are they a cool dither fish, if I had to, I might just allow for an aquarium devoted to *Cytocara moorii*.

IBC - FOTAS Convention Speaker Lineup

June 22nd - 25th 2023

Hilton Garden Inn Midtown Tulsa, OK

4518 E Skelly Dr, Tulsa, OK 74135

Dr. Gene Lucas
IBC Founder and Genetic Researcher*

Dr. Andres Bendesky
Columbia University
Betta Genome Project

Dave Schumacher
Rare Cichlid Expert and Importer

Michael Gaines
Livebearer and Native Fishes Expert

Gerald Griffin
Anabantoid Expert and Judging Board Chair of the IBC

***Dr. Lucas will try to be at Convention however due to his age he might not be able to travel**

Class B 3

Shortfin Doubletail Male
(All Colors and Patterns)

Sponsor: Mark Lester Hao

Remember that we are still looking for sponsors for Convention! All Sponsors will have a placard like the one above! If you cannot be at Convention please consider sponsoring a class or two! Thanks!

Convention Schedule

IBC

Thursday, 6/22/23
Breakfast 7:00 am to 9:00 am
Set Up, Benching 10:00 am – 5:00 pm
Registration opens 10:00 am – 5:00 pm
Fish Room Open – 5:00 pm-6:00pm
Dinner – Dr. Gene Lucas - Bettas
President's Reception 9:30 PM till ????

Friday 6/23/23
Breakfast 6:45-9:30 am
All Judges Meeting -9:00 am
Judging Seminar #1 & #2- 9:00 am
Lunch 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm
Judging (also Judging Seminar #3, and Apprentice Visual Test)-1:00 pm-finish
Fish Room Open 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm?
7:00 pm Dinner – Dr. Andres Bendesky Betta Genome Project
Hospitality Room Open 10:00 pm

Saturday 6/24/23
Breakfast 7:00 am - 9:00 am
Fish Room Open -9am – 2:30 pm
Seminar: 10:00 am -11:00 am – "Wilds" Gerald Griffin
Seminar: 11:00 am - 12:00 am – "Cichlids" Dave Schumacher
Lunch: 12:00 pm -1:30 pm
Seminar: 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm Michael Gaines
Seminar: 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm "Cichlids" Dave Schumacher
Business Meeting 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm (IBC Members only)
Awards Banquet 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Auction Setup-Bagging Fish- Starts after Awards Banquet
Hospitality Room Open after Auction Set Up

Sunday- 6/25/23
Breakfast 7:00 am - 9:00 am
Auction 10:00 am

FOTAS

Thursday, 6/22/23
Breakfast 7:00 am to 9:00 am
Set Up, Benching 10:00 am – 5:00 pm
Registration opens 10:00 am – 5:00 pm
Fish Room Open – 5:00 pm-6:00pm
Dinner – Dr. Gene Lucas - Bettas
President's Reception 9:30 PM till ????

Friday 6/23/23
Breakfast 7:00-9:30 am
Benching 10:00 am – 5:00 pm
FOTAS Collecting Trip – Michael Gaines 10:00 am to ?
*If Collecting Trip is canceled then the alternative activity will be a trip to the Oklahoma Aquarium
7:00 pm Dinner – Dr. Andres Bendesky Betta Genome Project
Hospitality Room Open 10:00 pm

Saturday 6/24/23
Breakfast 7:00 am - 9:00 am
Fish Room Open -9am – 2:30 pm
Seminar: 10:00 am -11:00 am – "Wilds" Gerald Griffin
Seminar: 11:00 am - 12:00 am – "Cichlids" Dave Schumacher
Lunch: 12:00 pm -1:30 pm FOTAS Business Meeting
Seminar: 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm Michael Gaines
Seminar: 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm "Cichlids" Dave Schumacher
Judging FOTAS Fish Show 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm
Awards Banquet 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Auction Setup-Bagging Fish- Starts after Awards Banquet
Hospitality Room Open after Auction Set Up

Sunday- 6/25/23
Breakfast 7:00 am - 9:00 am
Auction 10:00 am

IBC-FOTAS Convention 2023

June 22nd to 25th

Hosted by OBBA, OKAA & NWAAS

Hilton Garden Inn Tulsa Midtown

4518 E Skelly Drive
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74135
918-878-7777

Room rates are $107 plus tax
Free parking
FULL CONVENTION PACKAGE INCLUDES:
Breakfasts with Registered Hotel Room.
3 Dinners (includes Awards Banquet, Thursday and Friday night)
President's Reception/Hospitality Suite
Convention T-Shirt
All workshops, (including Judging Seminars)
IBC General Membership Meeting (members only)
Open Executive and Judging Board Meetings
Convention Auction

PACKAGE PRICING:
FULL PACKAGE Thursday to Sunday $185.00
MEALS ONLY $90.00
BANQUET ONLY $ 60.00
WORKSHOPS ONLY $ 50.00
ADDITIONAL T-SHIRTS $15

CLASS SPONSORSHIPS $20.00 PER CLASS

ALL PRICES WILL INCREASE $20 AFTER MAY 1, 2023

Registration Payments can be made by PayPal to herpchat@yahoo.com
Checks can be mailed to;
Gerald Griffin
PO Box 143
Talala OK 74080

There is no Hotel Shuttle,
if flying in contact us for arrangements!
Details subject to change

More information can be found at

https://okaa.info/?page_id=26

SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA AQUARIUM SOCIETY

SELAS AUCTION

SATURDAY
JUNE 3, 2023

GOOD SHEPARD CHURCH
5122 W ESPLANADE AVE, METAIRIE, LA 70006

Doors Open at Noon • Auction Starts at 1PM

- $3 Cover Charge or $5 Bidder Card
- Bidder Card Necessary to Bid
- Final Value Fees: 1st Dollar Goes to SELAS, then
- 80% of Final Selling Price Goes to Seller / 20% to SELAS
- Pizza & Soft Drinks Provided
- Visit www.selas.us for Official Rules & Forms

Pro Tip: Label your auction items & complete your seller's sheet prior to the auction

OBBA - OKAA All Species Auction
25 June 2023
Tulsa Midtown Hilton Garden Inn
4518 E Skelly Dr
Tulsa, OK 74135

Sunday Auction Rules
OKAA/OBBA will not accept responsibility for any item's safe keeping nor its condition before or after the sale.

SALES

- Cash only! 75%/25% Seller/Host Club
- IBC Auction Items will be the first to be Auctioned then the All Species
- Bettas not in the Show can be auctioned in the All Species Auction!

ITEMS

- Only fish or aquarium related products are allowed in the auction.
- All items must be properly bagged if needed.
  - Proper fish bags must be used.
  - Zip-locks and baggies are unacceptable.
  - Live animals must be properly bagged with air and water. Please double bag.
  - Larger fish may be kept in buckets or other suitable containers, but the bucket becomes property of the buyer.
  - Items such as driftwood or decorations do not need to be bagged; however, they must be labeled appropriately.
  - Items not properly bagged will be rebagged by OKAA/OBBA volunteers. There will be a $2 fee for items that need to be rebagged. This is NON-NEGOTIABLE.

LABELS / SELLER SHEETS

- All Sellers must fill out a seller sheet.
- Your Seller ID are your initials. For example, if your name is Homer Jay Simpson, your Seller ID would be HJS.
- All items that you are selling must be listed on your seller sheet.
- All items must be labeled with your Seller ID and Item Number.
- Your labels should match the numbers on your seller sheet.
- You may put a reserve price on your item.
- Below are examples of acceptable labels:

TIMES

- 9:00 am - 11:00 am Registration
- 11:00 am - 6:00 pm Auction

EXAMPLES OF SELLER TAGS

HJS 007 (Sellers 3 Abr Code and Item number)
Pygmy Chain Sword (Item description)
(Echinodorus tenellus) (Species-helpful but not needed)
Reserve $5 (Not needed)

Notes: Species names can be vitally important and help your sales of particular species as well as location data if known. All IBC Items have a mininum of $5 unless waived.

IBC 2023 Convention Betta Show
Oklahoma Betta Breeders Association
June 22nd – 24th, 2023
Hilton Garden Inn, Tulsa Midtown
4518 E Skelly Dr.
Tulsa, OK 74135

Show Chair: Kayla Griffin
Email: kaylagriffin63@yahoo.com
Phone: 918-586-2875

Mail Entries to:
Kayla Griffin
PO Box 143
Talala, OK 74080

Special Note: Do NOT label your shipping boxes "Live Fish." We have had issues in the past with certain shipping companies holding boxes marked in this manner. Please send your fish through the United States postal service if at all possible. Sending through UPS or FedEx can result in mishandling and/or delay.

Show Fish: Mail-in entries need to arrive no later than **5 PM Wednesday June 21st, 2023.** OBBA will need to receive your entry form, fees and return postage (if necessary) with your fish. Return postage and entry fees cannot and will not be deducted from auction proceeds. Please provide a return mailing label, empty bags and heat packs (if desired) with your fish. **Please pre-register all your show fish!** Email your entry form to the show chair by **Wednesday June 21st, 2023.**

Walk Ins: All walk-in entries must arrive by 12**:00 PM Thursday, June 22nd, 2023**.
Please notify the show chair when you will be arriving with your fish. You **must** tell the show chair if you are bringing walk-in entries!

Entry Fees
$3.00 per single entry
$5.00 per pair
Make checks payable to: Gerald Griffin
PayPal is accepted. Send PayPal payments herpchat@yahoo.com

These shows are one day events!
OBBA Schedule of Events

Thursday Setup Exhibit
Friday Judge Bettas
Saturday Night – Pack up the Bettas
Sunday Auction

Show Room will be packed up after the Awards Banquet on Saturday Night!

Previous Issue of Fish Tales

What would you like to see in the next Fish Tales Magazine?

Contact the Editor if you have story ideas or would like to contribute to Fish Tales!

FOTAS

Federation of Texas Aquarium Societies

Fish Tales

Volume 12 Issue 3

Jul - Sep 2022

Will my Plants Grow in Clown Puke?

My Time at the ACA...

Making your own Fish Food

Guide to the Healthy Betta Part Two: Managing External Parasites!