

# KIRKCALDY AQUARIST SOCIETY INFORMATION SHEET

Date: - January "2003" No,10

copyright of Kirkcaldy Aquarist Society



Name: - Corydoras Axelrodi

Family: - Callichthyidae.

Origin: - South America.

Size: - 4.5cms.



We first purchased two pairs of Corydoras Axelrodi at a shop called Tingly Tropicals in Yorkshire in 1990.

We set the pairs up in separate 16x10x12 tanks filtered by surge filters through gravel. Natural plants in the form of amazon swords and Java moss were added as part of the set up.

After about two months the pairs had still not spawned, I then moved them into a bare 24x14x15 tank. The only reason was because I needed the tank space for small fry.

This larger tank was as I said, bare, apart from two small box filters that were not adequate to run such a large tank.

The tank was 15inch high and only had the two pair of Axelrodi. I was feeding them live feeding such as daphnia and white worm. This type of feeding can produce a lot of waste matter.

The water quality was deteriorating as the filtration was not up to the job in hand. An extra hang on Trickle filter was added. Again the flow rate wasn't enough so the water level was dropped to approx. 10 inches.

The waterfall effect appeared to induce the fish into a spawning mood.

The females were the first to react, swimming directly into the flow, until it pushed them away. Then the males started. This went on for about three days.

Before I carried out a water change the temperature was steady at 76f and the pH was a low 5.8 - 6.

I removed 25% of the water and added cold water direct from the tap. I also added a large feed of white worm.

In the morning the temperature was 76f, the pH had risen to 6.5. The general hardness was 12gh. The activity started again, with same mannerisms as before, but this time they would tee up first, and then enter the flow from the filter.

The female swam against the flow until she appeared to get tired; she then deposited two slightly milky eggs against the glass of the tank where the flow was hitting directly from the filter.

No plants were in the tank but I think the Cory's would still have laid their eggs in the same place, as they appeared to prefer the waterfall effect.

After spawning, the eggs where hurriedly being eaten by the spawning pair. I removed about 35 eggs to a small show jar.

I added one drop of Meth blue to hopefully stop the eggs from fungusing. The eggs started to eye up and changed their colour after two days and proceeded to hatch in five days at 78f.

The hatch rate is less than the average for Cory's, but this is such an attractive little fish it's worth the extra effort.

At the most we managed to get around 25 fry to maturity, from any one spawning.

These fish would spawn about every two weeks and appear to be seasonal spawner's rather than light or temperature spawner's.

We found the best time of year for spawning was March to early June, then they had time off for good behaviour.

Text: - Mike Dewar.

Photo:- Kirkcaldy Aquarist Society.