

KIRKCALDY AQUARIST SOCIETY INFORMATION SHEET

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Name:- Barilius Bakeri

Family:- Cyprinidae

Origin:- India

Size:- 8cms (u.s.a show size)



We were very fortunate to get three of these lovely fish about one year ago from Chris at Cupar Garden Centre; he originally got them from B.A.S. in Bolton.

Some Judging Standard show them as either, Rasboras, or A.O.V Egglayers.

Until they are truly identified we can only go by info from breeders.

The males have more intense colour. The Anal and Pectoral fin are slightly longer and when in breeding condition turn very light brown. The picture shows the male spawning, the female is on the other side of the male but is unseen.

As they are very fast fish we kept them in our sitting room tank that is 6x2x2 with fine gravel with a lot of broken white shell mixed in.

The tank has a large piece of bog wood, which has turned the water peaty brown.

With a combination of bog wood and the shell the tank stayed at neutral of 7ph.

The general hardness was between 8 and 10 and a temperature of 79f.

The male found a swimming area at the side of the wood, which he was defending, from other tank mates, this went on for two days.

When the female was ready she followed the male over, what I would call a shallow dished area in the fine gravel. There they circled and eventually went side by side with their undersides imbedded in the gravel, their bodies started to shimmy but were still over the nest site for about 15 seconds, then they flickered very fast and half their bodies were buried when the female released the eggs.

This spawning method is very similar to trout.

This went on for about an hour with the eggs out of site until on one pass the eggs were disturbed.

This produced a hive of activity with all the tank inhabitants including the spawning pair avidly eating the eggs.

The eggs were 2-3 mm in diameter and had a creamy/white centre that was surrounded with a clear, for better words a bubble that made the eggs quite light and floated slowly to the bottom of the tank.

We managed to save around 80 eggs, which we believe to be around ¼ of the spawning, and transferred them to a large show tank.

Added two drops of meth blue and an airline.

The eggs started to hatch in 36 hours at a temperature of 78f. All the fry were free swimming after another 36 hours.

They accepted newly hatched Brine Shrimp as their first food, with crushed down Tetra Tablets after one week.

They now feed on any selection of foods given to them.

We have bred this species several times since and every time the hatch rate is at least 98%.

This is one of the most attractive and active species of fish we have ever kept and bred.

They have bars on their flanks when they are sub adults, these change to 7 or 8 spots along the lateral line when they mature.

If you ever see them up for sale, even if they are small

BUY THEM, You will not be disappointed.

Text by :- Mike Dewar.

Photo by :- Mike Dewar.