

KIRKCALDY AQUARIST SOCIETY INFORMATION SHEET

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Name: - Rhinogobius Wui

Family: - Gobiidae (gobionellinae)

Origin: - China & Hong Kong

Size: - 5.5cms (u.s.a show size)



I was fortunate to obtain these fish as a by catch. They originally came into the shop as Hong Kong plecs; "Gastromyzon" Species along side other various species of what we generally call Hill stream loaches.

I housed them in an 18"x18"x15" tank, filtered by a small internal power filter and a bio foam sponge filter. The power filter was an attempt to imitate their natural conditions, as these fish are from streams and small rivers.

The temperature was set at 72f; the pH was 7, which is neutral.

They settled into the tank very well and greedily accepted Brine Shrimp, White Worm and Grindle Worm.

The tank décor consisted of an 1.5" layer of gravel with half sliced flower pots and slate laying flat on the gravel.

Sex differences, the female is brown and the male has red spots on the gills and red markings on the fins.

Before breeding any fish it is very important to get them into good condition.

The fish were fed heavily on natural pond foods consisting of Glass worm, Daphnia, and Blood worm. This was topped up with White Worm and Brine Shrimp.

Regular water changes of 50% were carried out on a weekly base.

Slowly I started to raise the temperature to 74f.

When the male is ready to breed he will excavate a cave under the slate removing sand and gravel to his requirements. He will then start displaying

to the females. The courtship consisted of the male turning a very dark colour and tilting his head back like howling dog and croaking.

At this stage he flares his gill plates to show the red spotted underside.

He will breed with several females before he blocks the entrance to the cave. This is the sign to remove all the other tank inhabitants.

The male guards the eggs up-to and beyond the time the fry are spotted escaping from the cave. This is the time to remove the male.

Incubation takes approx. 14 days depending on the tank temperature.

The fry were simple to raise and took Brine Shrimp and Micro worm as their first food.

Depending on what female he eventually bred with the brood could be anything from 15 to 30 fry raised to adult hood.

They were shown in the A.O.V Egglayers class at Greenock open show two years ago, and I was delighted to receive a first bred first shown certificate.

Summing up.

Always check out the cold water section at your local fish shop. You may be very surprised what you will find because these fish are well worth the effort.

Text: - Ricky Angus.

Photo: - Mike Dewar.