

KIRKCALDY AQUARIST SOCIETY INFORMATION SHEET

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Name:- Mogurnda Adpersa.

Family:- Gobiidae.

Origin:- Australia.

Size:- 12cms (u.s.a show size)



We were very lucky to have a contact in South Yorkshire who can sometimes obtain rare and unusual fish. On this occasion it was a chance to obtain a fish we had been after for about 8 years. *Mogurnda Adpersa* is in the group of Gobies that are commonly known as Sleeper Gobies. Although it has a show size of 12cms, it is still one of the smaller Sleepers.

We obtained five *Adpersa*'s but only managed to get four home to Scotland as they are great escape artists.

We take small tank set-ups with us when we travel, on this occasion we clearly had not secured the cover.

On arriving home we set them up in a 600x600x450mm tank, filtered with a surge filter set up at the rear quarter of the tank. Sharp sea sand at the front $\frac{3}{4}$ for swimming room.

We included several caves formed out of broken field drains and flowerpots.

Only plastic plants were used in the tank. This was for no other reason than that was what we had available at the time.

The water was kept at a temperature of 77f to 78f and the pH was neutral at 7. General hardness was 15.

The Male is larger with a more pronounced head. His ovipositor is slimmer than the female, her ovipositor being shorter and flat across the end. The male fluffed up his finnage to impress the females, a pair parted to one end of the tank where the courtship continued.

The male slowly circled the female again and again.

After about 30 minutes they went into one of the caves. The female went first and laid 10 to 12 milky

oval eggs about 2.5mm long and 1mm in width. They were placed gently on the roof of the cave, the male then followed closely behind depositing his milt over his future offspring.

After about 15 minutes the female seemed to lose interest in the male and she got very protective, defending the spawning site by chasing the other tank inhabitants.

The male just ignored all the fuss and continued fertilising the clutch until the female returned to the love nest.

In all there were 80 eggs, we removed the eggs and hatched them artificially as this was our first spawning.

The eggs hatched in 7 days. They were fed liquifry as their first food, but were taking newly hatched Brine Shrimp and baby E, after the second day.

We compared a spawning of peacock Gobies that spawned on the same day. The growth rate was about the same for the first month, then the *Adpersa* grew twice as fast as the peacocks.

The *Adpersa* is a lovely fish, and great to breed. For the collector of unusual they are still a challenge.

We have left several spawnings with the male to rear until they are feeding themselves. We always remove the female after spawning for her own safety.

A word of warning to prospective owners.

This fish is an escape artist but mostly it is carnivorous and won't hesitate to eat its brother's and sister's. *Its motto is, **IF IT FIT'S, EAT IT.***

Text :-Mike Dewar

Photo:-Mike Dewar