



Showfish

DEC 2005

NEWSLETTER OF THE COAST FISH CLUB

VOLUME 14, ISSUE 12

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Items for publication in Showfish are due within one week after the monthly meeting and will be included as space and time permit within constraints of club bylaws. Articles received after the deadline will be used in the next newsletter as permitted.

Editorial Team: C. Marelus, Mike McCabe, and Pauline Jackson

December 4th Meeting — Speaker: Rahul Kumar Topic: Fishes of the Badidae family

The family Badidae is made up of two genera of small freshwater fishes in tropical lowlands from the Indus river in Pakistan to the Mekong River and peninsular Thailand. They are small fishes, between about 20 and 70 mm adult length. Fifteen species of Badidae have been described, the most famous of which is *Badis badis*.

<http://www2.nrm.se/ve/pisces/myanmar/myanbadi.shtml>

Badis ruber Schreitmüller, 1923
Photo Henrik Dahlgren.



Holiday Party — \$5 Pot Luck

The club provides the meats, while members bring the side dishes, condiments, and desserts. Several members have already signed up to bring their favorites. **Below are some suggestions for those who would like to bring something but don't know what.** Hot dishes, cold dishes, bought or homemade - all are welcome. Liquor is not allowed.

Baked potatoes	Scalloped potatoes	Acorn squash
Sweet potatoes	Corn or hominy	Green Beans
Broccoli	Carrots	Cranberry Sauce
Cheese and crackers	Breads or rolls	Stuffing
Green salad, dressing	Fresh fruit	Fruit salad
Veggie platter	Milk, Juices	Iced tea
Curry	Butter, margarine	Rice
Desserts	Chips, Dips, Salsa	Tamales

Generally speaking, people bring dishes to serve four to six people. Everybody takes smaller portions at holiday potlucks, and a dish of that size will serve ten to fifteen people comfortably. The \$5 charge is waived when you bring a dish of food.

The Fish Exchange and Fishy Goods Exchange— ANNUAL FAVORITE MYSTERY GAMES

Bring a fish in a bag, wrapped up in holiday paper or otherwise hidden from view, and set the bag of fish on the Fish Exchange Table. Fish that live in a ten or twenty gallon tank are well received. People can also bring fish-related gift items, which are welcomed by those who don't want a live fish just now, for the Fishy Goods Exchange.

Get a number ticket from the person in charge of calling the game.

When the game begins, the person in charge of the game randomly draws a ticket and calls out the number. Whoever has that number goes up and chooses any fish, unwrapping it for all to see. The next number is called, and the owner of that ticket goes up and chooses a fish from the table or from someone who has already chosen a fish. A fish bag can be selected up to three times, after which it stays with the person who has it. Trading gets chaotic and it's always fun.

The first species in our Species Maintenance Program – Zoogoneticus tequila WEBB and MILLER 1998

Common Name: Crescent or Tequila Goodeid



Photo by Shane Webb, one of describers.

sawebb@ngcsu.edu

<http://www.ngcsu.edu/Academic/Sciences/Biology/faculty/webb.shtml>

DESCRIPTION: In this goodeid species, the male is steel gray speckled with olive brown; he has a bright orange crescent on his caudal fin; the larger female is speckled brown and silver. Their scientific name refers not to the liquor, but to the local Tequila Volcano. Both sexes reach about 1.5 to 2 inches in total length, with the female being the larger of the two. Multiple generations can cohabit a twenty to fifty gallon tank. Most articles state the fish are relatively peaceful and show little to no aggression; one article reported their male was intolerant of all other males in the tank, eventually killing those that were not removed.

ORIGIN: Originally identified as a member of the *Zoogoneticus quitzeoensis* species in 1955 by R. R. Miller and J. T. Greenbank, the Tequila are indigenous to the upper reaches of Rio Teuchitlán in the eastern edge of Teuchitlán in the state of Jalisco. The principle visible difference between *Zoogoneticus tequila* and *Zoogoneticus quitzeoensis* is the fin colouration. The anal fin and dorsal fin on the males of both species has a faint orange rim, but the tail fin of the Tequila has a broad orange crescent-shaped stripe while the *Zoogoneticus quitzeoensis* has a transparent tail. (Preserved specimens of both species have transparent tails.)

The Tequila were rediscovered in 1990 near Guadalajara (roughly 20.20 N, 103.40 W), one of the best known of Jalisco's cities, and by 2000 they were extinct in the wild. They exist only in captivity now; most are traceable to fish collected in 1990 by Derek Lambert, M. Smith, C. Rodriguez and L. Butler.

The Teuchitlan River, part of the Ameca drainage system, used to

Membership News –

New/Returning Members

The following people joined COAST recently - Welcome and Thanks!
I did not get the list of new / returning members this month.

Renewals Received

The following people have renewed their memberships—Thank You!
I did not get the list of renewed members this month. I know A. J. Sprague renewed.

Member Renewals Due in December

Please remember to renew your membership this month.

- Kevin Bruner
- Don Foltz
- Kevin Joseph
- Karen Peyser
- Ed, Barbara Semanski
- Jason, Jennifer Kucera

Member Renewals Due November

- Sandy Binder
- Vinny Kutty
- Alan Rosen

If you have renewed, don't panic, I'll get the information soon.

Showfish is not sent to people whose memberships have been expired more than one month.

Member Renewals Due in Sept/Oct

- ▶ Barbara Healy-Sprague
- ▶ Rahul Kumar
- ▶ Michael Booth
- ▶ Paul, Virginia Engen
- ▶ Bryan Lampl
- ▶ Lawrence Leshinski
- ▶ Bonnie Lewis
- ▶ Mike, Elaine McCabe
- ▶ Joseph Shuryan
- ▶ Machel, Kathy Van Dam

▶ This symbol means this is your last Showfish until you renew. If you renewed last month, I'll get the information soon – don't panic.

Member Renewals Due in January

- Pam Harris

(Continued on page 4)

Board of Directors

President:

Brian Downing..... 858-759-4841
brianjdowning@msn.com

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Vacant..... Phone TBD
Email TBD

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Positions Needing Warm Body

Refreshment Chair, Auction Clerk;
and Storekeeper

COAST fish club meets the first
Sunday of every month, in Costa
Mesa from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Costa Mesa Neighborhood Community
Center, Victoria Room
1845 Park Avenue,
Costa Mesa, CA 92627

For map, see the internet or Orange
County Thomas Bros Guide pg 888
Zone J3.

provide habitat for thirteen native species (five are left), eight of which were Goodeidae. Exotic fish were introduced in 1978 (four species remain). Teuchitlan River is fed by springs, several of which have been turned into spas which have isolated fragments of the headwaters. The springs have very clear, running waters with rocky riffles and pools. The dammed portions have standing water and muddy bottoms. Water hyacinths have shrunk habitat size further through crowding and dessication. Competition for resources and predation were also influential in the extinction of *Zoogoneticus tequila* in the wild.

WATER: The Tequila is not overly fussy about water parameters as long as the water is clean and well-oxygenated. Their native habitat was running water with riffles and pools. Moderately hard to very hard water with total dissolved solids (TDS) of 248 has been reported in some articles. The pH is moderately alkaline, about 7.6; the fish can be acclimated to a wide range of pH, with a minimum pH of 6.5. Water temperature should stay in the low 70's and ideally should be cooler at night (ranging from 19° to 22°C over the 24 hour period). Water quality influence the male's tail color, and a 50% changeout of water every one and a half to two weeks is beneficial for health, color, and spawning.

BREEDING: A goodeid is a livebearer that must be inseminated for each pregnancy; the female does not store semen. The young are nourished through nutrient bands similar to the umbilical chord in mammals. The male's reproductive organ is a modified anal fin "ray" rather than the more common gonopodium of livebearers such as guppies or platies. Late term pregnant females are aggressive towards amorous males, who themselves can be very aggressive during this time. The fry are large for livebearers (¼ to ½ inch) so they tend to have smaller broods.

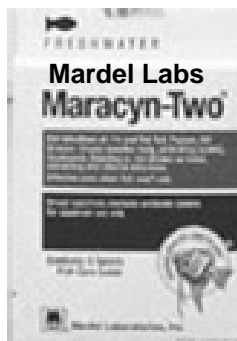
Spawns of 5 to 20 live fry are spaced about four to six weeks apart during their prime reproductive seasons (spring and fall); they will breed year round. One report states the gestation period is two months. The adult fish are routinely fed twice daily with a good quality omnivorous flake food, supplemented with live brine shrimp, frozen bloodworms, and live blackworms. Java moss (continued on page 5)

COAST MEETING DATES FOR 2006

DATE	SPEAKER	TOPIC
January 8		
February 5.....	Mark Binkley	Native North American Fishes
March 5		
April 2		
May 7		
June 4	(Other information to complete this table is pending)	
July 2		
August 6		
September 3		
October 1		
November 5		
December 3		

OUR SPONSORS – Manufacturers Who Support Our Club

When making buying decisions, please assess these companies' products and remember the investment they make in the tropical fish hobby. They have all generously donated dry goods to our club for the raffle.



(Membership, cont from pg 2) Renewing members, please fill in a fresh membership application and mail it to John Skocilic. Applications are on the last sheet of the newsletter. Membership number and due date are on the address label.

WHAT DOES THE CLUB DO WITH YOUR MEMBERSHIP DATA?

1. We notify you of upcoming meetings via email.
2. Permitted data is listed in the membership roster. The club does not make the roster available to anyone but members.
3. Sponsors occasionally require member data before they will contribute to the club. We periodically give them a list with names and zip codes. No other information is given.
4. Contact info of board members sometimes shows on public documents or our club website.

NEW POLICY ABOUT MEETING TIMES!!

Meetings will adhere to the following timetable as closely as possible.

- 12:30 p.m. Board Meeting
- 1:00 p.m. Meeting starts with general announcements and club business.
- 1:15 p.m. Speaker Presentation
- 2:30 p.m. Auction begins
- 5:00 p.m. Room is straightened up and everyone is going out the door.

Please arrive a bit early to get settled in time for the meeting.

We realize that this means some people will miss the beginning of the speaker presentation for a few meetings, but we really need to run on time. We get charged \$\$\$\$ when we run overtime.

Note: We have been losing money on the food and sodas for many months. Food and drink are not free; please fork over at least \$2 per person for food (waived if you bring food) and 50¢ for each soda.

Events elsewhere in the hobby –

Desert Fish Club, a brand new club in Palm Desert, meets the third Sunday of the month in a local aquarium store. For more information, call Wanda Jacobson at 760-328-8842.

San Diego Fish Club meets the second Sunday of the month. For more information talk Brian Downing at one of our meetings.

American Cichlid Association 2006 Convention July 19-23, Arlington Heights (suburb of Chicago), <http://www.aca2006.com>



The American Livebearer Association 2006 Convention will be held April 28-30th at the East Hanover, New Jersey Ramada Hotel & Conference Center. The ALA Convention is well-regarded as the “affordable and friendly” aquarium hobby event, and this will be the first time in our 35-year history that our Convention is being held on the East Coast. To celebrate, we’re pulling out all the stops and serving up a truly spectacular weekend with something for everyone, including your family and traveling partners:

- 2 fish shows! ALA and the East Coast Guppy Association (cont. pg 6)

(*Zoogoneticus tequila*, continued from page 3) be provided as shelter for these initially-clumsy black and silver fry. Parental predation is moderate to low and is more opportunistic than hunting (one article states adults actively hunt the fry for food) ; nonetheless, fry should be removed to a tank of their own to be grown out. A typical spawn is 5 to 15 fry; a few stillborn fry are not uncommon.

Feed the fry with finely crushed flake, microworms, and baby brine shrimp. They hide in the plants initially if kept in a tank with their parents, but become more comfortable and school together in the open once they reach four to six weeks of age. Males’ tails start showing color when they are about 7 weeks old, and they start practicing reproductive maneuvers. Fry reach sexual maturity when they are about three months of age.

For more information, see Aqualog’s All Livebearers and Halfbeaks. Those who are fluent in German may also find an exploration of a *Z. tequila* studbook being developed on this site:

<http://www.goodeiden.de/html/zuchtbuchprojekt.html> ■■■

WORLD WILDLIFE FUND ANNOUNCES 2006

CONTEST. Last year’s winner developed a way to weight nets that let the majority of sea turtles swim over the net while the main catch was increased. See <http://www.smartgear.org/> for more information.



for a living planet®

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A smart idea for reducing bycatch could net you **\$25,000**

Fisheries bycatch is the leading threat to many endangered marine mammals, cetaceans, sea turtles and sea birds around the world. World Wildlife Fund created the International Smart Gear Competition to inspire and reward

INNOVATIVE, PRACTICAL AND COST-EFFECTIVE IDEAS

that allow fishermen to fish “smarter” -- better targeting their intended catch while reducing bycatch.

The Competition will award a \$25,000 grand prize and two \$5,000 runner-up prizes to the best ideas.

SUBMIT YOUR IDEAS BY MARCH 15, 2006

- (IFGA). That's 70 livebearers classes in all!
- 2 New York City Tours! 1) Lower and downtown Manhattan in a double-decker open-top tour coach. 2) NY Coney Island Aquarium with Dr. Paul Loiselle. Luxury bus transportation to the sites is included.
 - 2 auctions! ALA and East Coast Guppy will be combined on Super Sunday.
 - Fabulous Speaker lineup! Dr. Bruce Turner, Rich Serva, Jim Langhammer, Bob Larsen, Kees de Jong, Lee Finely, and Ted Coletti.
 - The famous ALA Hospitality Room featuring *Saturday-night Wine Tasting* to benefit the Vern Parish Fund.
 - A vendor and product expo room is on hand, and free samples for all attendees.
 - Saturday Night Awards Banquet, and Rare Fish Raffle.
 - On site and across the street are multiple dining options, a pet center, as well as a multi-plex theatre, bowling, and Chuck-E-Cheeze. A few blocks away in Anchor Golf, and FunPlex indoor amusement and sports park. The exclusive Short Hills mall is a few miles/minutes away, as is roller skating, the Morris Museum, and the Frelinghuysen Arboretum. Liberty State Park with its famed Science Center and Ferry service to the Statue and Ellis Island is 45 minutes away. The area towns near the hotel abound with American Revolution history as well.
 - Last but not least...fish vendors throughout the hotel, throughout the weekend! More livebearers under one roof than anywhere in the world!

The Convention is open to the public. More information and registration can be found at <http://www.livebearers.org>. Look for our Convention Program insert in the Special Livebearer April Issue of *Tropical Fish Hobbyist Magazine* ("The Official Magazine of the 2006 ALA Convention").
Hope you and yours can join us at ALA 2006!

THE 2006 CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN LIVEBEARER ASSOC.
 April 28-30 - East Hanover, New Jersey - Open to the Public



The American Livebearer Association invites you to attend our 2006 Convention! The ALA Convention is well-regarded as the "affordable and friendly" aquarium hobby event. This year we are serving up a truly spectacular weekend with something for everyone in your family to enjoy...

A GREAT LOCATION:
 The Ramada East Hanover Hotel & Conference Center is a full-service, 3-Diamond AAA Rated facility located in suburban metropolitan New Jersey (24 miles from New York). It is located at the I-80 & I-287 junction, and direct flights from Newark International Airport are available from around the world. Registered attendees receive a special room rate. Shuttle service to the hotel is available. Multiple dining & recreation are on site or across street.



FABULOUS SPEAKER LINE-UP:
 Dr. Bruce Turner (VA) Rich Serva (OH) Lee Finley (RI)
 Jim Langhammer (MI) Bob Larsen (NJ) Ted Coletti (NJ)
 Kees de Jong (Netherlands)

2 FISH SHOWS: 20-Class Livebearer & 50-Class IFGA shows!
2 AUCTIONS: Combined ALA/East Coast Guppy Super Auction!
FISH SALES: Throughout the hotel all weekend long

VENDORS	PRODUCT EXPO	RARE FISH RAFFLE
WINE-TASTING	HOSPITALITY ROOM	AWARDS BANQUET

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY:
 2 FRIDAY TOURS:
 New York City NY Aquarium w/ Paul Loiselle

ON SITE OR JUST BLOCKS AWAY:
 Amusement Park (www.funplex.com)
 Anchor Golf Land (www.anchorgolfand.com)
 Chuck-E-Cheeze Multiple casual and fine dining options
 Hanover Bowling Lowe's Multi-Plex

PLUS MUCH MUCH MORE:
 Roller Skating (3 mi) Exclusive Short Hills Mall (8 mi)
 Morris Museum (5 mi) Frelinghuysen Arboretum (4 mi)
 Liberty Science Center-Ferry to Statue of Liberty and Ellis



FOR MORE INFORMATION & REGISTRATION:
www.livebearers.org or Rich Serva (330) 650-4613

COAST Discussion Group

for COAST members only is growing on <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/coastfishclub/>

Have you joined the discussion group yet?

All you have to do is send an email requesting access to brianjdowning@msn.com and establish a yahoo identity by creating an email account with them (which you don't have to use).

The discussion group is a great place to:

- get questions answered
- arrange to buy fish
- discuss new DIY projects
- get last minute meeting announcements
- download the electronic version of the Showfish
- and chat with other members

You can choose settings on whether or not you want any messages from the group to be sent to you, sent to you as a digest periodically, or just read them on the website and never have them show up in your email.

Files include the Auction Registration form, bag labels, and the membership renewal form. A recent or current membership roster is also posted in the files.

The Photos section includes pictures of DIY projects and people's tanks.

Traffic is pleasantly low, people are polite. Yahoo has excellent virus and spam filters, and a huge email box for you. (I have never gotten spam or a virus as a result of being in a yahoo group or having a yahoo email account, even though I've been active on several groups for years.) Check it out!