

THE FILTER



TAMPA BAY
AQUARIUM
SOCIETY

27
Years

ST. PETE/TAMPA
FLORIDA



Koi Angelfish
I Got From
Angels Plus

Photo Mike Jacobs . . . 2020

February 2020
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TBAS . . . Since 1992



TAMPA BAY AQUARIUM SOCIETY

“THE FILTER”

Tampa/St. Pete, Florida

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TBAS has had some really fun stuff lately!!! First there was the Christmas dinner . . . then the Annual Plant Auction!!! Boy is it a great time interacting with all of you TBAS members!

In February we have the ALWAYS popular Grant Eder telling us about those Shrimp he raises!!! Grant always does a wonderful job with his presentations and answering questions!!



Hinomaru Shrimp

A **MILLION** thanks to Steve Rybicki from Angels Plus for allowing us to use one of his Angelfish articles this month!!!



Aphyocharax cf. dentatus
Amazon Red Tail Tetra

Photo by Mike Jacobs 2018

Mike

Mike Jacobs, Editor TBAS Filter



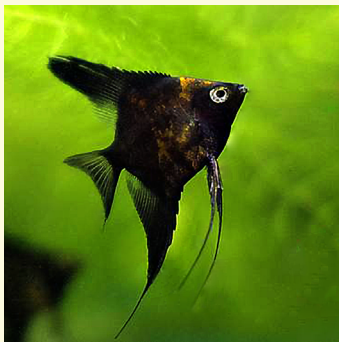
by Steve Rybicki

What Makes a Quality Angelfish

Angels Plus: www.angelsplus.com

This will list the areas of importance that an aquarist should pay attention to, when trying to produce the highest quality angelfish. There are certain qualities that make for a high quality angelfish that is suitable for breeding purposes. These will be outlined below.

Many of the traits that make a superior quality angelfish breeder cannot be judged on a non-breeding angelfish. Additionally, even more traits cannot be properly judged on juvenile angelfish. Keep in mind, that setting aside a dozen good looking juvenile angelfish doesn't guarantee an adult angelfish suitable to be used as a breeder. It is best if you can set aside 50 to 100, or more, to raise to adults. Of course, many of you will be unable to do this. Don't worry, we can, and it's a common practice for us. It's the reason our angelfish make so much progress from one generation to the next. We follow these guidelines strictly.

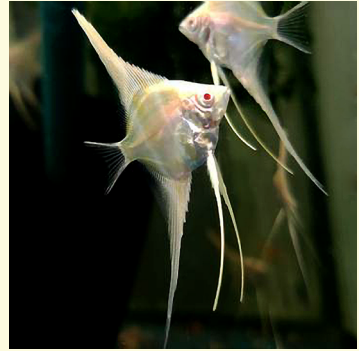


Black Splash Angel
Rybicki Photo

Remember, for someone to guarantee you a breeder quality angelfish, all the points listed below would have to be proven. That is impossible unless the angelfish is already breeding. On a non-breeding angelfish, the best you can hope for is a show quality angelfish that comes from an aquarist with the reputation of selecting breeder quality angelfish for their own stock. If they are raising a very large number of potential breeding angelfish to choose from, and then actually selecting for traits that are important to breeders, then there is a good chance they are improving the odds of getting good breeders. If not, then that angelfish line will most likely go downhill over time.

Show Quality: The most important aspect of potential breeding stock
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is that they are show quality angelfish. You should be willing to enter them in any angelfish show and have confidence that they represent the variety very well. Beauty is the reason we keep angelfish. People buy them because of how they look. There is no such thing as breeder quality angelfish stock that was not show angelfish shortly before pairing up. If they are not show quality, then they are not breeder quality. There is seldom a way to know if a lack of show quality traits is due to environment, genetics or a combination of the two. Assume that it is genetic and that the negative traits will be passed on to the next generation. I cannot stress this point more.



Albino Vieltail Angel
Rybicki Photo

You will make little or no positive progress towards improving the quality of your angelfish line, if you do not choose breeder angelfish that represent what you are looking for. Angelfish Bodies should be as round as possible or slightly higher than long. Long bodied angelfish are considered inferior looking by most people. Head profile should be smooth with no humps. A notch on the predorsal profile is acceptable as it would appear in *Pterophyllum scalare*. Consequently, a pre-dorsal profile without a notch is acceptable as it would also appear in other wild angelfish that have been used to create our domestic strains.



Black Vieltail Angel
Rybicki Photo

Angelfish Fins should be straight without kinks or twists. We should breed for angelfish that have no curves in the dorsal, anal or caudal fins. Even with a superveil, your goal should be to obtain an angelfish that comes as close to this criteria as possible. Longer finnage is acceptable, providing that the fins remain as straight as possible.

Angelfish Color: A Koi angelfish without good orange color is not a breeder quality angelfish. In the same way, a Halfblack angelfish or a Pearlscale angelfish that does not express the trait should not be bred.

One cannot be certain that the lack of expression is environmental in nature. Angelfish color is greatly affected by environment and by genetics. Since you won't be able to pinpoint the primary reason for an angelfish's color, you should only breed angelfish that have the color (or other traits) you desire the next generation to have.

Angelfish Size: It should be appropriate for the age of the angelfish. Big is beautiful, and all things being equal, the larger angelfish is generally more desirable. This cannot be judged on juvenile angelfish unless the angelfish were in your possession from the point of free-swimming.

Behavior: We put behavior second in order of importance. Few angelfish breeders even think of this, but negative behavior can cause more problems for keepers or breeders of angelfish than you might imagine. Aggressive mates cause angelfish pair problems - sometimes permanently. An inhibited mate may stop breeding or worse may become weakened to the point of dying. Strains such as Double Dark Black angelfish tend to be very aggressive. Consequently, you see very few angelfish breeders offering this fish for sale. We need to breed for angelfish that exhibit good parental care and that are not aggressive towards their mates. This cannot be reliably judged in juvenile angelfish, so you must be willing to only breed angelfish pairs that exhibit the proper behavior.

Fecundity: This is another trait that must be selectively bred for. Your angelfish should breed readily and produce large numbers of eggs.



Classic Koi Angel
Rybicki Photo

The egg should be large and produce vigorous angelfish fry that are easy to raise. This is an area that cannot be judged from angelfish that have not been bred. We will guarantee you that no matter what line you get your angelfish from, some from that line will not live up to

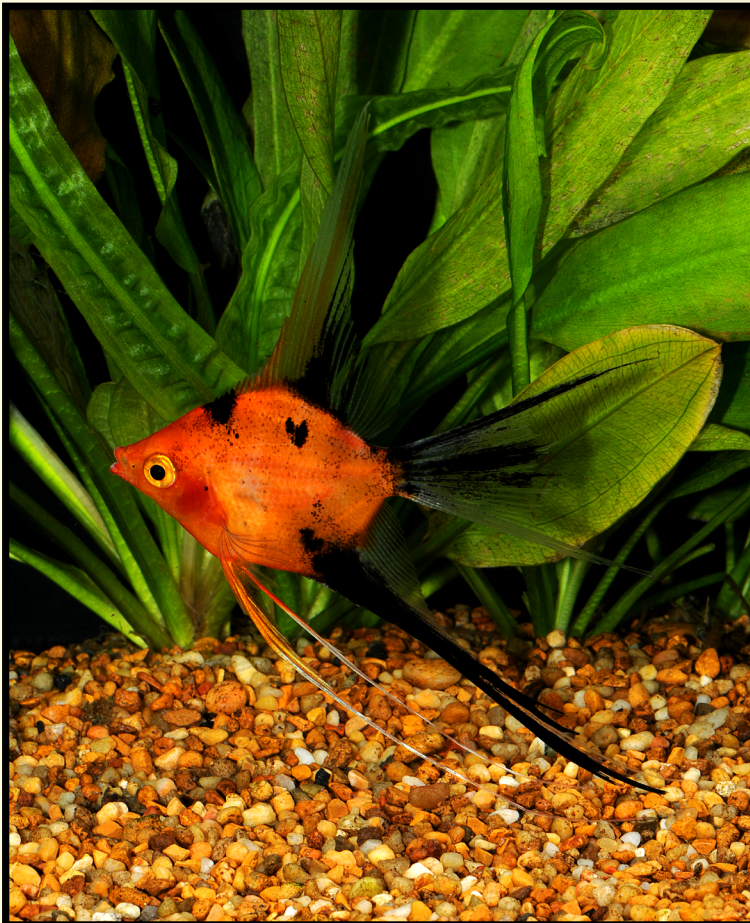
expectations in this department. Most people will not stop breeding an angelfish pair that meets all other expectations, but fails in this area. This is tremendously harmful to our angelfish. A pair that has fecundity problems should not be bred. The problem here is deciding if there is a genetic factor or if your care may be lacking. Example: Some wild cross angelfish will inherit the tendency to mature later and require better care to produce as they should. One aquarist may be wildly successful with them while another who lacks in the proper angelfish husbandry techniques will find them difficult.

Wild-cross angelfish add so much to our domestic angelfish lines, that their use is not only justified but greatly needed. However, selectively

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breeding angelfish for fecundity is very important with these. You will really appreciate a wild-cross angelfish that breeds regularly and produces large spawns.

Concentrate on all these areas and you will be well on your way to improving the overall quality of your stock. Good luck!



**Mike Jacobs photo
of a Steve Rybici
Koi Angel.
Taken January 2020.
Is this fish rally
nifty or WHAT???!?!?**

MEMBERSHIP DUES!!!!



Membership Dues for TBAS are due on the anniversary of your sign-up date every year. Please make sure you check the “sign-in” list on the table at every meeting to check your “Dues-Date” . . . Thanks!!!

USE PAYPAL ON THE TBAS WEBSITE . . . TBAS1.COM . . . !!!!!



TBAS Annual Plant Auction

February 2020

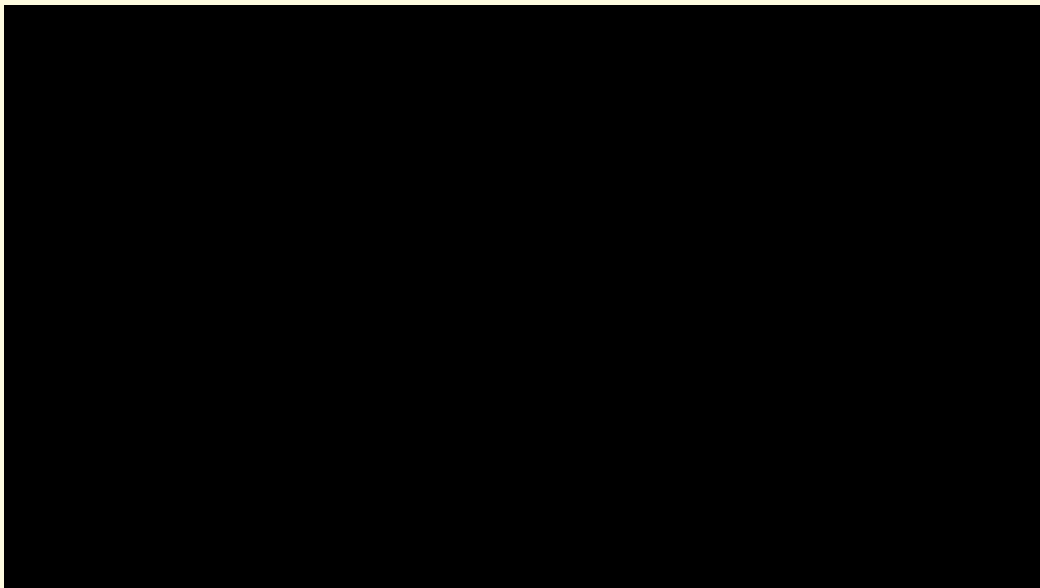




Angelfish & Eggs



Angelfish & Eggs Video [Click on the](#)  [to See Video](#)





Can't We All Just Get Along?

One of the biggest problems that new and old fish keepers have is getting their fish to get along, even when they are only keeping one species. To complicate matters what works for one person may not work for someone else. Tank Size, the habitat, food

and water quality are all factors in fish compatibility. But, sometimes you will run into a fish that does not fit its profile. This can be caused by inbreeding, poor nutrition during egg development or a number of other factors. These fish can be either big bruisers or real wimps, but these are exceptions to the rule.

There are many books that try to give compatibility guides but they often all short. Here are some simple rules that you can follow that will help you select the right kind of fish so your tank will be a more "peaceful" place.

The first thing you need to know is how big the fish will get. Hopefully your fish store will have books you can look at (if they don't have any reference material, I would worry about buying any fish at that store). Once you know how big the fish will become, then you will know if you have the right-sized tank for it and any tank mates of similar size you might want to put with it. **NO! FISH DO NOT GROW TO THE SIZE OF THE TANK!** This is the biggest fallacy in the hobby and if someone tells you that, they don't know what they are talking about! A fish's mouth size will tell you a lot too . . . big mouth predators should not be kept with small fish. Large fish with small mouths can be kept with smaller fish.

The next thing you need to know are the water requirements. Do you need hard or soft water, warm or cold? Maybe this fish needs a higher pH or lower pH. You can't mix fish that have very different water requirements because it is inevitable that someone will be unhappy.

Does the fish need to be in schools, pairs, harems or alone? What if you purchase barbs? They like schools and are very unhappy in pairs and will nip and pick at each other and other fish unless kept in groups of six or more. Perhaps your male won't get along with a single female but needs a harem. These are things you must consider.

Food is not something that many people think of when considering compatibility, but take, for example, the seahorse. Seahorse and related pipefish eat only live food and eat it very slowly. Most fish you keep with them will eat all

the food before they get a chance, even though they won't harm the seahorses. Don't mix vegetable-eaters with live plant tanks. Many fish have special food requirements so keep this in mind when mixing different kinds of fish.

Activity level and habitat go together. Active fish need swimming room and many sedate fish need hiding places. Often the very active fish will make slower fish nervous, but sometimes they are used with more aggressive fish to distract them from fighting with each other. And what do YOU want? Do you like fish darting and flashing about are more sedate, slow movers? Some predators are sedate until food goes by. Don't let that fool you. Be sure they fit the other rules too.

This article is meant to provide some guidelines and just because the fish you pick match all rules doesn't mean they will all get along. Sometimes you have to change the tank around or add more fish for distraction or add more habitats. There will always be exceptions to the rule and remember each fish has its own personality. Until next month, keep those fish happy.

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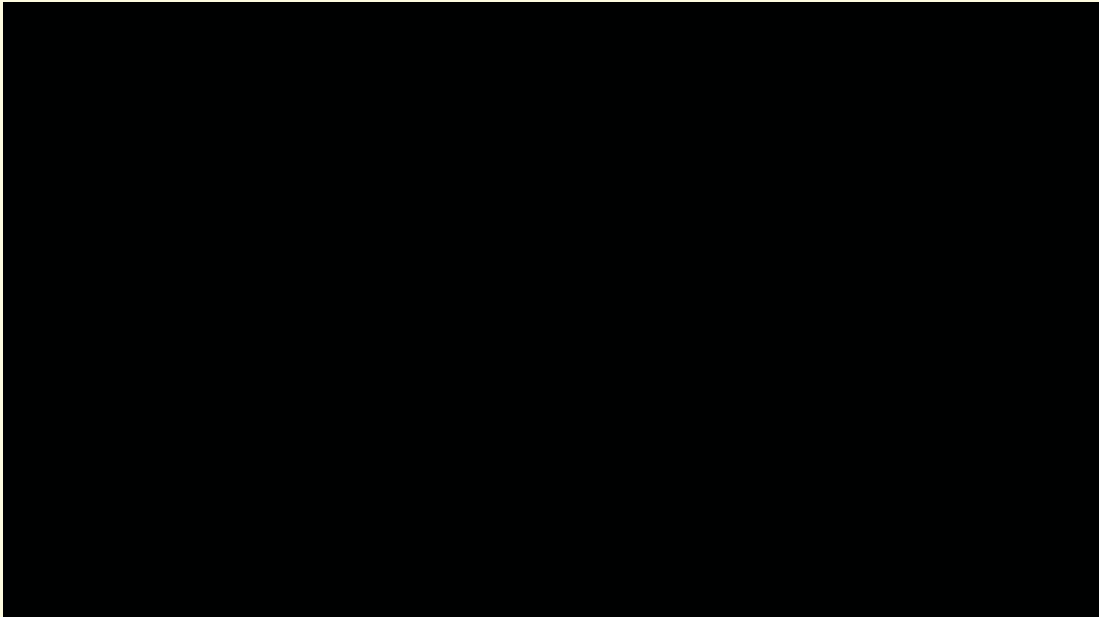
by Joe Gargas

Ph: (813)645-1717



<http://www.sks1.com>

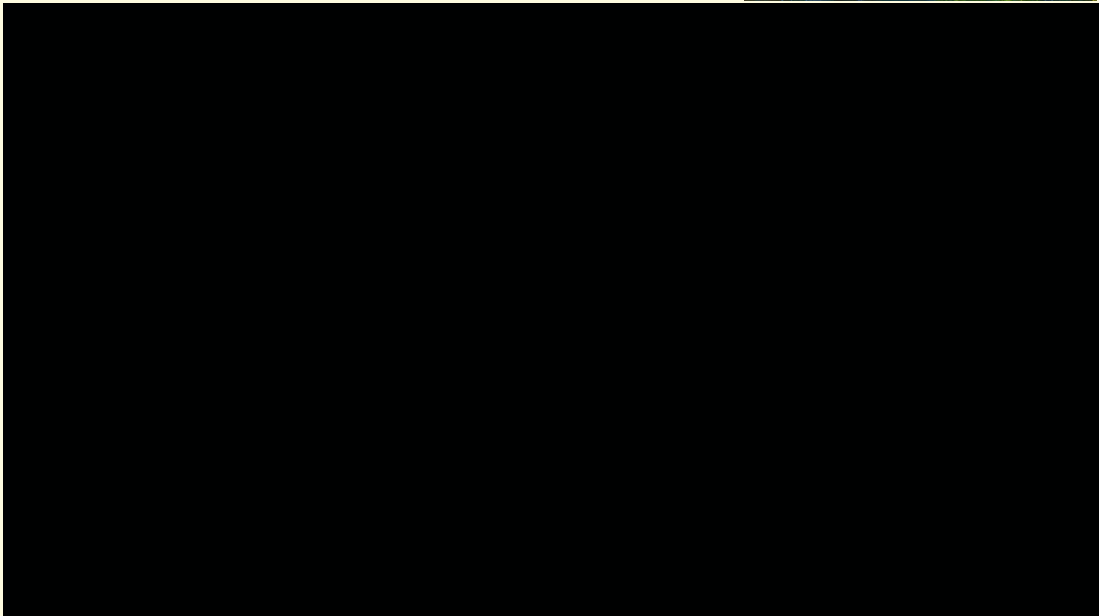
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THE BEST KOI ANGELFISH IN THE UNIVERSE

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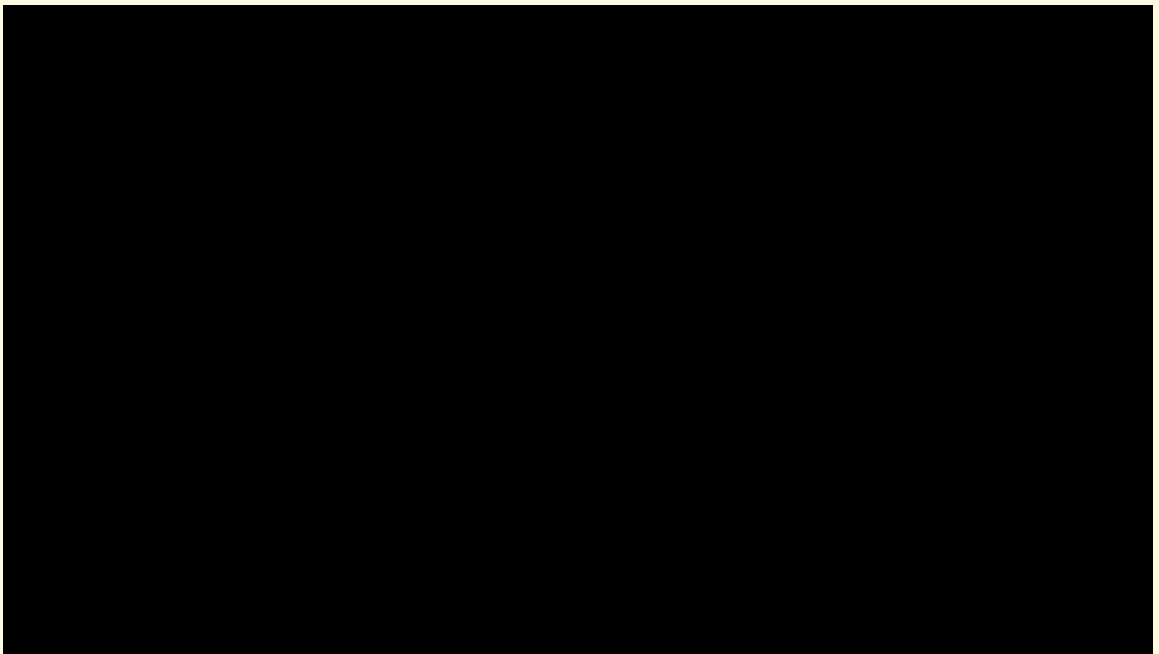
17 Types of the Most Popular Tetra Fish

[Click on the](#)



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15-30 second
"load" the **FIRST**
time!!!





***Chitala blanci* . . . Royal Clown Knifefish**

photo: Mike Jacobs 2020

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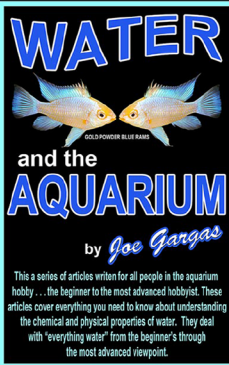


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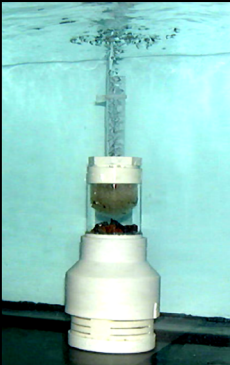


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