

**RALEIGH AQUARIUM SOCIETY
BREEDERS AWARD PROGRAM**

The Raleigh Aquarium Society has established the Breeders Award Program (BAP) to encourage members to breed a greater variety of fish and to share with others the knowledge they have gained. The program is open to all members and there is no time limit; you proceed at your own pace. Breeder points are awarded for successful spawning and raising of each species according to difficulty. Five levels of proficiency are recognized; the higher levels require breeding of more difficult species. So, set up a pair and you're on your way!

Purposes:

1. To promote the breeding of fishes.
2. To recognize outstanding achievement in the breeding of these fishes.
3. To encourage research into the spawning of the more difficult species.
4. To make accounts of successful spawning techniques available to club members through the monthly newsletter and/or the general meetings.
5. To increase the availability of rare or hard-to-obtain species and preserve genetic quality.

The BAP Committee:

The Breeders Award Committee consists of three members: a chairman appointed by the president and two members appointed by the BAP chairman. Currently, the committee members are:

Brandon Berry chairman
Todd Wenzel, Gerald Pottern

The committee oversees and enforces all regulations governing the Breeders Award Program. This includes verifying spawnings and awarding points, authorizing additional BAP checkers to verify spawnings, recording oral presentations, and recategorizing fishes, as necessary (Note 3).

The BAP Checkers:

The BAP checkers are appointed by the BAP Committee and are empowered to verify all spawnings. If you have a spawning which needs verification, contact the checker nearest you. It is your obligation to see that you contact one of the checkers and have your BAP form signed. The forms to record spawnings can be obtained from any checker, or at the general meeting. Any member in good standing may apply to the BAP Committee to become a checker.

The current checkers are:

At present, any RAS member in good standing may verify spawnings. Report forms can be obtained at meetings and will be made available on the club website. Depending on how well this change works, the BAP committee may decide to make it permanent.

Awards

The BAP program recognizes five levels of proficiency. Attainment of any level will be recognized in the Carolina Aquarist and at the general meetings. Awards will be presented at the December meeting for all five levels of achievement.

1. **Beginning Breeder** - Has attained 50 breeding points from any category.
2. **Intermediate Breeder** - Has attained Beginning Breeder status and a total of 150 breeding points from any category.
3. **Advanced Breeder** - Has attained Intermediate Breeder status and a total of 300 breeder points, including 100 points from 15 to 50 point categories.
4. **Master Breeder** - Has attained Advanced Breeder status and a total of 500 breeding points, having spawned at least three (3) species from the 30 to 50 point categories.
5. **Grand Master Breeder** - Has attained Master Breeder status and has spawned at least one additional species from the 50 point category, over and above those spawned for Master Breeder status.

Procedures

1. Breeder points are awarded for proof of successful breeding of any species of fish. Successful breeding is defined as the raising of 10 fry to the age of thirty days (for ten point fish) or sixty days (for fifteen point and up fish) beyond, the date they become free-swimming. For a few species, fewer than ten young are permissible (Note 1).
2. Points may be awarded to each participant only once for each species and once for its albino form. Hybrids of two species or of two naturally occurring non-interbreeding color morphs are not eligible for points. Man-made color varieties of a species, however, may be crossed. Acceptable color combinations for selected species are summarized in Note 2.
3. The fish raised must be from a single cohort. For species that lay only a few eggs a day, all eggs collected from one female over a two-week period are considered a cohort. Eggs must be laid in the participants own tanks, not obtained from another breeder
4. Following spawning, the participant must fill out a Breeders Award Program Report form with all appropriate information (if known), and have it verified twice by a BAP checker. The first verification must be preformed between spawning and ten days after freeswimming (for killifish, rainbowfish, etc., ten days after first freeswimming fry). Fry not inspected within the first ten days will not be eligible. The second verification must be preformed within one month after the 30 or 60 days required. The young fish may be brought to a general meeting, if desired.
5. For fifteen point and above fish, a summary of the breeding process must be submitted to the BAP chairman within four months of submission of completed BAP report form, either as a written article for publication in the Carolina Aquarist, or as a brief oral presentation at a general RAS meeting. Points will not be recorded until this obligation is fulfilled.

Point Categories

Livebearers:

- 10 pts: Poecilia, Xiphophorus, Gambusia, Goodeids, ASNLE
- 20 pts: Half beaks
- 30 pts: Anableps

Killifish:

- 10 pts: Aphyosemion*, Aplocheilus, Aplocheilichthys, Cubanichthys, Cyprinodon, Fundulus, Oryzias, ASNLE
- 15 pts: Aphanis, Aphyosemion arnoldi, A. filamentosum, Epiplatys, Jordanella, Pachypanchax, Rivulus
- 20 pts: Blue Gularis, Gold Pheasant, Nothobranchius
- 25 pts: Cynolebias, Pterolebias, Rachovia, Austrofundulus

Cyprinids:

- 10 pts: Danio, Brachydanio, White Cloud, Barbs: Cherry, Gold, Half-banded, Tiger, Ruby, Rosy, Checkerboard, Ticto, ASNLE
- 15 pts: Barbus*, Goldfish, Koi, N. Amer. Cyprinids
- 25 pts: Rasbora maculata, R. trilineata
- 30 pts: Rasbora*, Tinfoil Barb
- 50 pts: Labeo, Epalzeorhynchus, Osteocheilus, Bala Shark

Catfish:

- 15 pts: Corydoras aeneus, C. paleatus, C. hastatus
- 20 pts: Corydoras*, ASNLE
- 30 pts: Otocinclus, Bristlenose, Whiptail, Hoplosternum, Brochis, Banjo, Callichthys
- 50 pts: Doradid, Pimelodid, Silurid (glass), Bagrid, Mochokid (upside-down), Electric, Schilbeid

Characoids:

- 15 pts: Black tetra, Head & Tail Light, Von Rio
- 20 pts: Congo tetra, Glowlight, Blue, Emperor, Penguin, Characidium, Copeina, Moenkhausia
- 30 pts: Arnoldichthys, Crenuchus, Silver dollars, Neon, Cardinal, Rummynose, Hatchets, Chilodus, Pencilfish, Exodon
- 50 pts: Anostomus, Abramites, Leporinus, Pacus, Piranhas, Chalceus, Hemiodus, Prochilodus, Distichodus

Cichlids:

- 10 pts: Pseudotropheus, Melanochromis, Labeotropheus, Lake Malawi mouth-brooders*, Peacocks, Haplochromis*, Sarotherodon (mouthbrooding Tilapia), Jewel, Convict, Rainbow, Chanchito, Jack Dempsey, C. bimaculatum, G. brasiliensis
- 15 pts: Hap. moori, Cyph. frontosa, Lamprologus, Tropheus, Julidochromis, Callochromis, Hemichromis thomasi, H. fasciatus, Aequidens*, Cichlasoma*, Pelvicachromis, Pelmatochromis, Nannochromis, Nannacara, Apistogramma, Pterophyllum, Steatocranns, Neetroplus, Geophagus*, Tilapia (substrate spawners), ASNLE
- 20 pts: Oscars, Orange Cromide, Cichlasoma severunV C. managuense, C. umbiferum, C. dovii, C. festivum, Chocolate, Crenicichla, Cyprichormis, Crenicara, Ae. maronii, Geo. jurupari, Acarichthys, Acaronia
- 30 pts: Green Chromide, Discus, Uaru, Cichla

Anabantoids:

- 15 pts: Betta, Colisa, Trichogaster, Macropodus, ASNLE
- 20 pts: Trichopsis, Belontia, Anabas,
- 30 pts: Sphaerichthys, Osphronemus, Parosphronemms, Helostoma

Miscellaneous:

- 20 pts: Bumblebee Goby, Badis
- 30 pts: Palitodon, Leaf-fish, Sticklebacks, Puffers, Gobies*, Seahorses, Pipefish, Darters, Sunfish
- 50 pts: Polypterns, Aruana, Mormyrids, Knife fish, Marine fish? Snakeheads, Glassfish, Archerfish, Scats, Monos, Spiny Eels, Loaches, Homaloptends

Notes:

1. Only 4 fry required: Heterandria, Gambusia, Brachyrhaphis, Lamprologus meeli, L. ocellatus, L. brevis, L. ornatipinnis, Tropheus, Cyprichromis

A member breeding a particular fish may petition the BAP committee for a reduced fry requirement on that species, if it is a species known to produce small broods.

2. Acceptable color combinations (male listed first):

Ps. zebra: BBxBB, BBxOB, CobaltxCobalt, CobaltxOB, CobaltxWhite, WhitexWhite, WhitexCobalt, RedxRed, Powder BluexRed, OBxOB, Red Top BBxRed Top BB, Red Top CobaltxRed Top Cobalt

Cynotilapia afra: Red TopxRed Top, White TopxWhite Top, White Facex White Face

Lab. trewavassae: RTxOB, RTxOrange, OBRTxOB, OBRTxOrange

Lab. fuelleborni: BluexBlue, BluexOB, RTxOB, Orange-sidexOrange-side, OSxOB, OBxOB

3. Reassignment of fish species to new point categories shall be a continuous process for the BAP committee. Any member breeding a particular fish may petition the committee to consider a reassignment of point value on that species. This must be done before or at the time of submission of the BAP report form, prior to awarding of points. This also applies to species that presently have no assigned point value.

Reassignment of a species to a higher value will be retroactive for all previous participants upon meeting any additional requirements for that category, but reassignment to a lower category will not invalidate points on BAP forms already submitted to the BAP chairman.

4. Any BAP committee member or checker claiming breeder points must secure confirmation from another checker. (No self-verification). Any spawning claims may be subject to investigation by the BAP committee. For 50 point species, two checkers must confirm the report at both the first and second verifications.

5. A 50-point species used to attain Master Breeder status cannot be re-used for Grand Master status. A new 50-point species must be successfully bred.

Notification of Change in Rules

On occasion the BAP committee may decide that certain modifications in the rules of the program are advisable. These may result from petitions by BAP participants new information gained about particular fish, etc. Changes will be published and will become effective, for all subsequent spawnings, immediately.