



The Raleigh Aquarium Society

P.O. Box 31564, Raleigh, North Carolina 27612-1564
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February 1st, 2007

Next Meeting: Thursday @7:30pm February 1st, 2007.

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at the [North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine](#) located at [4700 Hillsborough Street in Raleigh](#). Visitors are welcome! Snacks and light refreshments are provided. A raffle of fish and fish related items follow the meeting. Due to Security Issues, NCSU has required that the doors going into the downstairs lobby remain locked. Please be on time, as we will have a designated person standing by the door to let you in. If you are late, you may try knocking or call Brandon Berry's cell phone at 252-266-3559, Jeff Jenkins at 919-612-0229, or John Patterson at 919-264-4011.

Meeting Agenda

"A Preview of Our CAW Collecting Trip" Our Feb 16 field trip leader Gerald Pottern will give us a preview of the native fish and critters we were likely to catch, including bluespotted and blackbanded sunfish, pygmy sunfish, mudminnow, swampfish, lined killie, pirate perch, sawcheek and roanoke darters, rosefin and swallowtail shiners, bluehead chub, margined madtom, dusky and two-lined salamanders, grass shrimp, musk turtle, and who-knows-what else. Also tips on how to minimize stress during collecting and transport, and how to acclimate them to aquarium life.

Monthly Feature



Pseudomugil Gertrudae
Gertrude's Blue Eye Rainbow
by Genn Brewer

I gained an interest for this little fish when the name appeared on a stock list I was ordering from and I did a google photo search on it. Pseudomugil Gertrudae is an attractive little rainbow that reaches around 1-1 ½ inch in size. Characterized by a yellow to silver white body and fins adorned with black spots and bright yellow trim. Often noticeable is a small reddish patch behind the eye. Females generally have smaller fins and are slightly less adorned than males. An interesting characteristic of this species is the double dorsal fins which resemble sails and the pelvic fins which look much like miniature wings. This species reminds me of saltwater flying fish.

Widely distributed in scattered localities throughout northern Australia and New Guinea, Pseudomugil Gertrudae are native to a wide variety of habitats, often containing dense vegetation, and varying substantially in water parameters. They can handle temperatures ranging from 73-86°F and a pH of 5.2-7.6, but generally prefer soft water. They are well suited to the smaller aquarium, but a tight fitting lid is recommended as they are fairly good jumpers. I have on 2 occasions found crisped blue eye's in the middle of my fishroom floor. The species was named after the wife of a scientist named Dr. Hugo Merton.

During spawning the color of the male's fins intensifies and the spots on the body become very dark. Male's will pursue females actively with fins fully flared and attempt to discourage other males by flaring and wagging their bodies in their direction. Spawning usually takes place around mid morning and is not aggressive. A spawning mop works great for these little fish and females will lay 1-3 eggs daily on a continual basis if kept well fed. Their eggs much resemble those of

killifish and are clear in appearance. They are easily found when the mop is removed from the tank and excess water is gently squeezed out. Eggs will hatch in 9 to 11 days depending on the temperature of the tank. Mops can be harvested once a week. This can be done by simply transferring the mop from the parent tank to a hatching/rearing tank or you can pick the eggs from the mop individually and place them in a hatching tray containing java moss. I am told that it is not necessary to remove eggs from the parent tank, if it is a species only tank, as they do not appear to consume either eggs or fry, but I myself won't take the risk.

Gertrude's Blue Eye are carnivorous by nature and will readily accept frozen and live foods as well as small pellets and flakes. Newly hatched fry can be fed on infusorians, liquifry, micro or water worms or newly hatched brine shrimp and graduate to larger foods as they grow. Fry grow fairly quickly and generally reach adulthood within 3 months.

These fish make a lovely addition to planted community aquariums containing smaller fish which wouldn't see them as food. I've been keeping mine in a tank containing angels, apistogramma, guppies and platys, though I will be moving them into their own tank for spawning purposes soon. They are hearty, easy to care for and easy to spawn. I would recommend these little butterflies to anyone and believe they would be a good start for a beginner in rainbows. They certainly were for me.

Trading Post

Gerald Pottern has for sale or trade: kribensis (lotsa extra males), one pseud.demasoni, neoheterandria elegans, large male emperor tetras, crystal red bee shrimp, cherry shrimp, apisto macmasteri/viejita(?), okefenokee pygmy sunfish. Gerald Pottern, gbpottern@yahoo.com 919-556-8845

Sal Notarmosa has some very beautiful cichlids for sale and he can be reached by snotarmaso@nc.rr.com or visit his website at: <http://www.rducichlids.citymax.com>.

Frank Montillo 919-556-9004 has for sale african cichlids including yellow labidochromis, lelupi, ahli, red zebras, daffodils also large gold angels, and red australian rainbows .

Chris Duncan has some lovely marble, smokes, and blue blusher angels, German red lace and yellow snakeskin guppies, Fp. gardneri "Makurdi" 919-662-8537, swampwaterwitch@yahoo.com

Monthly Web Links

Raleigh Aquarium Society Forum on Yahoo Groups
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/raleighaquariumsociety/>

Potomac Valley Aquarium Society in the Washington D.C. area <http://www.pvas.com/>

Atlanta Area Aquarium Association in Atlanta, Georgia <http://www.atlantaaquarium.com/>

Carolina Fish Talk <http://www.carolinafishtalk.com/>

Charlotte Area Aquarists Society <http://pvelasco.net/CAASBBS/index.php>

Marine Aquarium Society of the Carolinas <http://masotc.net/>

North Carolina Koi & Watergarden Society <http://www.nckws.com/>

Carolina Aquatic Plant Enthusiasts <http://www.ncaquaticplants.org/>

Aquatic Gardeners Association <http://www.aquatic-gardeners.org/>

KingFish Services <http://www.kingfishservices.net/>



Club Sponsors

*(The following businesses give RAS members a discount on purchases)
You may be asked to show your RAS membership card*

[Aquatica](#) 5533 NC Hwy 42-West, A-16, Garner (10%) **919.661.7790**

[Aquatic Concepts](#) 4221 Garrett Road Durham, NC **919.489.901**

[Carolina Pet Supply](#) 322 McCormick Street, Garner (10%) **919.773.0014**

[Critter Country Inc](#) 14 Technology Drive, Garner (10%) **919.772.3761**

[Down Under, Salt Water Fish & Corals](#) Highway 70 (in between Agri Supply and White Oak Shopping Center) in Garner. 20% on livestock, 15% on dry goods) **919.662.8820**

[Fins, Furs & Feathers Pet Center](#) 303 S. Horner Boulevard, Sanford, NC 27330 (10% on everything except tanks) **919.718.0850**

[Fish Pros](#) 5655 Western Boulevard, Suite A, Raleigh 27606 (10%) **919.233.1122**

[Fish World](#) 2205 Westinghouse Blvd., Suite 109, Suite 109, Raleigh (10%) **919.872.1228**

[Infinity Pets](#) 100 W Main St Suite C, Youngsville NC 27596 (10%) **919.570.3039**

[Pet Mania](#) 7901 Falls of Neuse Rd #125, Raleigh (10%) **919.676.3225**

[Pet Paradise](#) 9101-141 Leesville Road, Raleigh (10%) **919.848.8881**

[The Pet Pad](#) 1347 Kildaire Farm Road, Cary, (10%) **919.481.6614**

[Triangle Tropical Fish](#) 3600 N. Duke St. Suite #36 Durham (10% excluding aquariums and stands) **919.479.0088**

Please contact Christine Duncan at raleighaquariumsociety@yahoo.com if you are an active member of the Raleigh Aquarium Society and do not have an up to date membership card. Membership cards can be picked up at any meeting.

Raleigh Aquarium Society

Application for Membership

Membership privileges include:

- Ability to post items in trading post section of monthly newsletter
- A discount card good at participating local pet stores
- All club discounts on club functions
- Education from the most knowledgeable aquarium experts in NC
- Yearly Membership - \$15.00 (includes spouse and children)

(Membership dues run from March 1st each year. New members joining any other time will be pro-rated at \$3 + \$1 for each month remaining in the year.)

Name(s): _____

Date to begin membership: ____/____/____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ (2) (____) _____

Email Address: _____

New Membership

Renewal Membership

Mail to:

Raleigh Aquarium Society
PO Box 31564
Raleigh, NC 27612-1564