

Raleigh Aquarium Society News



July 2004

*Next Meeting:
Thursday, July
1st @ 7:30pm*



Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at the N.C. State Veterinary Medical College 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

Culturing, Collecting, and Using Live Foods for Fish

by Todd Wenzel

Boost your breeding success, survival of baby fish, and recovery of sick or newly acquired fish by feeding live foods: rotifers, daphnia, plankton, worms, brine shrimp, fruit flies, and others !

Other Announcements

Future Speakers for our Meetings

If you know of anyone who would be willing to give a talk at one of our meetings, please contact Gerald Pottern at gpottern@rjgaCarolina.com or Brandon Berry at brandonberry@cox.net. Our goal is to have a variety of different topics, so that we can accommodate all of our members' aquatic interests. Even if you do not know of any speakers, let us know what types of speakers you would like to have in the future.

Monthly Featured Article

Pundamilia Nyererei Python Island

by Greg Steeves

Pundamilia nyererei is a haplochromine type cichlid native to areas in the Mwanza Gulf region of Lake Victoria. This region consists of many islands. Each island region has its own color variant of nyererei. Maximum size of these colorful fish seem to be around three inches with the exception of Makobe Island. Pundamilia nyererei from the Makobe Island region grow larger than most of other variants with males reaching five inches. According to Yves Fermon, noted ichthyologist, nyererei grow larger in the aquarium than in their native waters. Another interesting note on these fish is the misnomer we associate with various regions containing these fish. We commonly associate a variant of nyererei with its locale; for example, the Ruti Island variant is readily available in the hobby as one distinct population whereas in the wild, Ruti Island has multiple nyererei populations each with distinct coloration. We are associating our nyererei variants with what was imported before sanctions were placed on Victorian cichlid imports.



The Python Island variant of Pundamilia nyererei is typical of all nyererei species. This is a boisterous species. Males typically become hyperdominant sometimes killing other males which threaten his harem. A high female to male ratio should also be

employed when dealing with this species. Males will harass lone females as well as other cichlids it may consider a threat. That said, once a group is established, a group of *Pundamilia nyererei* is a stunning sight. The Python island male will display a rainbow of colors dominated by bright red. Many caves and obstacles should be implemented into tank decor to ensure hiding places out of sight for other fish to evade the aggression of males. Water parameters are not difficult so long as good filtration is provided and pH is maintained above seven. All food is readily accepted. High quality flake supplemented with occasional feedings of live or frozen animals such as brine shrimp or daphnia is perfect for these omnivores.

I have found the best way to build a breeding colony is to begin with a group of fry. I raise these fish together. They will reach breeding size at about eight months. When males start to show color, these fish are sexually mature. There is no problem inducing these fish to spawn. Females will produce clutches of fry every three months. First spawns may result in around ten fry but as the fish gets larger, so increases the number of eggs. A full sized female may have clutches of 50 fry or more. *Pundamilia nyererei* is far more prolific when young. Adult fish can be tougher to get a spawning from. Although as with most fish, the bigger the tank the better, we house our *nyererei* breeding groups in 20 gallon tanks. They seem perfectly happy with this.

Raising the fry is also quite easy. We raise our fry in ten gallon bare tanks powered by a mature sponge filter. We offer the fry crushed flake and cyclop-eeze. Growth is rapid. Baby *nyererei* will reach an inch in size in less than two months.

Pundamilia nyererei is compatible with most Malawian mbuna. They are certainly a welcomed addition to any African cichlid collection.

Trading Post

To advertise please send the information to:
raleighaquariumsociety@yahoo.com

None this month.

**Check out our yahoo group
"raleighaquariumsociety". Feel free to post items
for sale or trade as well as any other aquarium
related discussion.**

Club Sponsors

**(The following businesses give *RAS* members a discount on
purchases)**

Creative Pet	1350 E Broad St, Fuquay Varina	(10%)
Critter Country, Inc.	14 Technology Drive, Garner	(10%)
Fish Pros	5221 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh	(10%)
Pet Mania	All Area Locations	(10%)
Pet Paradise	9101-141 Leesville Road, Raleigh	(10%)
Triangle Tropical Fish	3600 N. Duke St., Suite 36, Durham	(10%)

(Excludes Aquariums and hoods)

**You may be asked to show your RAS membership
card.**

*Please contact Brandon Berry at brandonberry@cox.net 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:

12 monthly newsletters

A discount card good at participating local pet stores

All club discounts on club functions

Individual Full Year \$15.00

Family Full Year \$17.00

Name(s): _____

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____

Email Address: _____

New Membership _____

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Mail to:

Raleigh Aquarium Society

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Raleigh, NC 27612-1564