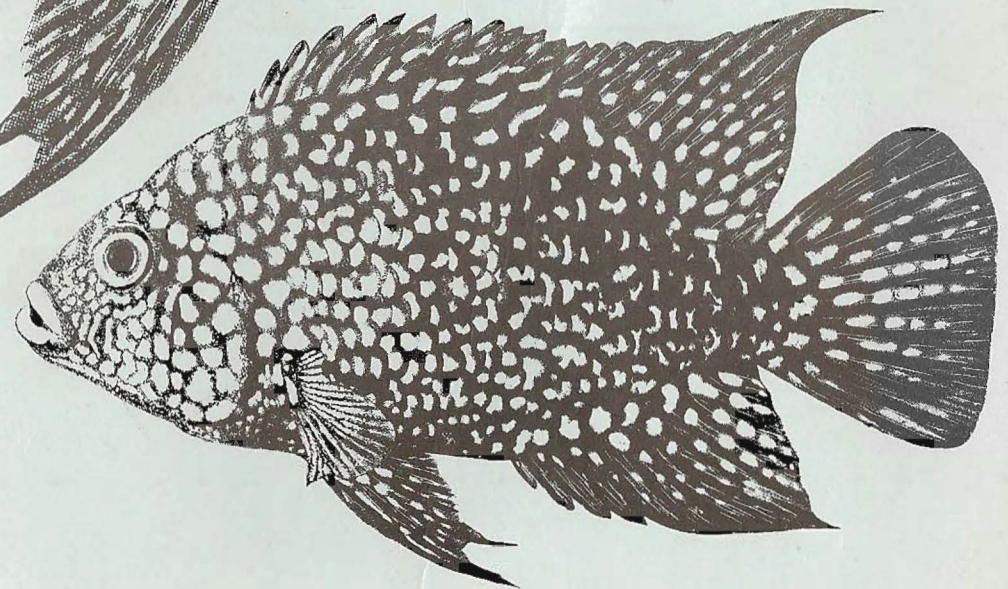
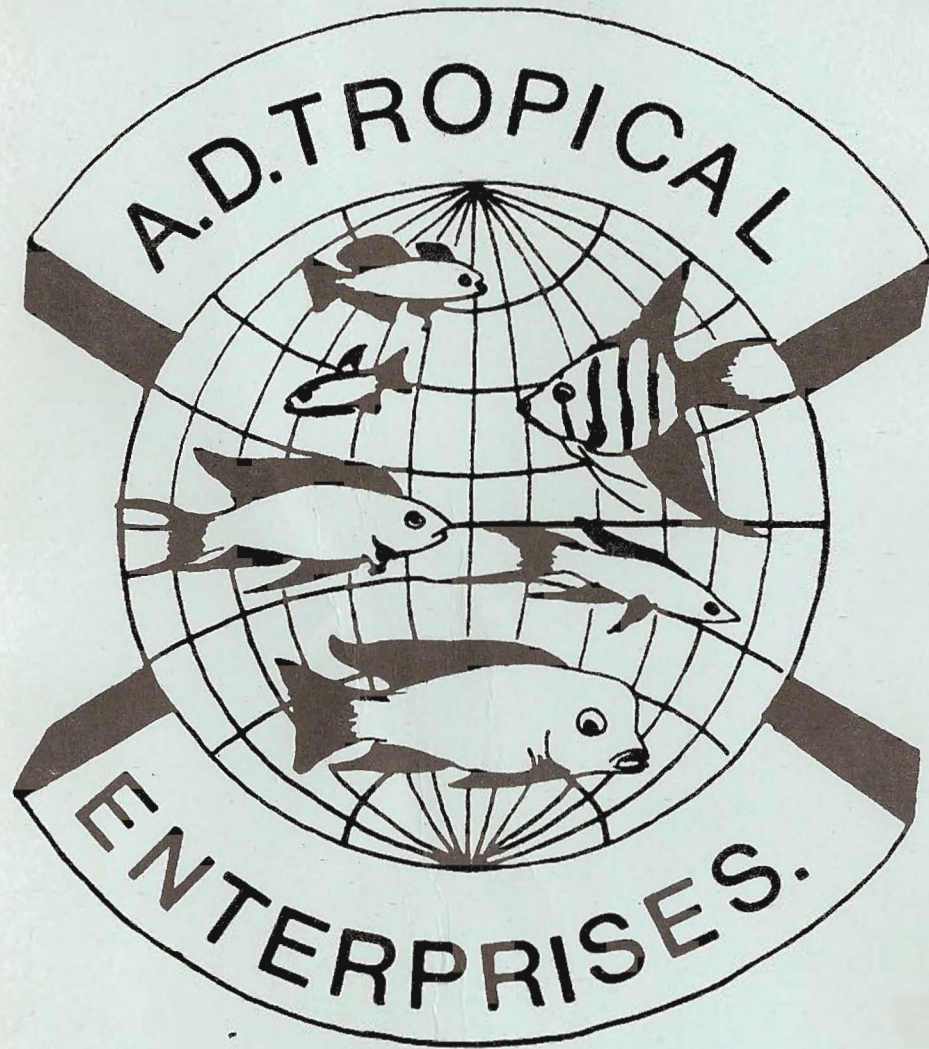


THE CICHLID MONTHLY



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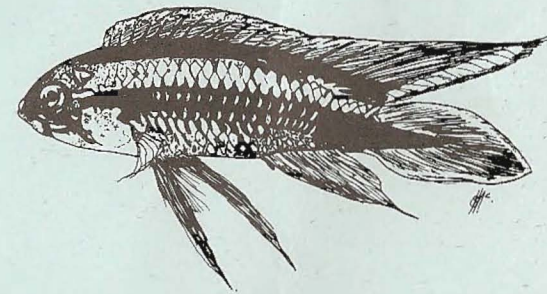
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Edited by AMANDA GENOVESE, assisted by STEVE MORTON.

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VOL. 15 NO. 10

VCS



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*The **Victorian Cichlid Society** was formed by Cichlidophiles in March 1972, thus becoming the first specialist aquarist group in the State of Victoria.*

The aims of the VCS are: to promote the keeping of Cichlids; to gain and disseminate knowledge of their habits through slides, films, books, lectures, overseas magazines, articles by members and discussion with fellow members or other experts in the field.

REPRINTS: Anyone wishing to reprint materials from any Cichlid Monthly, may direct their requests to authors, via the Editor.

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THE VICTORIAN CICHLID SOCIETY,
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EDITORIAL

A happy New Year to you all!

I hope you all had a good Christmas and relaxing holiday.

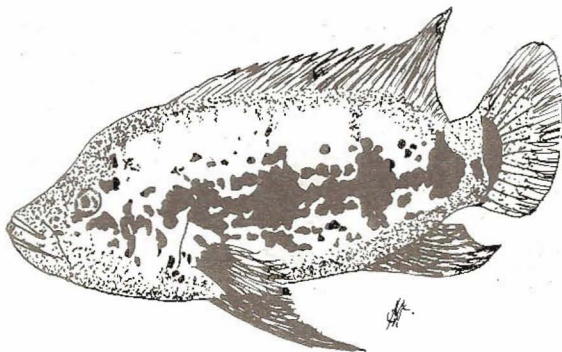
We have a new year ahead of us and it is time to start thinking about electing a new committee.

Our pool party held in January (held a little earlier than usual) was threatening all day to be a wash-out. However, we stuck it out and the rain came after the food was cooked then stopped in time for the volleyball -- which WE won -- against MADAS.

To all those who bothered to come along -- thank you, for this annual event is quite fun.

Well I hope all your fish-rooms received a summer spring clean (sic) whilst you were home on 'hols'.

See you all at the next meeting. Bring along a friend and introduce them to our wonderful world of fishkeeping.



AMANDA

VCS



DECEMBER MINUTES

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 17/12/1986

The meeting opened at 8.22 with the President in the chair. He welcomed all 32 members and nine visitors present. Apologies were received.

Minutes of the previous meeting taken as read on motion moved by John Reeves and seconded by Mark Lee.

Treasurer's report received on motion moved by Bill Foreman and seconded by Craig Lee.

Grant gave the mini-talk on the fish of the month -- M. pindani.

In the quiz, Craig Lee narrowly defeated Peter Petrus and won some Water Clear. Thanks to Keith for questions.

BAA badges presented:

- 5 & 10 -- Craig and Mark Lee
- 5 -- Grant Haynes
- 10 -- Pieter Hendricks
- Aart Langelaar
- 25 -- John Reeves

Species Maintenance -- please put in orders for fish.

After a short break an intriguing mini-auction was held.

Heinz then gave the main talk on some of his favorites.

Draw prize winners announced -- \$10 gift vouchers from Seahorse' Aq: John Emms; Grant Haynes; Matthew Riley. Table show results announced. Door prizes presented (thank you P & A I). Hamper won by Craig Lee. Hampers won by Kevin Sorensen.

Adjourned for barbecue supper at 10.48 pm.



OBSERVING A CICHLID MEETING



I hadn't been to a Cichlid Meeting for ages. Heinze asked me to come along to the end of year "Sausage Sizzle". I went with him with a bit of apprehension. Meetings sure had changed alot since then (Or had I?).

There were lots of interesting things going on combined with a bit of humour. I must say I liked that very much, it made me feel really relaxed straight away. I really enjoyed the way the meeting went from one event to the other, like Mini Auction to Mini talk etc, etc... Lots of thought were put into it to make it a very appealing night for everyone.

Heinze's talk was very informative but a little bit lengthy for my taste. But watching everybody else, they seemed to enjoy it and didn't mind how long he talked about long, lost Cichlids. It was especially nice to see the young people so enthusiastic about this particular hobby. One young fellow followed Heinze afterwards to put some more questions to him.

To be honest, I enjoyed the meeting very much, as it didn't drag on too long, as I think this is very important.

The supper was good because it was the last meeting of the year, lots of different foods were dished up. Everyone had a good appetite and the sausages went especially like magic! All in all it was a good night. If I am asked I'd like to come again.

Renate Staude



Wanted — preferably alive

These fish are some of the species that the sub-committee feels are threatened in Victoria, if not Australia. We do not profess this to be a complete list by any means, but it is a starting point.

SPECIES MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE ENDANGERED SPECIES LIST

Key to groups:

- 1 = Lost to the hobby.
- 2 = Existence doubtful.
- 3 = Extremely rare.
- 4 = Very rare.
- 5 = Rare.

Group No. 1

Biotodoma cupido
Chromidotilapia guentheri
Cichlasoma alfaroi
Geophagus daemon
Haplochromis chrysonotus
Haplochromis frenestratus
Haplochromis gradeosus
Haplochromis horei
Haplochromis niger
Haplochromis straelini
Lamprologus furcifer
Limnochromis auritus
Nanachromis dimidiatus
Pelvicachromis taeniatus
Simochromis diagramma

Group No. 2

Eretmodus cynostictus
Geophagus balzani
Haplochromis boadzulu
Haplochromis brownae
Haplochromis epichorialis
Haplochromis johnstoni
Haplochromis labrosus
Haplochromis trimaculatus
Haplochromis sp "Utaka green"
Haplochromis woodi
Lamprologus elongatus
Limnotilapia dardenni
Pelvicachromis subocelatus
Pseudotropheus elongatus "blue"
Pseudotropheus zebra "albino"

- 6 = Threatened by inbreeding.
- 7 = Endangered.
- 8 = Allowable import but rare.
- 9 = Watching.

Group No. 3

Aequidens tetramerus
Cichlasoma motaguense
Cichlasoma sieboldi
Etroplus maculatus
Haplochromis annectens
Haplochromis polystigma
Lamprologus brevis
Lamprologus compressiceps
Nanochromis nudiceps
Pseudotropheus lucerna
Telmatochromis bifrenatus

Group No. 4

Cichlasoma atromaculatum
Cichlasoma facetum
Etroplus suratensis
Haplochromis fuscotaeniatus
Haplochromis mola
Lamprologus leleupi
Lamprologus meeli
Lamprologus tredocephalus
Melanochromis vermivorus
Petrotilapia tridentiger
Trematocranus reginae

Group No. 5

Cichlasoma friedrichsthalii
Cichlasoma salvini
Geophagus jurupari
Lamprologus christyi
Pseudotropheus elongatus "golden"
Pseudotropheus elongatus "Likoma Island"
Trematocranus jacobfriebergi

Group No. 6

Aequidens itanyi
Aequidens portlagrensis
Chilotilapia rhoadesi
Cichlasoma maculicauda
Cichlasoma septemfasciatum
Cichlasoma trimaculatum
Cichlasoma umbriferus
Cynotilapia affra "yellow"
Geophagus surinamensis
Haplochromis compressiceps
Haplochromis livingstoni
Haplochromis nigricans
Haplochromis symodees
Hemihaplochromis multicolor
Melanochromis crabro
Melanochromis similans
Pseudotropheus dinghanni
Pseudotropheus minutus

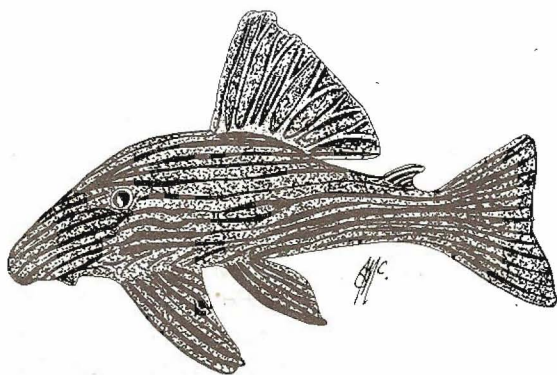
Group No. 7

Haplochromis lividus

Group No. 8

Apistogramma "species"
Crenicara filamentosa
Nanacara anomala
Uaru amphiacanthoides

If anyone knows the whereabouts of any of these fish, would they please contact a member of the Species Maintenance Committee (John E, Scott, Grant or Steve) whose phone numbers appear in the front of this magazine. When submitting requests please select 4 or 5 species as some of the above species could possibly be lost already . . .



WATCH THIS SPACE



FISH HOUSE REPORT

FISH HOUSE NIGHT -- DECEMBER 1986

Heinz Staude opened his newly extended shop to the club. He has obviously spent a lot of thought and money to double the display area in his Dunoon Court shop.

A big feature for cichlid lovers is that cichlids dominate much of the extensions as well as the previous shop area.

It was difficult to keep track of the numbers in attendance, but I counted close to 50 people, made up not only of club members but one or two retailers and one founding member of the Cichlid Society -- namely Max Davenport.

In addition to the building side of things, Heinz has clearly been working hard behind the scenes to accumulate a bank of breeding stock of the rarer cichlids with the objective of keeping the hobby (and his livelihood) going as long as is feasibly possible through healthy bloodlines.

To count the number of tanks was, with so many present, a rather pointless exercise, so you will have to visit the shop to appreciate its growth.

Most fish there are not only on display but many of their siblings are for sale -- from the very large *C. umbriferum* which have bred on the premises and whose fry are available, down to the dwarfs, including several varieties of *Apistogrammas* which are largely imported.

Our host kindly supplied the eats and drinks and I think it goes without saying that a good night was had by all.

Thank you Heinz.

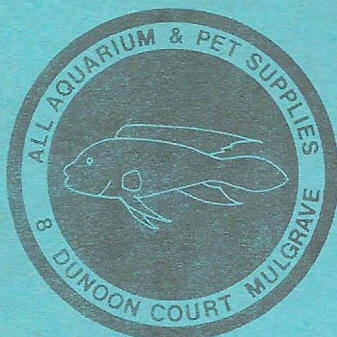
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The Not-So-Blue African — *Lamprologus leleupi*

FOR aquarists who like their fish colorful *Lamprologus leleupi* is a must. It is certainly the only *Lamprologus*, and one of the few cichlids, that approach the intense coloration of marine fish. Once seen in its bright-yellow colors it is never forgotten.

The first time I saw this fish I decided that I had to buy some — but from where? It took me almost five years to finally acquire specimens of this very attractive cichlid.

Lamprologus leleupi is endemic to Lake Tanganyika and is generally a deep-water fish, being most plentiful at depths of 20 to 40 metres. This presents a problem for collectors as decompression procedures must be carried out if the fish are to survive being brought to the surface — hence the high price of wild-caught fish. But, of course, these fish are no longer allowable imports here in Australia, which also helps to explain the high price of locally bred leleupis.

So far divers have found three distinct color forms: *Lamprologus leleupi melas*, which ranges from brown to a honey color; *Lamprologus leleupi longior*, which is always yellow, even when juvenile; and another color morph which apparently is yellow when mature but brown when juvenile.

Since its introduction to the hobby during the 1950s this fish has remained very popular with aquarists because it is brightly colored and does not grow very large.

Males reach a maximum of 125 millimetres and females around 90 millimetres which means that, once paired-off, they can live happily in a three-foot tank or perhaps even a two-foot. But, personally, I would not keep mine in any less than a three-foot tank.

Lamprologus leleupi is a substratum spawner and will usually select a cave to spawn in. At this time, when the selection of a mate is occurring, they can become quite aggressive and unless adequate tank space is given their numbers will certainly decline. This process of pairing-off usually occurs at around 12 to 18 months of age. Once two fish have paired it would be wise to remove all remaining *L. leleupis*.

Usually this species spawns in pairs although there have been reports of a male spawning with more than one female at the same time.

The Not-So-Blue African — *Lamprologus leleupi*

Photo: STEVE MORTON



The eggs laid number somewhere between 40 and 200 — although I would think the lower figure would be nearer the norm. The female normally guards the eggs which hatch in around 48 hours with the fry becoming free-swimming in about seven days.

Lamprologus leleupi is similar to *Lamprologus brichardi* when a breeding pair has been established in that they will spawn with a previous batch, or batches, of fry still present.

The fish I presently have are the *longior* morph and are about eight to 10 months old. When I purchased them they were approximately 25 millimetres long and already bright yellow. Their color has intensified as they have grown.

My fish are housed in a four-foot tank which contains lots of caves and plastic plants. The tank receives a 25 per cent water change every two weeks. The pH is 7.6 and the hardness is about 400 to 500 ppm.

I feed them a basic diet of flakes, prawns, frozen brine shrimp, pellets, krill, zucchini and a weekly feeding of live brine shrimp. (In the wild, this species feeds mainly on shrimps and snails.)

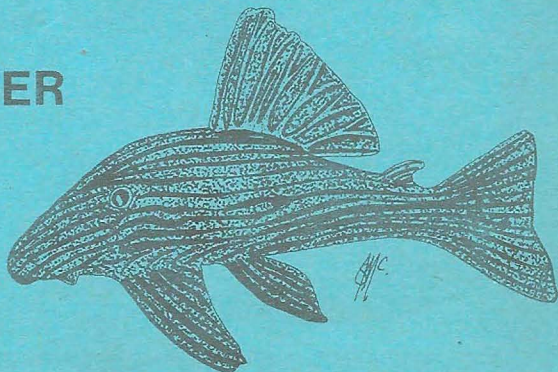
Hopefully in about six months time I will be lucky enough to have a compatible pair and they will begin to breed. Then perhaps I can speak from personal experience as to their spawning habits rather than relate what I have been told or have read.

Steve Butcher

REFERENCES:

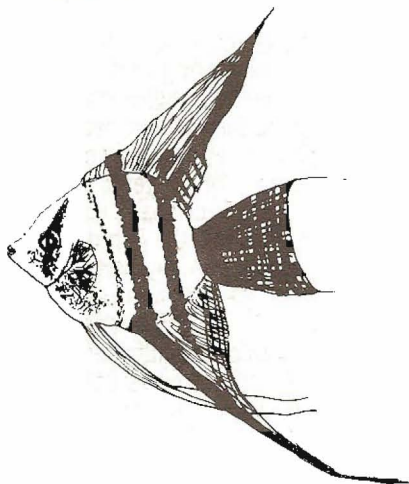
- EXOTIC TROPICAL FISHES — TFH
- FAMA MAGAZINE — Volume 5 (May 1980)
- FISHES OF LAKE TANGANYIKA — BRICHARD
- TFH MAGAZINE — Volume 27 Number 10 (June 1979)
- THE CICHLID AQUARIUM — LOISELLE

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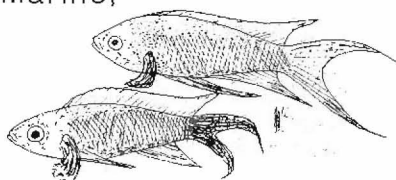
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Cichlasoma coryphaenoides

The cichlid I am writing about this month is one that is not seen very much. They are not plentiful, and not too many are imported — probably because it is a very vicious cichlid, very aggressive, even with its own kind.

Bigger ones will pick on smaller ones. So they are very rarely found in home aquariums because of their nature.

They are the Chocolate Cichlid or *Cichlasoma coryphaenoides* and they come the Amazon region — Brazil and Argentina.

The name — *Cichlasoma*, means thrush body — *coryphaenoides*, dolphin-like. Another of their common names is Marble Cichlid.

It is a very pretty fish with a chocolate-brown body, the color of which may vary in shades, with a beautiful metallic purple-brown. In fact, for a cichlid the fish is remarkable for its extremes of color change and the speed with which it takes place.

A purplish-chocolate shade, flushed with rose the sides are marked by dark vertical bands and three smudges on one of the gill covers, a second on the centre of the body which is quite a dark spot and the third on the caudal peduncle. It has a W-shaped marking just behind the eye. Fins are generally brownish, the dorsal having a red edge.

The body is an elongated oval shape, laterally compressed, the head is big and quite pointed.

Males are 6" to 10" long, females slightly smaller.

Water conditions are not critical, but temperature requirements are a bit high, 80 degrees is best — never let the temperature get below 72 degrees.

One of the harder-to-keep large cichlids, they are big, ferocious and a bit touchy where temperature is concerned.

The hobbyist who likes their coloration, which is admittedly attractive, soon tires of their greed and inability to get along with any tankmate who can not lick them — of which, there are mighty few.

Because they are not ready sellers, most breeders have preferred not to try propagating them, even if they have the proper amount of space required. Add to this the fact that the fish does not occur in great numbers in any part of the Amazon where collecting is done and you have the reasons why we seldom see the fish.

First introduced into Germany in 1911, they grow to a large size and in some cases their owners actually get to like like them. For all their bad habits, they have never been reported to uproot plants, although they do some digging.

Greedy eaters, they prefer large chunks — earthworms, pieces of beef heart or canned dog food are best. They also like meal worms, shrimp and trout pellets.

Their aggression during mating makes successful breeding problematical. Efforts in breeding have thus far ended only in killings, but the survivors remain beautiful and interesting exhibition fishes.

My son, Don, got a pair in 1973 but the female was beaten up pretty badly by the male and he brought her to me. I treated her and got her in good shape agains and she was beautiful, very pretty colors.

In 1974 I entered her in the Washington State Pet Show and Tropical Fish Exhibit in the Open Class and she won first place. I had just the right rocks and decor in her aquarium, which really brought out her colors beautifully.

When I got back home I put her in a 30-gallon aquarium — my big Red Devil was on the other side. One night the Red Devil knocked down the partition and chewed up the Chocolate. I treated her and got back in beautiful shape again.

Her colors were so pretty and she was so good that I decided to enter her in the Tacoma Show in 1975. But that April I was at the Grays Harbor Show when the Red

Devil knocked down the partition again and my Chocolate was dead when I got back home — the Red Devil was a lot bigger than the Chocolate and a mean one.

Perhaps, some day this fish — the Chocolate Cichlid — like the Oscar, will come into its own and also enjoy a certain amount of popularity.

I really would like to own another Chocolate Cichlid some day.

By Rosemary Mearns

Reprinted from Kitsap A/S, June 1980.

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TABLE SHOW REPORT

December 1986, "The Show with a Difference", as it included our 2nd "Baby Show" which was in sharp contrast to the initial show. We anticipated, due to last years enthusiasm, some 20 to 30 entrants in these two categories but alas we had to be satisfied with only 3 entrants in the 0-3 months section and 4 entrants in the 3-6 months section.

Babies 0 to 3 Months Section

G. managuense - A. Langelaar
H. Zebra tangerine - L. McCrae
C. surinamense - P. Petrus.

The winner of this baby trophy with a good majority was P. Petrus's-surinamense.

Babies 3 to 6 Months Section

G. patricki - A. Langelaar
H. Mlotto - J. Reeves
Blue peacock - J. Shiolts
Ps.pindani - G. Haymes

John Reeve's entrant, the Yellow top powder blue mlotto, was a "lay down misere". A beautiful young specimen which will be some fish when he fully matures.

Africans/Asians

Tank 1.	Hap. electra	J. Shields
2.	C. frontosa	A. Langelaar
3.	T. Buettikoferi	L. McCrae
4.	Ps. Zebra red top	G. Haymes
5.	Ps. Aurora	S. Haymes

Judges Report

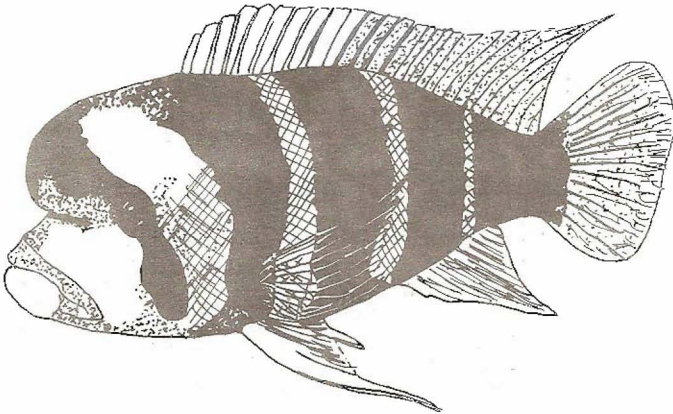
Tank	Gen/Con	Fins	Shape	Scales	Maturity	Total
1.	26/30	26/30	18/20	8/10	6/10	84
2.	25/30	25/30	18/20	8/10	10/10	86
3.	27/30	26/30	18/20	8/10	6/10	85
4.	26/30	23/30	17/20	9/10	8/10	83
5.	27/30	26/30	17/20	8/10	9/10	87

General Comments

1. Young fish, good colour with future potential
2. Minor fin damage, slightly hollow in belly region
3. Young fish with excellent potential
4. Nice fish but showing damage on most fins
5. Good show fish, excellent colour

Popular Choice

A. Langelaar's - frontosa with a good majority of the votes. Believe it or not everybody voted!!!





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CICHLID SCENE

NEXT MEETING: Is to be held at the Ashburton Primary School, Fakenham Road, Ashburton, on Wednesday, 18th February at 8.00 pm. Supper after the meeting.

MAIN TALK >
> To be announced.
MINI-TALK >

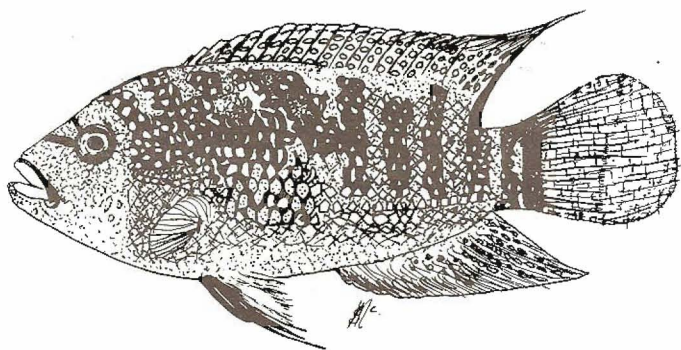
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TABLE SHOW -- Americans and Asians.

MARCH MEETING -- Elections for 1987 committee to be held.



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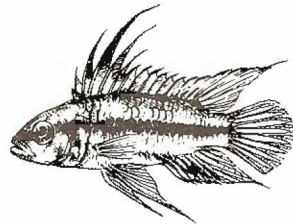
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The Secretary
Graham Rowe
Victorian Cichlid Society
23 Mangana Drive
MULGRAVE AUSTRALIA 3170



Dear Graham,

I Wish to become a member of the Victorian Cichlid Society. Below I have included the required information, and I enclose a cheque for the correct amount.

Name in full:.....

Age next birthday (if under-18):

Address.....

.....

Postcode: Telephone:

Date: Signature:

Area/s of interest:

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Nominated by:.....

Seconded by:.....