



TBAS . . . Since 1992

THE FILTER



Xiphophorus variatus
Sunset Variatus - Hi-fin

October 2017
Volume 27 Issue 3

Photo Mike Jacobs . . . 2017

October Meeting Speaker:
Grant Eder
MINI-TANKS

October Bowl Show
1) Dwarf Cichlids
2) Angelfish



TAMPA BAY AQUARIUM SOCIETY

"THE FILTER"

Tampa/St. Pete, Florida

TBAS

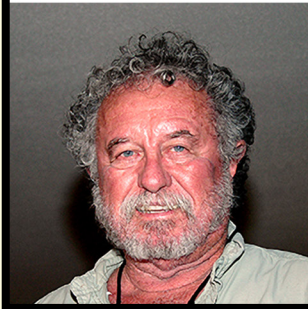
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President's Stuff



**Bill
Shields**



Hoping we all survived with few problems from Irma. We were very fortunate not to get the worst of it. Wishing a speedy recovery for our fellow clubs around the state as they were affected a lot more than we were.

It is my honor to serve as your President once more. The club has really grown into one of the best in the country. And I have visited many of them giving talks over the years. They all share our common love of the hobby and are filled with wonderful people. You would feel at home at any one of them if you ever have the chance to visit them in your travels.

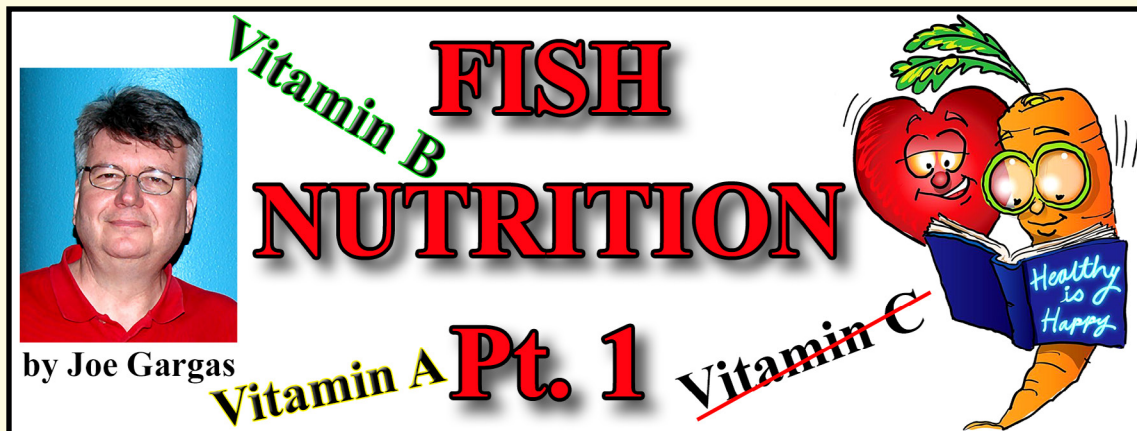
We have some good things planned for TBAS in the coming year. We have a schedule of great speakers, some cooperative efforts with other clubs, our Christmas Party, the annual plant Auction and the Florida State Fair Aquarium Beautiful competition. There are some exciting changes to the fair classes with the addition of the Nano Class. Grant Eder won Best of Show with his excellent tank last year.

As always the club needs your help to make these events work. Writing articles for the newsletter, Chairperson for the Christmas party to coordinate the covered dishes so we do not end up with way too many deserts. The club supplies the meat and drinks.

Brian Skidmore and I are getting ready to travel to Puerto Maldonado, Peru. Remember Michael Barber's talk – Go Wild Peru last October. I am working to get all my Halloween stuff done as we won't return until just three days before Oct 31st.

Bill

Bill Shields, President, TBAS



by Joe Gargas

As I have discussed in earlier columns, water quality is the most important factor in keeping tropical fish. The second most important factor is nutrition. I have quite a bit of experience in this as I was the Director of Research and Development for the Wardley Corporation in the 90s. Wardley was one of the largest aquarium fish food manufacturers and at the time we made our own foods “in house” we did not farm it out as other companies did. Wardley owned all the equipment needed to make flake foods and pellets.

All fish require energy for growth, repairing damaged tissue due to aggression, bacteria and/ or parasitic attack, for muscle activity, and for reproduction. For freshwater fish, most of the energy is spent osmoregulating.

The biological process of utilizing energy is defined as metabolism. The rate at which energy occurs is called the metabolic rate. The metabolic rate in fish is influenced by water temperature, species, age and body size, activity, physical condition and body functions, as well as water chemistry parameters such as oxygen or carbon dioxide saturation, pH and salinity (conductivity).

There are many sources of food available for tropical fish (ornamentals) in the pet industry today. They can be grouped into the following categories:

- Dry foods, which include pellets and flakes;
- Frozen foods, which could be anything from frozen beef hearts to frozen brine shrimp, fish, mussels and frozen insects;

- Live foods, which can be purchased (live brine or tubifex worms) or cultured on the premises (white worms or daphnia, and feeder fish).

VITAMINS & MINERALS

Fish get some minerals from the water. Freshwater fish can absorb essentially all of their calcium requirements from surrounding water since most surface water is high enough in calcium so that a dietary supplement is not necessary.

The main problem regarding nutrition is that many manufacturers are unaware that fish require vitamins in their diets. One of the most striking nutritional differences between fish and livestock is the inability of fish to synthesize vitamin C (ascorbic acid).

Fish lack the enzyme L-gulonolactone oxidase for synthesis of ascorbic acid from glucose, although most warm-blooded animals (except primates and guinea pigs) have this enzyme. Because of its multiplicity of metabolic functions, the ascorbic acid requirements of animals vary with the function and environment.

For wound healing and response to infection, stresses and environmental toxins, higher than normal amounts of vitamin C are needed. In fact, dietary vitamin C supplementation is now used beneficially in feeds for poultry under high performance and stress conditions.

Aside from this, there are still other compounds necessary which certainly are much reduced in quantity in the body of the fish, but which are still necessary for the physiological processes, and which must be introduced to the fish food. Lack of vitamins cause serious disturbances to health, and can even result in death.

FOR WOUND HEALING AND RESPONSE TO INFECTION, STRESSES AND ENVIRONMENTAL TOXINS, HIGHER THAN NORMAL AMOUNTS OF VITAMIN C ARE NEEDED

Research has demonstrated that an array of vitamin components are present in fermentation systems. The disturbance that oc-

curs from the lack of vitamins is usually not restricted to an individual organ, but instead causes overall damage to the cells which can include an array of life processes.

The addition of vitamins to the food should be by a vitamin complex since they are only effective in their entirety. Admittedly, during symptoms of deficiency, the vitamins can also be increased individually.

By means of the difference in osmotic gradient between the water and the fish, vitamins proceed into the body of the fish in different ways. For freshwater fish, it is advantageous to enrich the food with vitamins. Since the ionic strength of water is less than that of the fish tissue, vitamins added to the water do not readily diffuse into the body. Thus, the remaining vitamins in the water can cause bacteria blooms, affecting the water quality, and depleting the water of oxygen.

It is much easier with saltwater fish. Their blood and body tissue has a lower salt content than the surrounding water, and these fish must drink continually to maintain the water balance in their bodies. By this means, regular intake of vitamins from the water is ensured.

HOLE IN THE HEAD

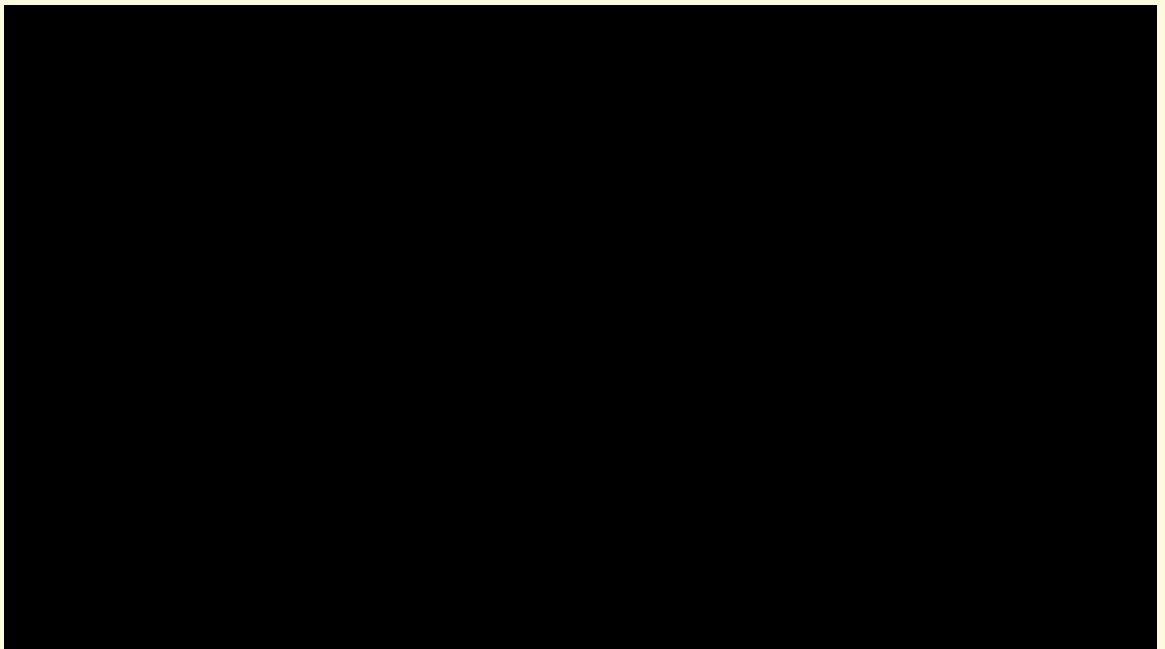
The condition called "hole in the head" in saltwater fish is thought to be caused through vitamin deficiency. It can be healed by the regular addition of vitamins to the water (entire vitamin complex) and the destruction can be avoided. In freshwater fish, the hole in the head condition can be caused by both water quality and vitamin deficiency. The accompanying symptoms of this condition, such as *Spironucleus* *symphysodonis*, *Ichthyophonus* *hoferi*, or bacteria can indeed occur along with the condition, but usually they are not the cause.

Frequently, the addition of a high vitamin flake food during occurrences of the hole in the head disease in fresh water fish helps the healing of the deep holes and a full recovery from the disease. I usually administer a vitamin A and B complex in the food and in the water.

Joe Gargas Discus With Fry



Joe Gargas Discus Fry Eating Beefheart



ED: Patty Moncrief wrote this a long, long time ago. I've looked at it a dozen times thinking that I should reprint it . . . nah, we'll be OK . . . we don't need this . . . THANKS, IRMA . . . see how smart I am????!!!



Imagine this, there is a hurricane in the gulf and it is headed this way, what can you do to help your fish tanks survive? What if you have to evacuate? First thing you should do is water changes and not just 10 to 15%, but 50%! Trim plants and remove excess debris. Clean all your filters and check all equipment. Now stock up on hydrogen peroxide, fresh sealed stuff. Use a capful per 50 gallons and it will boost the oxygen levels during power failures. This can be repeated every hour.

Don't feed during a hurricane even if you have power because you never know when the power will go off again and we want to keep organic waste at a minimum until the storm is over. It would be best to keep the lights off to keep the fish in a resting state during the storm, lights suddenly going on and off in a power failure can put a lot of stress on your fish. If you have to evacuate you should reduce the water level in the tanks, because oxygen is only at the surface of the water and the fish have to use a lot of energy and oxygen going to the surface to breath. A small battery operated air pump will help the oxygenation level, check local pet stores (also check anywhere fishing supplies are sold). The lower water level will cut down the likelihood of a fish jumping out. Turn all lights off and hope for the best.

After the storm, be careful when you are refilling the tanks, the water supply could be contaminated. You can add 10 drops of bleach per gallon and then dechlorinate and aerate the water to make it safe before you use it. If you think ahead you could have some buckets filled with water, be sure to keep them covered tightly to keep out unwanted mosquitoes.

If you have a special tank like a saltwater reef or a tall tank that must have continuous water circulation I found that you could get a little 12-volt water pump used for baitfish at any fishing supply store for less the \$20. I put this pump to the test and it ran a wet-dry on my 100 gall tall tank for three days off a car battery and it was still going strong when I shut it down. Of course you could get a generator to run the whole house during the storm. Back-up power systems used for computers only give you a short time, just enough time to shut down your computer. I hope all this information will help your aquariums survive a hurricane.



photo by Mike Jacobs 2017

Neochromis Omnicaeruleus

Tricolor Fulu



Hi folks . . . tonight (October, 2nd), the BOD of TBAS voted to postpone the TBAS Annual Auction. We had a major discussion and talked about all of the “things” that have now affected the ability of TBAS to effectively conduct the auction. Obviously we are talking about the hurricane IRMA and all of the problems that have arisen from this hurricane. Of course the people in Tampa Bay who were going to put on the auction, the people around the entire state of Florida that were going to attend the auction, but what we decided most was the tropical fish farmers that give TBAS all of the \$1,000’s of dollars in donated fish for the auction.

This was not an easy decision and there were positives and negatives on BOTH sides of the question. In the long run we decided for the good of everyone involved that it was best to postpone the TBAS Auction for 2017.

We are, of course, truly sorry if this inconveniences you in any fashion but for the good of ALL involved we think we made the right call. We will, for sure, let you know when it is rescheduled . . . and we are all looking forward to that date. We have to now, possibly, find a new venue!!!



photo Mike Jacobs 2017

***Tropheus moorii* “Chipimbi”**
Red Chipimbi

MONTHLY BOWL SHOW

January

- 1)
- 2) **None - Plant Auction**

February

- 1) Male Betta Splenden
(single fish)
- 2) Open

March

- 1) Tetras, Barbs, Rasbora
- 2) Cichlids

April

- 1) Platies
- 2) Guppies

May

No Bowl Show
Swap Meet

June

- 1) Corydoras
- 2) Anabantoids no Bettas

July

- 1) Arts & Crafts (hand made)
- 2) Fish "T" Shirt (must be worn)
- 3) Aquatic Photos
(personally taken)

August

- 1) Mollies
- 2) Rainbows

September

- 1) Swordtails
- 2) Pleco/Sucker type fish

October

- 1) Dwarf Cichlids
- 2) Angelfish

November

- 1) Goldfish & Koi
- 2) Invertebrates (Fresh or Salt)

December

No Bowl Show . . . Christmas
Party and the
2016 Results of the Bowl Show!!!

Bowl Show Results 2017

by AL

NAME	JAN-JUNE	JULY	TOTAL
Kent Sheets	76	16	92
Ethan Skidmore	62	18	80
Joshua McWilliams	2	0	2
Michael Rucav	16	0	16
Elaine Thyner	0	0	0
Grant Eder	4	0	4
	1	0	1

**No Meeting In September
Sooooo - No Bowl Show!!!**



Nothobranchius rachovii 'Beira 98'

<http://www.sks.aka.org>

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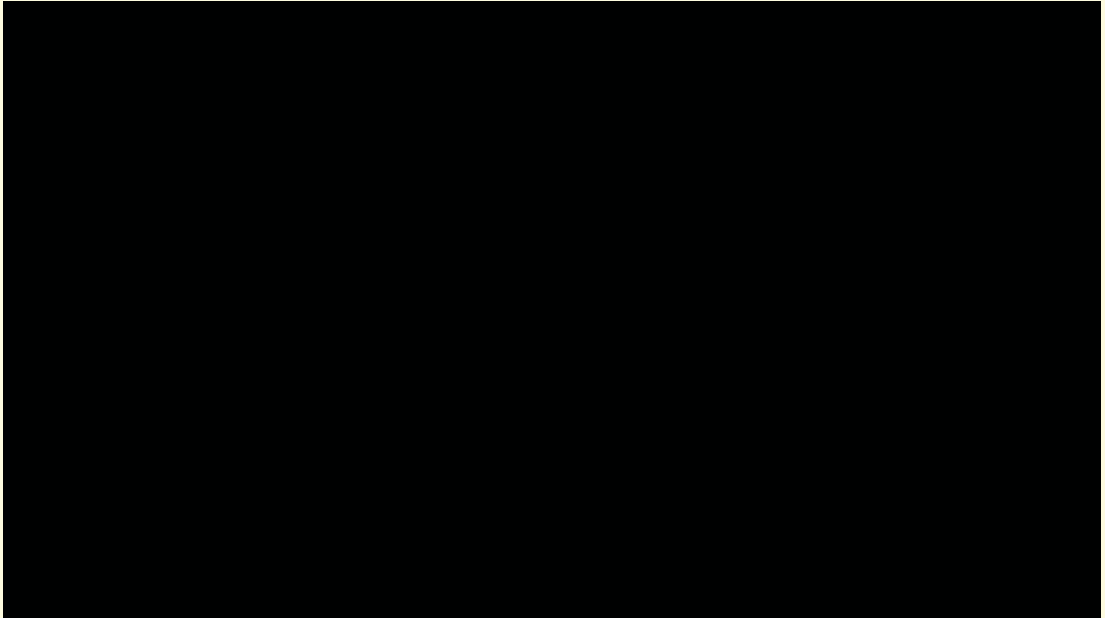
You won't be sorry you came!

Directions are on the website.



***Xystichromis* sp. "Kyoga flameback". . . Flameback**

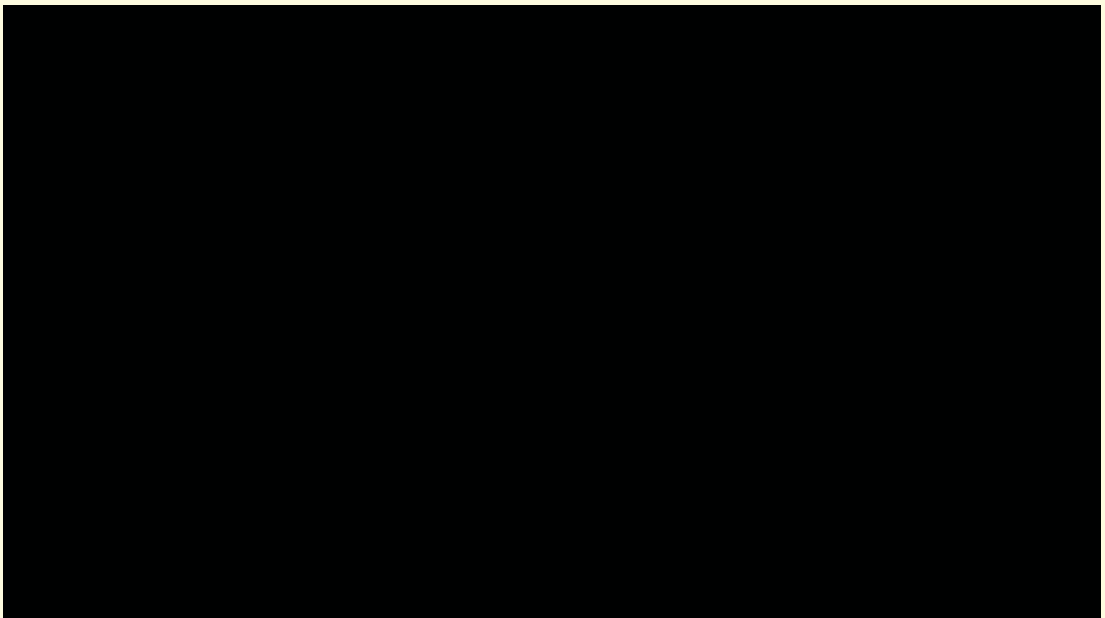
photo: Mike Jacobs 2017



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alphabetical order

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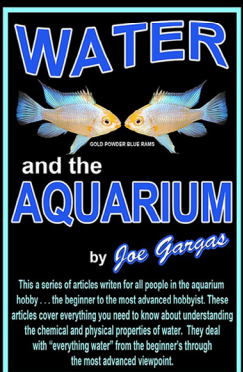
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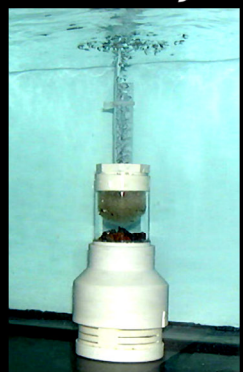
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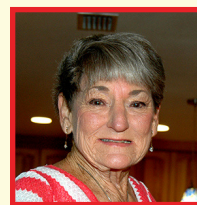


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