



Breeders Award Programme

BREEDING RECORD SHEET:- EGGLAYERS

Breeder's Name:	Stuart McKay
Submission Date:	03/08/08

SPECIES INFORMATION

Scientific Name	<i>Geophagus iporangensis</i>			
Common Name				
Points Awarded/ Class	Points Awarded	15	Class	6
Number of Fish	Male	1	Female	1
Approx Size (cm) SL	Male	9	Females	5
Approx Age (if known)	Male	c. 10 months	Female	c. 10 months

SPAWNING TANK / CONDITIONING TANK INFORMATION

Tank Size (cm)	Length	75	Height	38	Width	30
Substrate	Shallow layer of sand					
Decoration	1 piece of bogwood and one piece of flat slate					
Water Conditions	pH	c. 7.3	Temperature	75-76	GH	?

SPAWNING AND REARING INFORMATION

Spawn Date	19/01/08	Approx number of eggs	120+
Hatch Date	Approx 22-23/01/08	Approx number hatched fry	120+
Free Swimming Date	27/01/08	Approx number free swimming fry	120+



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FRY REARING INFORMATION

Tank Size (cm)	Length	75	Height	37.5	Width	30
Substrate	Sand, gradually removed during growth					
Decoration	1 piece of bogwood and one piece of flat slate					
Water Conditions	pH	c. 7.3	Temperature	75-76	GH	?
First foods (period these fed for)	Microworm, liquifry 1 and 2 for first fortnight.					
Second foods (period these fed for)	Liquifry 3 and crushed flake during 2 nd and 3 rd weeks, with various pelleted foods introduced as a supplement thereafter					
140 Day Update	Approx Number of Surviving Fry	90	Approx Size Range of Surviving Fry	2-5 cm		
Other Comments	<p>Parents paired up approx a fortnight before spawning, and at the time of spawning there were 6 other geos in the tank (which were due to be removed that week).</p> <p>Numbers of eggs and non-free swimming fry not possible to estimate as parents moved eggs out of sight shortly after laying them!</p> <p>Parents showed variable intermittent aggression towards one another (even before eggs hatched) and male removed 13th February due to concerns over welfare of smaller female.</p> <p>Female was left with fry for c. 2 months or so then removed when she was starting to show irritation with the fry.</p> <p>Growth rate of fry is considerably slower than for any other cichlid I've had experience of, and also more variable- the fish seem to have sudden growth spurts. This tallies with the rearing of the f1 group (from which the parents came) from Pete and Sarah Cawthorne's wild-caught parents, which grew very erratically.</p>					



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General Information

Observations or details that may assist another aquarist to breed this species

Due to sheer numbers of surviving fry (mortality rate was less than 3%), some of the fry were gradually moved to several tanks (including peaceful community tanks). Fry kept in smaller numbers showed much more variable growth rates (from much better to somewhat worse than average), and showed more conspecific aggression to siblings at a much earlier date than the main group.

Despite exceptionally low mortality rates, about 25% of fish showed deformities of the operculum (gill cover), possibly as a result of their being f1 fish (and therefore siblings) and had to be destroyed; approx. 10 undersized fish were also regrettably destroyed. Despite this, 60 fish were sold via SVAS auction and to Fish Inc., with a further 20 or so still in my tanks. Thus the ratio of viable, saleable fish raised to non-viable ones was approx. 2:1.