

The official publication of the St.Catharines & Area Aquarium Society since 1958
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The

SCAT

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SCAAS.info

Club Notes

Our Mission Statement: Meetings of the St. Catharines & Area Aquarium Society are held on the first Monday of each month, 7.30p.m., at the Seafarers & Teamsters Union Hall, 70 St. Davids Rd. E. Thorold, Ont. No meetings are held on Mondays that are holidays. Those meetings are held on the second Monday. There are no meetings during the months of July and August. *The Society, established in 1958, is a non-profit, educational organization dedicated to the task of promoting interest in the breeding, raising, maintenance and study of tropical fish, both at the beginner and advanced levels.* The St. Catharines & Area Aquarium Society is a charter member of the Canadian Association of Aquarium Clubs Inc. (CAOAC) www.caoac.ca . SCAAS is also a member of the Federation of American Aquarium Societies (FAAS). More news and information about St.Catharines & Area Aquarium Society can be found at <http://www.scaas.info>

Our next meeting will be held on June 01 at the Seafarers & Teamsters Union hall, 70 St. Davids Rd.E. Thorold. Start time is 7.30 pm ALL ARE WELCOME
This month's program will be Questions from the membership – any questions on the hobby

2008 – 2009 Executive

President – Ken Brady - - - (905) 935-4716 kbrady2@cogeco.ca
1st Vice President – John Verhage – (905) 735-7776 jverhage@on.aibn.com
2nd Vice President – Bruce Hallett - (905) 934-7138
Secretary – Claudia Carthew - (905) 684-0394 crcarthew@yahoo.com
Treasurer – Wally Ebert - (905) 687-6907 lebort@cogeco.ca
Past President & Editor DAve Unruh (905) 684-9860 dunruh@cogeco.ca

2007 – 2008 Committees

Aquatic Horticulture Awards DAve Unruh (905)684-9860
Archives Tom & Pat Bridges - - (905) 735-3352 tp.bridges@sympatico.ca
Auction Coordinator – Tom Bridges
Auctioneer – open
Breeder Awards – Tom Bridges
CAOAC Representative – Tom Bridges
Jar Show – Pat Shriner - - - (905) 354-1367 gpshriner@sympatico.ca
Library – Gary Phelps - - - (905) 563-6523
Library - Jeff Phelps - - - (905) 892-0248 jphelps@vaxxine.com
Membership & Exchanges – Pat Bridges (905) 735-3352
Programs – open
Press/publicity – Ken Brady - - (905) 935-4716 - kbrady2@cogeco.ca
Raffle & Draws – Priscilla Heus - (905) 988-9741
Refreshments – Bruce Hallett - - (905) 934-7138
Web Master - Ken Brady

Reprint Policy

Any not-for-profit organization may reprint articles from “The Scat” provided credit is given both to the author of the article and to the St.Catharines & Area Aquarium Society (SCAAS) and that two copies of the reprinting publication are sent to : Exchange Editor, Pat Bridges 4 Crescent Dr. Welland, Ont. Canada L3B 2W5. Opinions or endorsements expressed in any article do not necessarily reflect the views of the SCAAS.

Membership Dues:

Family :\$ 25.00
Single - \$ 20.00
Junior - \$ 10.00 (under 16)
Seniors - \$ 10.00 (over 65)

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Cover photo of a Gold Angel from the April Jar Show
Photo © by DAve Unruh

Editors Notes

This month we continue with the second installment of The Cryptic Emersion. Included in this newsletter you will find a page on the Jar Show rules as it has been quite awhile since it was last published. In fact I would wager that many of our members are not even aware that there are rules pertaining to the monthly jar show. It is always interesting to see the fish that people bring out. The rules are there to see that we have a “level playing field”. It also makes it easier for the judging, for instance it is hard to judge a fish that is in a plastic bag or in a round tank. The fish my look distorted and thus gets a lower mark.

I have enjoyed Pam Danyluck’s Membership Bio. It has shown how diverse the members can be, but no matter how different we are in our occupations we all share in our love for the aquatic hobby. Tom & Pat’s “Scanning the Exchanges” has kept us in touch with other clubs & the articles that are published therein. We have also had many breeding articles on a wide range of fishes. This will be the last newsletter for this club year. I hope you have benefited from reading this newsletter.

Presidents Message June

Last Month on May 2nd we held our public auction to raise some funds. We had a great time at the auction. We also put some money in the bank and a lot of very good livestock was sold at generally excellent purchase prices. Thanks for the willing and good natured helpers that made this a success. Some of the helpers were even from other clubs and from no club at all. We need to start planning now for our next one.

Also last month was the CAOAC convention in London Ontario. I have heard good reports of attendance and fun along with the typical camaraderie of fellow Aquarium enthusiasts.

Plans are under way for the annual summer Barbeque at Dave Unruh’s. Please put some thought to what Saturday is better. July 18th or 25th are the most likely dates at this time. This is a relaxed time to sit and chit chat, keep in touch over the summer and eat lots of good food. We provide the pop, meat and buns but the members bring their favorite salads and desserts for a great variety of yummy food. Oh also bring your own chair and bathing suit.

This month we have a question and answer and elections. Elections are very important and also an opportunity to get your club set for a smooth start to next year.

Elected positions are President, vice president, 2nd vice president, secretary and treasurer. Committees are also always looking for some commitments at this time. The committees are very important to the smooth running and enjoyment at each meeting. Although some committees are likely to be filled the best way to get into the spirit is to help on a committee. This way we have a good secondary support group who can jump in when needed. Committees are selected by the new executive and also readily helped out by the executive. Please let us know your interests and we can fill that burning desire to get in the spirit of our club.

Of particular importance is Bruce’s decision to pass the torch in the kitchen. He has done this since before most of us were even members but don’t worry about keeping up standards as everyone will appreciate any efforts to take over this visit position and Bruce isn’t going anywhere so a bit of advice or pointers are readily available. The committees are listed on the web site and in the SCAT.

The Q&A session will have a panel of members with specific areas of experience so any and every topic can be covered. Maybe there are questions about how to prepare for breeding and conditioning water with a few insider hints. Perhaps you have pond questions or equipment questions. So what’s a rumble fish? Come and find out. Bring it on we are up to the challenge! See you on the first Monday in June!

We will also be presenting the year end awards at the June meeting!

Ken

Member Profile

By Pam Danyluck

This month's profile is on Tom Hillier

Tom was born in Sydney, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia and grew up there. He now resides in St. Catharines with wife Brenda and daughter Jennifer. Tom became a member of our club last December and only became interested in fish in 2008. He currently has four tanks running, and does not have a dedicated fish room. He keeps Cichlids, Neon Tetras, Zebra Danios, Catfish, Ghost Shrimp and African Dwarf Frogs. The breeding habits of his Cichlids are what make them his favorite fish.



Tom uses a Fluval Top Fin and Aqua Clear filters. He is currently trying his hand at making sponge filters.

Tom's daughter Jennifer enjoys and participates in her father's hobby.

Thank you Tom, for letting us get to know you a little better.

Wanted

Club members for newsletter profiles! I am still fairly new, okay not so new anymore but I still don't know all of you yet. It would be a big help if anyone willing to have his or her profile done would contact me. You do not need to be an expert fish keeper, just interested in fish. 😊 Please contact me at: pjdanyluck@sympatico.ca or 905-562-3290.

Anagram for April

Example:

*An anagram for this creature is: **alpine alps***

*The creature is: **applesnail***

An anagram for this fish is: Red bird calf

This creature is:

Answer will be in the next newsletter.

May's answer: Keyhole cichlid

Fishy Anagrams provided courtesy of



SCANNING THE EXCHANGES & etc.



... with Pat and Tom ...

GOOD READING IN THE S.C.A.A.S. LIBRARY ...

▶ ... in the Sarnia Aquarium Society's Newsletter 'Aqua Antics' –

May, 2009

*The Life And Times of Pseudotropheus Polit by Wayne Cole

*Breeding the Celebes Rainbow by Peter Melady

*Anubias "Frazeri" by Jack VanderAa

▶ ... in the Central New York Aquarium Society's newsletter 'Reflector' –

May 2009

*The spawning of Ancistrus sp. Albino Bristlenose Pleco & The Flowering Anubias Barteri & The Flowering Anubias Nana by Harold Bovair

*The Hamilton & District Aquarium Society's Monthly Bulletin –

May, 2009

*Breeding the L-183 White Seam Pleco & Charlie's Pond by Charles Drew

THE CAOAC EXECUTIVE FOR 2009 – 2010

PRESIDENT: Bob Wright
1st VICE- PRESIDENT: Ken Boorman
2nd VICE-PRESIDENT: Kathleen Gallagher
RECORDING SEC'Y: Ann Stevens
CORRESPONDING SEC'Y: Noel Wright



BAP ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS presented in May

John Verhage

Cyphotilapia frontosa (Gibberosa) 20 pts.

Neolamprologus pulcher (daffodil) 15

Tropheus moorii 'chimba red' 15

Haplochromis species 44 10

Labidochromis caeruleus 10

Pseudotropheus demasoni 10

Ancistrus dolichopterus – Albino

Bushy Nose Pleco 10

Melanotaenia splendida - Australian

Rainbow 5

Pterophylum scalare Angelfish 10

Pseudotropheus sp. acei 10

Congratulations!

Tom Bridges, BAP chairperson



Hey!



Check 'em out!

SCAAS exchanges newsletters with several clubs. Those newsletters are found in the club library.

Check 'em out!

You may not know that many clubs publish their newsletters on their websites. .. 'Google' them and **check 'em out!**

THE RULES FOR YOUR MONTHLY JAR SHOWS...

The jar show rules haven't been published for some time. See the poster at the June meeting and read them elsewhere in this newsletter.

Check 'em out!



The Exchange newsletters will be in the club library at the meeting.

The Crypt Emersion –

Part Two (of Ten)

Derek P.S. Tustin

Week Four



Week # 4

I changed the “rain-maker” I had made by adding three extra bars and rotated the orientation from running along the tank to across the tank. Unfortunately even with the added moisture, I lost the *Anubias barteri* “*coffeefolia*”. It also started rotting, and I believe that it was due to the plant going from long-term immersed conditions to almost completely emersed conditions. I removed both the plant and the wood that it was fastened to.

Other than that, there were no negative developments. The crypt rot has completely finished, and all plants are doing well. The new leaf on the *Cryptocoryne cordata* continues to grow.

I also received an e-mail from a fellow Durham Region Aquarium Society (DRAS) member this week. I had asked him to read my article and offer his opinion. He pointed out that the tank is actually unsuitable for growing crypts in its current configuration, as I will never be able to maintain the humidity at a high level. Unfortunately, I do not have (or know of) a tank with the same footprint that has higher sides. As mentioned, the cabinet that this tank sits on was designed to house both the tank and the lights. As such, while acknowledging the problem, I will continue on my yearlong experiment to see what happens.

Week Five



Week # 5

To replace the *Anubias barteri* “*coffeefolia*” I went to Vandemeers and found an *Anubias frazeri* that has been grown emersed. Hopefully this will allow me to avoid the rot that completely decimated the *Anubias barteri* and the *Anubias barteri* “*coffeefolia*”. The *Anubias hastifolia* has begun to grow a new leaf. There were no deaths or other losses in the tank over the week.

One problem that I have encountered is some type of algae growing on my “rain-maker”. I think this may be due to the water from the “rain-maker” emerging so close to the lights, and the fact that I am fertilizing on a regular and ongoing basis. The algae is very easy to clean off of the “rain-maker”. All I have to do is to rub it under running water, and it comes right off. As such, I am not overly concerned, as it only adds a minor cleaning every two weeks or so, and takes only a few minutes to do.

Week Six



Week # 6

The new leaf that the *Anubias hastifolia* was growing broke the surface of the water, and another of the older

leaves is now growing completely out of the water, rather than floating on the surface. I am unsure of why this is, as I expected the leaves that had grown immersed to remain below or on the water. In addition, the *Cryptocoryne cordata* is growing yet another new leaf.

This week, I also lost one neon tetra (*Paracheirodon innesi*). I have no idea why this occurred, but all other fish seem to be doing well. I'm not sure if I ever mentioned it, but in addition to the neon tetras I purchased at the auction, there was also one very small fish that I assumed to be a baby neon tetra. This fish has grown sufficiently that I can now say that it is **not** a tetra, but rather a platy (*Xiphophorus maculatus*). Even though I have another tank teeming with platies, I will leave it in this tank.

Week Seven



Week # 7

First off, I need to extend a big thank you to Connie, my wife. She enjoys the fish, but I take care of them. However, on May 16th, I left for the Canadian Association of Aquarium Club's (CAOAC) Annual Show and Convention in Edmonton, Alberta, and didn't return until May 21st. Connie fed the fish and fertilized the plants while I was away. Thanks hon!

First of, all the plants did fine during the week, although two leaves of the *Anubias hastifolia* had brown spots. I trimmed both leaves, and all else seems to be doing well. Also, I was able to confirm that all six dwarf Cajun crawfish were still alive, after previously being able to spot only a maximum of three at any given time. However, I lost one of the two remaining marbled whiptail catfish. I never found the body, but after watching the tank for four days, have only been able to find one.

This week was actually a turning point in this tank. As I mentioned, the intention of this tank was to grow

Cryptocorynes emerged. However, after returning from the CAOAC Annual Show and Convention, this tank will never be the same. As mentioned in my report on the convention in Edmonton, I had the chance to meet and speak with two extremely knowledgeable aquatic horticulturists. One of these was Rudy Kern, a member of the Aquarium Club of Edmonton (ACE), and Tropica's Canadian representative.

Mr. Kern was kind enough to read my article and offer some suggestions. The most important is a correction he made to a procedure that I was following in relation to the crypt rot. In Part One of this ongoing series of articles, I wrote;

"The crypt rot continued, although at a lessened pace. I have been using a turkey baster to remove the plant detritus. (Basically, you use it as a siphon. I return the water to the tank by squirting it through a strainer. The water returns to the tank, but the plant detritus remains in the strainer.)"

I was unaware of this, but this is not recommended. Apparently when a *Cryptocoryne* sp. begins to rot, it releases chemicals into the water that act as a signal to other *Cryptocoryne* sp. for them to begin to rot. Therefore when I was removing the plant detritus and returning the water, I was actually re-introducing chemicals into the tank that encouraged other plants to rot, something that I would prefer to avoid. Therefore, if you do use a baster to remove the detritus from the tank, do not return the water to the tank.

In addition to this information, Mr. Kern was also kind enough to aid me in acquiring several species of plants outside the *Cryptocoryne* sp. and *Anubias* sp. that I had, as well as acquiring two *Anubias* spp. that I did not currently have. Also, he was able to confirm that the plant I had in my tank and thought was *Lobelia cardinalis* was in fact not. (*Ed. note – See Derek Tustin's article **Caveat emptor – It's not a fish...** also in this edition of **Tank Talk***) With the addition of these plants, the appearance of the tank has changed, and the focus has shifted from the two species to a variety of species of plants. The new species added are;

- *Anubias barteri* var. *caladifolia* "1705"
- *Anubias barteri* var. *barteri*
- *Cryptocoryne usteriana*
- *Eleocharis acicularis*
- *Pogostemon helferi*
- *Utricularia graminifolia*

I did perform the calculations on the temperature range and pH range as I did when I set up the tank, but in the

interest of space, I will simply report that the *Eleocharis acicularis* has a maximum recommended temperature of 25° Celsius (79° Fahrenheit), which leaves a recommended temperature range of between 24° and 25° Celsius (76° – 89° Fahrenheit). This is a minor lowering of the overall recommended maximum temperature, and the pH range remains between 6.5 and 7.0.

While I continue to be interested in how both the *Cryptocoryne* sp. and *Anubias* sp. will develop, I am equally fascinated to propagate the new species. Again, my thanks to Mr. Kern for his assistance in acquiring these plants, and for his invaluable knowledge and suggestions that he shared.

Week Eight



Week # 8

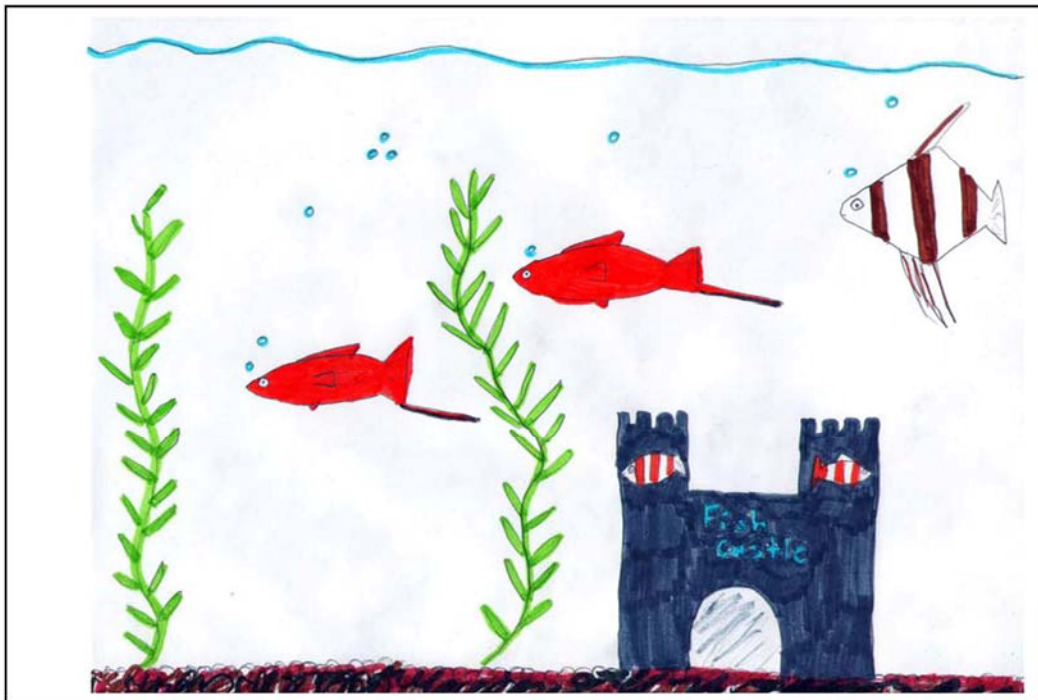
The initial *Anubias hastifolia* has thrown another new leaf that has broken the surface. There were no other negative developments.

While at Vandemeers with my wife, I saw that they had some *Salvinia rotundifolia* intended for ponds. This is similar to the *Salvinia natans* I have grown before, so I purchased it and added it to both my 30-gallon tank to this tank to see how they propagate. They do not change the range for temperature of pH.

I am still somewhat concerned about the relative humidity in the tank, and am currently investigating ways of constructing a misting machine. I tried using micro-drip spray heads (or sprinkler heads), but find that the desktop water garden pump (and another garden pump I purchased) have a PSI (or pounds per square inch) pressure rating of less than 1 PSI. Most micro-drip spray heads need a minimum PSI of 25. Therefore the two systems are incompatible. I am searching for a way of either a) finding or constructing spray heads that would operate at this low of pressure, or b) finding a pump with a rating of 25 PSI that is also small and submersible. If anyone knows of a way of accomplishing either, or has an alternative suggestion, please contact me.

All photos by Derek Tustin

Part 3 will be continued in the September SCAT



This drawing was entered in this years CAOAC Convention Show by Liana Biktimirov (10 yrs old). The Art & Craft class was very competitive with 19 entries. Even though the drawing did not place I am happy to share it with SCAAS members – Editor





I love it here



wish I knew what kind of fish this is



My mission is to sell these fish



I can't believe it!



THE ST. CATHARINES & AREA AQUARIUM SOCIETY

JAR SHOW RULES

1. The monthly jar show will consist of three separate classes:
 - (a) Fish of the Month (found in the SCAT each month)
 - (b) Open Class
 - (c) Junior Class (16 yrs. of age and under]
2. All members entering FISH OF THE MONTH may be Senior or Junior with no distinction. If a Junior is awarded points, these points go to his/her Junior total points.
 - (a) Standard C.A.O.A.C. approved 1 gallon show tanks should be used, but square-faced jars will be accepted.
 - (b) Drum bowls are permitted for Bettas and Guppies. No round jars are permitted. If fish is too large, an aquarium of up to 20 gallons may be used.
3. The Jar Show Chairperson will have complete control of all entries, disqualifying sick or injured fish, etc..
4. No plants, gravel, ornamentation, artificial colouring or medication of any kind will be allowed. Solid coloured paper backing outside of tanks is permissible.
5.
 - (a) Members may enter a total of three (3) entries each month. Visitors may show fish on their first and/or second visit but must take membership in order to make any subsequent showings.
 - (b) A family membership consists of a couple (and their children if any). A family entering monthly jar shows is only allowed to enter a total of three (3) fish as a family holding a family membership. These entries must come under individual point scoring as a Junior or Senior.
6. All entries for the Jar Show must be single fish only.
7. The decision of the judge/s is final. Judge/s will be available for comment at the close of the meeting.

"What SCAAS Members are keeping?"

By Pam Danyluck

This is an up to date list of what our members keep and specialize in, including contact information.

To be added to this list, please see Pam to fill out a form or email her at danyluck@sympatico.ca

DAve Unruh	(905) 648-9860 dunruh@cogeco.ca
Specialty:	Cichlids
Others:	Plants Marines Some Catfish
Some of the Fish I am keeping as of October 2008	Pseudotropheus demasoni - wild caught (wc) Neolamprologus marunguensis – (wc) Heros appendiculatus – (wc) Julidochromis marlieri "Gombie" - (wc) Pterophyllum scalare – Angel fish – (wc) Pseudomugil gertrudae –(wc) Symphysodon aequifasciata axelrodi (brown discus) – aquarium strain Hoplosternum pectoral (Hoplo Catfish) Pseudosphromenus dayi – (wc) Synodontis petricola Calloplelesops altivelis(Marine Comet) Snowflake morray eel Gold Spot morray eel Amphiprion clarkia (clownfish)

Pam Danyluck	danyluck@sympatico.ca
Specialty: Apple snails	Pomacea bridgesii(newly named difusa) or Mystery as the pet stores call them. Pomacea insularium Pomacea canaliculata Asolene spixi
Albino BNS	Long and short finned

Pam Danyluck cont'd	
Keeping as of January 2009 Others: Livebearers	Celestial Pearl Danios <u>Domestic</u> Platies Swords Mollies <u>Wild Types</u> Ameca Splendens(endangered) Limia vittata Killifish: Fundulopanchax oeseri (endangered) Fundulopanchax gardneri makurdi Cories: Weitzmani Pygmy (hastatus) Black Phantom aspidoras Dwarf Neon Rainbows Red Cherry Shrimp Green Shrimp Assassin Snails

Tom & Pat Bridges	tp.bridges@sympatico.ca
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Specialty:	Angels Anableps
Others: The fish we are keeping as of October 2008	Plecostomus Endlers Livebearers Limia perugiae Celestial Pearl Danios Columbian tetras
For more information see our website:	http://www3.sympatico.ca/tp.bridges/home.html

Kevin Bonnar	905-680-0473/fishmongers@hotmail.com
Specialty:	Salt Water
LPS - Large Polyp Stony	Acros regular & deep water
Softies – Zoas & Leathers	Clowns
Breeding Banghii Cardinals	Almost any high end coral

Bohdan Nebesny	bnebesny@hotmail.com
Specialty:	Red Belly Piranhas (10 years)

Shawn & Shirley Markowski	rogers33@cogeco.ca (905) 714 - 0014
Specialty:	Swordtails Amano Shrimp
Others:	Plants
Some fish they are keeping as of January 2009	Dojo Loaches (Weather) Yoyo Loaches Bettas Various Cories Silvertip Tetras Plecostomus Dwarf Rainbow Fish
For pictures see: Website:	Shirley Roger's Facebook http://home.cogeco.ca/~rogers33/

Jar Show

Submitted by Pat Shriner

April 09

Fish of the Month -

Angels^{1st} - Cylde Beam - 6pts

2nd - Les Wormald - 5 pts

3rd - James Scully - 4 pts

1pt for showing - Ron Wormald

May - 04 - No entries

March 09

Fish of the Month - Plants

1st - Moss Ball

2nd - Red Lotus Lily

3rd - Java Fern

If you entered any of these plants in the March Jar Show please let Pat Shriner know as he needs to confirm results for March 09 results when he was not here.



Give them a taste of the good life.

Nutrafin Max has evolved and adopted the new Nutrafin family look. It's bold, it's tasty and it's packed with quality nutrition to help ensure your fish are colorful, active and able to remain that way.

The new generation of Nutrafin Max features Advanced Yeast Extract, an important addition that naturally helps your fish stay resistant and vibrant. There are new and enhanced formulations, more beneficial natural ingredients, no artificial colors, more flakes in every container, new dosing caps and more.

What are you waiting for? Try the new Nutrafin Max and give them the taste they crave.



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EVOLUTIONIZE your aquarium