

BREEDERS AWARD PROGRAMME

The knowledge of behaviour of each species of fish would not be complete without being able to witness their reproduction. The Breeders award programme (BAP) encourages people to breed fishes and gain an insight into those fishes' behaviour.

The main object of BAP is to make our hobby more interesting by fostering and encouraging members to help fishes reproduce in their home aquariums or ponds. Through the sharing of information members will have the opportunity to attempt to breed many species of fishes; both the difficult and the easy (or should that be easier?). BAP, by virtue of its hierarchical system, is a means to recognise the accomplishments of members of the society. It should be emphasized that BAP is not a competition but rather an exciting way to encourage members to breed tropical fishes thereby furthering interest in the hobby.

PURPOSE

- 1) To acknowledge achievement and expertise in the breeding of aquarium fishes.
- 2) To encourage the breeding and rearing of aquarium fishes.
- 3) To acquire and share information related to the breeding of aquarium fishes.

RULES

- 1) Any member in good standing of the Regina Aquarium Society may participate in the programme.
- 2) There are eight levels of achievement and the requirements for each are listed in section 3.
- 3) Points will be accumulated on an individual or family basis. Progression must be made through each level (i.e. no points will be awarded for the Expert Breeder level until all of the requirements of the Breeder level have been met). Points cannot be banked for use on a higher level. Points will only be awarded once for each species in each level of achievement.
- 4) For each successive spawning of a single species used in higher levels the minimum number of fry required will be double the minimum number required in the previous spawning (also see rule #6).
- 5) Fish spawned must be owned by the participant. The spawning must have occurred in the participant's tank. All spawnings must be the result of eggs (or, in the case of live bearers, fry) which were spawned in the participant's own aquarium or pond by fish which were his/her property.
- 6) A minimum of 5 fry must be raised to 60 days of age, counted from the date that they become free swimming. This rule may be waived for less prolific fishes at the discretion of the BAP coordinator. In the case of mouth brooding fishes the 60 days will commence from the time the fry are released from the female's mouth.

- 7) A Breeders Award Programme report form must be partially completed by the participant and signed during a home visit by the BAP coordinator or his representative within 14 days of the date the fry become free swimming. Another RAS member in good standing may sign the report. A member may not sign his/her own report.
- 8) The BAP report form (see rule 7) must be completed by the participant and signed again by the BAP coordinator or an RAS member in good standing 60 days after the fry become free swimming.
- 9) The cross breeding of species will not be recognised by BAP under any circumstances.
- 10) A well researched article dealing with the breeding of a particular type of fish that was spawned in that level of the programme must be submitted to the BAP coordinator to complete the requirements of each level except for the Novice Breeder level. The article should also be submitted to the Editor of Fins and Friends for publication. The article must be submitted prior to any points being awarded for the level concerned.
- 11) Point standing, level of achievement and a list of fish spawned will be reported to the vice president on a monthly basis and this report will be passed on to the editor for publication.
- 12) The BAP coordinator will assist individuals in applying for CAOAC breeding awards.
- 13) It is the participant's responsibility to see that all requirements have been met in each instance. To ensure that no mistakes occur it is advised that participants maintain their own personal record of all spawnings and/or births and points awarded. Extra copies of the BAP form are available on the website (www.reginaaquariumsociety.com)
- 14) Spawning reports sponsored by another aquarium society may be transferred to this programme if sufficient documentation is supplied to the BAP coordinator. It is the responsibility of the participant to obtain the requested documentation. Points awarded for these reports will be in accordance with the current RAS point system at the time of transfer.
- 15) The BAP coordinator's decision will be final in the interpretation of these rules. Requests for changes to the rules should be made in writing to the BAP coordinator and must be approved by the members at a regular meeting.

LEVELS OF ACHIEVEMENT

1) NOVICE BREEDER

*Spawning of any three species of fishes.

2) BREEDER

*50 points (spawnings from the novice level do not count in higher levels).

*A minimum of 10 points must be from class B or higher

*An article describing the breeding of a species spawned in that level.

3) ADVANCED BREEDER

*50 additional points (total of 100 points)

*A minimum must be from class B or higher

*A minimum of 15 of these 20 points must be from class C or higher.

*Two articles describing the breeding of two species spawned in that level.

EXPERT BREEDER

*100 additional points (total of 200 points)

*A minimum of 40 points must be from class B or above

*A minimum of 30 of these 40 points must be from class C or higher.

* Three articles describing the breeding of three species spawned in that level.

MASTER BREEDER

*200 additional points (total of 400 points)

*A minimum of 80 points must be from class B or higher

*A minimum of 60 of these 80 points must be from class C or higher

* Four articles describing the breeding of four species spawned in that level.

GRAND MASTER BREEDER

* 600 additional points (total of 1000 points)

* A minimum of 200 points must be from class B or higher

* A minimum of 120 of these points must be from class C or higher

* A minimum of 40 of these 120 points must be from class D

* Five articles describing the breeding of five species spawned in that level.

GRAND MASTER II BREEDER

*700 additional points (total of 1700 points)

* A minimum of 260 points must be from class B or higher

*A minimum of 180 points of these 260 points must be from class C or higher

*A minimum of these 180 points must be from class D

*Six articles describing the breeding of six species spawned in that level.

GRAND MASTER III BREEDER

*800 additional points (total of 2500 points)

*A minimum of 300 points must be from class B or higher

*A minimum of 240 points of these 300 points must be from class C or higher

*A minimum of 120 points of these 240 points must be from class D

*Seven articles describing the breeding of seven species spawned in that level.