

Australian Native Aquarium Fish

Do you know that some of the worlds most beautiful fish are swimming in your own backyard?

Few people realise that Australia has its own native aquarium fish. Rainbowfish, Pacific Blue-eyes, Gudgeons, and Hardyheads are common native fish in the Logan area.

And many native aquarium fish will have a distinctive colour pattern that is unique to each waterway.

But we need to maintain the condition of our waterways, and prevent the release of feral fish into those waterways, if our native fish are to survive and thrive.



M. duboulayi (Crimson Spotted Rainbowfish) are fine aquarium fish

P. signifer (Pacific Blue-eyes) are ideal for backyard ponds as they won't eat tadpoles



H. compressa (Empire gudgeons) are a spectacular local native, but will eat smaller fish

R. ornatus (Ornate Rainbowfish) are becoming difficult to find due to habitat degradation and invasive species

Images by Gunther Schmida

Prepared by the Australian and New Guinea Fishes Association of Queensland (ANGFA QLD)
<http://www.angfaql.org.au/>

If you'd like to know more, why not attend one of our meetings?

When: 2nd Friday of every 2nd month, starting in February.
Time: 8.00 pm
Where: Bar Jai Hall – 178 Alexandra Rd, Clayfield

But our native fish are under threat ... from foreign invaders!!

Most of the fish found in Australian aquariums come from overseas. You're probably familiar with fish like angel fish, guppies, swordtails, platys, goldfish, tetras, and cichlids. These fish look great in an aquarium, but they don't belong in our creeks and rivers. Unfortunately, some people release these fish into our local creeks where they out-compete our local fish.

What are creek guppies?

Most of us as children visited creeks or rivers and caught small fish that we thought were "creek guppies". Unfortunately there are no guppies native to Australia, and we were probably catching feral fish.

Guppies, swordtails, platys and gambusia are all forms of live bearing fish that originate overseas, and don't belong in our waterways. These fish are decimating our peaceful natives.



Tilapia



Guppies



Platys



Swordtails



Gambusia have been declared a noxious fish

If you catch any introduced fish in a local waterway, don't release it back into that waterway.