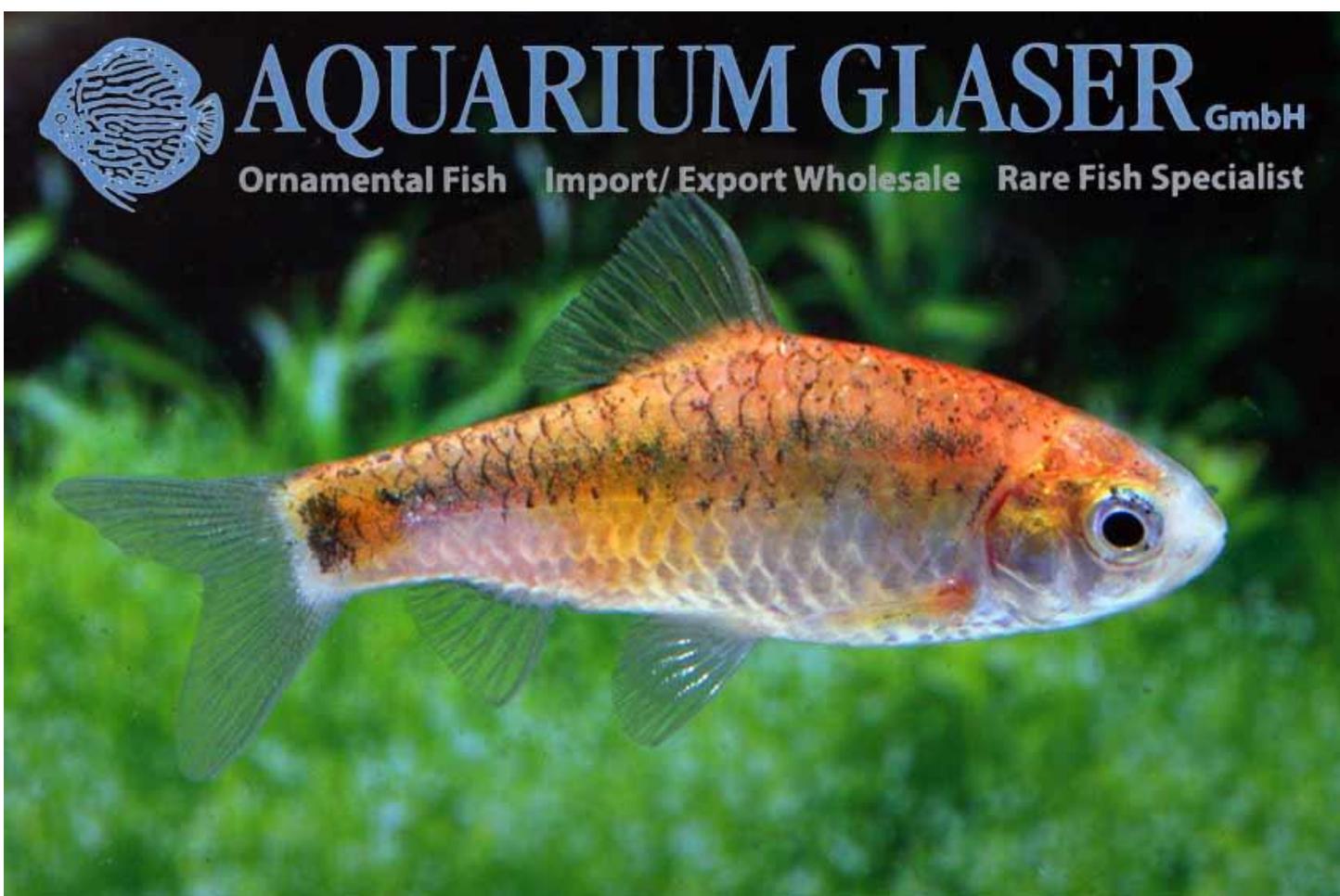


Ornamental Fish from all over the world



Golden barb "Koi"



The Golden barb is an artificial sport that is said to have derived from the half-banded barb (*Barbus semifasciolatus*). However, nobody can say this for sure. The fish appeared in the 1960ies in the aquarium trade and is said to have been bred by an aquarist named Thomas Schubert of Camden, New Jersey, US. That is the reason why the fish is often referred to as "Barbus (or Puntius, both is wrong) schuberti".



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The Golden barb is an absolutely peaceful fish that never disappeared again and is always available in pet shops all over the world. In more recent times other sports have been developed, among them animals that have two or three colours on the body. These fish are called "Koi Golden barb" in the trade. We currently have very nice specimens of that sport in stock which we received from a breeder.



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Regarding keeping this fish it is not necessary to make many words: it thrives very well both at room temperature and at 28°C and hardness and pH are of no meaning for the fish. As long as the water is drinkable for humans, the Golden barb will like it. And the species feeds virtually on any type of food that is produced for ornamental fish.

For our customers: the fish have code 371343 on our stocklist. Please note that we exclusively supply the wholesale trade.

Text & photos: Frank Schäfer

Nomorhamphus rex



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This species of halfbeak from Sulawesi (formerly: Celebes) has been described scientifically only last year (2012). It can be distinguished most easily by the coloration from *N. ebrardtii*, a quite similar species (see http://www.aquariumglaser.de/en/nomorhamphus-ebrardtii_de_1519.html). *N. rex* has yellow ventral fins, *N. ebrardtii* reddish-orange ones, *N. rex* has a red lower beak, the lower beak of *N. ebrardtii* has the same coloration as the body, and *N. rex* has black bordered fins, which is lacking in *N. ebrardtii*.

Of course there are a number of other differences, but these are not visible in life animals. The most important one is the different structure of the modified anal fin in males, which serves to the internal fertilization of the females. This fin is called andropodium and has a species-specific structure which usually also hinders the occurrence of hybrids.



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The livebearing halfbeaks are kept best in larger groups (10 specimens or more), then they are comparatively peaceful against each other. Feeding is easy, for the fish take readily flakes from the water surface. Additionally one should feed freeze-dried food items. The fish feed usually on sinking food only when they feel absolutely safe.

Water temperature should be between 24 and 28°C, neutral or slightly alkaline water (pH between 7 and 8.5) is the best choice. Maximum length for the females is around 6 cm, males always stay smaller.

For our customers: the fish have code 438863 on our stocklist. Please note that we exclusively supply the wholesale trade.

Lexicon: Nomorhamphus: means "with about equal beaks". ebrardtii: dedication name for "Geheimrat" (= privy council) Ebrardt. rex: means "king"; the name has been chosen because the teeth of the fish remind one to the teeth of the dinosaur Tyrannosaurus rex.

Suggestion of a common name: Red-black halfbeak

Text & photos: Frank Schäfer



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