

# Ornamental Fish from all over the world



Channa andrao



One of the smallest and most colorful species of snakehead has been described recently. Since about 12 years this fish is in the trade under the name of Channa sp. "Blue bleheri". This mouthbrooding species becomes sexually mature at a length of about 8 cm. In the wild, they hardly ever become larger than 10 cm. Under aquarium conditions they may become exceptionally about 15 cm long.



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female

This species is known so far only from a swamp area in the north of India (West-Bengal / Assam). It can be easily distinguished from most species of snakehead by the lack of ventral fins. The most similar species is *Channa bleheri*. However, *C. bleheri* has always large orange-red spots in the caudal fin, which are always missing in the caudal fin of *C. andrao*.



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Females stay smaller and have more red coloration on the body. Thus *Channa andrao* is one of the few species of snakehead in which the sexes can be easily distinguished.

For our customers: the fish have code 409073 on our stocklist. Please note that we exclusively supply the wholesale trade.



**Lexicon:** Channa: ancient Greek, means "snapper", probably referring to the airbreathing. andrao: dedication name for the Indian ornamental fish exporter Andrew Rao. bleheri: dedication name for Heiko Bleher.

**Common name:** Blue Rainbow Snakehead

**Text & photos:** Frank Schäfer

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*Pseudolaguvia muratica*



Catfishes from Asia are sadly not "en vogue" currently. On the other hand, many new, attractive species have been discovered recently, which are perfect aquarium inhabitants.

The first species of the genus *Pseudolaguvia* was discovered back in 1927, but only recently it was found that this genus represents a species-rich one. *Pseudolaguvia* are dwarf catfish that reach a maximum length of only 2-3 cm. 13 species of the 17 species known to date have been described from the year 2003 on.



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female

A typical feature of the genus *Pseudolaguvia* is the adhesive apparatus on the belly which looks a broad fold. All species live in brooks or small rivers over sandy bottom. Usually the fish are found among dead plant material (detritus).



For the first time we could import now *Pseudolaguvia muratica*. The charming animals become only 2.5-3 cm long and are no great swimmers. So they fit perfectly for small tanks. A tank for *Pseudolaguvia* should have fine sand on the bottom. One should also give some dead leaves in the tank. The catfish feed on almost any type of usual fish food - it has to fit the mouth, of course. *Pseudolaguvia* are absolutely peaceful against any tankmate, may it belong to the own or to different species. Plants are left unharmed also.



There are rather dark colored, elongate specimens and plumper ones with a lighter coloration. In all probability this represents sexual differences. Nothing is known so far regarding reproduction, but it is very likely that the eggs are deposited among plant material etc. and are left unguarded. These fish are kept best at room temperature. In the natural habitat the water is soft and neutral.

For our customers: the fish have code 445425 on our stocklist. Please note that we exclusively supply the wholesale trade.

Lexicon: Pseudolaguvia means "false Laguvia". Laguvia is another genus of catfish. muratica: means "as spiny as a shell of a Murex snail".

Suggestion of a common name: Spiny dwarf-suckerbellycatfish

Text & photos: Frank Schäfer

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Discus Royal Blue Nhamunda Maracanha



We continue our journey through the magical world of recently imported wild collected discus with these magnificent animals. Available in very limited numbers only! You will find a small video of the fish on our facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=vb.119893808211837&type=2>



For our customers: the animals have code 731358 on our stocklist. Please note that we exclusively supply the wholesale trade.

Text & photo: Frank Schäfer

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