

TETRA B.A.P., ADVANCED BREEDING PROGRAM

By Chase Klinesteker SWAM, Jan-Feb 1997



Male Congo Tetra, a difficult fish to breed

MASTERS BREEDERS' AWARD

In 2005 I was asked to recommend a Master Breeding and Target Species Program of characins for an aquarium club Breeders Award Program (BAP). Species are listed in groups according to their breeding difficulty. All the species listed are ones that I have bred, so I know they are doable. 25 species of characins to breed sounded about right and will be a definite challenge for club members. I have made up 4 groups of difficulty with the Target Group being the most difficult. The degree of difficulty is only from my experience breeding and raising each fish, and could vary significantly from what authorities or others have experienced. I have tried to pick species that are reasonably available, although possibly seasonal.

Chase Klinesteker

EASY TO BREED (8)

Blind cave fish- *Astyanax fasciatus mexicanus*

Head and tail light tetra- *Hemigrammus ocellifer*

Black tetra- *Gymnocorymbus ternetzi*
Flame tetra- *Hyphessobrycon flammeus*
Glowlight tetra- *Hemigrammus erythrozonus*
Pristella tetra, X-Ray fish- *Pristella maxillaris*
Bloodfin- *Aphyocharax anisitsi*
Buenos Aires tetra- *Hemigrammus caudovittatus*

SOMEWHAT DIFFICULT TO BREED (7)

Emperor tetra- *Nematobrycon palmeri*
Red eye tetra- *Moenkhausia sanctaefilomenae*
Lemon tetra- *Hyphessobrycon pulchripinnis*
Diamond tetra- *Moenkhausia pittleri*
Serpae tetra- *Hyphessobrycon callistus*
Black neon- *Hyphessobrycon herbertaxelrodi*
Silver tip tetra- *Hasemania nana*

DIFFICULT TO BREED (7)

Hastatus cory tetra, 3-spot tetra- *Cheirodon kriegi*
Beckfords pencilfish, Golden pencilfish- *Nanostomus beckfordi*
Splash tetra- *Copella arnoldi*
Penguin tetra- *Thayeria boehlkei*
Black phantom tetra- *Hyphessobrycon megalopterus*
Dawn tetra, White spot tetra- *Aphyocharax paraguensis*
Swordtail characin- *Corynopoma riisei*

MOST DIFFICULT—TARGET FISH, breed 3 from this list

Congo tetra- *Phenacogrammus interruptus*
Yellow tailed congo tetra- *Hemigrammopterus caudalis*
Neon tetra- *Paracheirodon innesi*
Cardinal tetra- *Paracheirodon axelrodi*
Glass bloodfin- *Prionobrama filigera*
Spotted glass tetra- *Phenacogaster tegatus*
Gold tetra- *Hemigrammus rodwayi*
African long finned tetra- *Brycinus longipinnis*
Fire tetra, Ember tetra- *Hyphessobrycon amandae*