

# LIMIA SPECIES, "TIGER"

## GVAC Tank Notes, July-Sept 2012

by Chase Klinesteker



Tiger Limia pair, Male on left

### DESCRIPTION

The Tiger Limia is a relatively new fish that was first imported from Lake Miragoane, Haiti in 1998. The lake is one of the largest freshwater lakes in the Carribean, and its water is fairly hard. Limia are closely related to mollies and this fish appeared to be very much like *Limia nigrofasciatus* but after close examination was found to be different. It has not been scientifically identified and has no Latin name yet, so for now is called Limia Species, "Tiger". It is a fairly attractive fish with 5-7 vertical stripes along the body from head to tail. There is a yellowish cast on the body and fins, especially in the male, as well as a metallic reflective sheen from the scales. Maximum size seems to be about 1 ½ inches with the male slightly smaller. They are good eaters and will consume most dry, frozen, and live foods. I use a 50% mix of spirulina in the dry food to give them vegetable matter. I have found them to be somewhat sensitive to large water changes and too much medication, possibly because they are not far removed from the wild. They don't do well if overcrowded and are somewhat shy, so plants, hiding places, and clean conditions are recommended. A species tank seems best, although this fish is quite peaceful and would likely do well in a community environment. Stable water conditions seem to be a key to keeping them happy.

### BREEDING

They are not overly prolific, with from 5-20 fry per batch. One might want to isolate the female for better fry survival, as even with plants in a species tank, they are not very prolific and may eat their fry. The females do not get overly large before giving birth, and often deliver their fry before they are isolated. The Tiger Limia has done best for me in a lower tank of my fishroom where the temperature ranges from 70-75 degrees. I certainly would recommend one keeping the Tiger Limia for its' attractiveness, and that it presents a slight challenge to keep healthy and reproduce.