

FEDERATION OF BRITISH AQUATIC SOCIETIES

FISH CARE SHEET No: 34

Singletail Goldfish

01/04/2003

Welcome to these information Sheets that will not only help you make the best fish choices for your aquarium but also provides details on their best care.

Genera: *Carassius auratus*

Family: Cyprinidae.

Geographic Origin: Asia. Originally Central China.
Now selectively bred worldwide to produce many varieties.

Common Names: Common Goldfish, Comets, Bristol & London Shubunkins.

Compatibility: These fish will grow into 350mm but rarely so, as most are kept in aquariums or garden ponds. They are quite compatible with any other fish of a similar size.
Often they are the ones at a disadvantage.

Minimum Aquarium Size: A 600mm x 380mm x 380mm (24" x 15" x 15") aquarium should be considered as the minimum. For large fish over 80mm, then tank of at least 1500mm x 450mm x 450mm (60" x 18" x 18") will be necessary.

Temperature: Between 0° to 28°C / 32° to 80°F. In general, our ambient temperatures are considered to be satisfactory. In ponds, oxygen deficiency at higher summer temperatures will cause problems.

Habitat: All commercial singletail goldfish are suitable for stocking garden ponds. Many are also kept quite satisfactorily in aquariums.
To over-winter, the pond must have an area 900mm deep and be cleared of mulm and rotting leaves in the late Autumn.

Water Parameters: These fish are not fussy when it comes to water as long as it is low in nitrate and devoid of chlorine; one should avoid changing more than a third of their water at any one time unless absolutely necessary.

Health: Not particularly prone to health problems. Accidental damage due to knocking into rockwork, even vigorous spawning, may cause fungus problems.
Always treat in a separate container away from other fish.

Diet : Omnivorous. Will basically consume anything. Many commercial foods available.
It is important to vary the diet and feed a live food at least twice a week if possible.

Plants: Will enjoy a well planted tank.

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Breeding Notes: Will spawn spontaneously in an outside pond when water temperatures rise in the Spring.
Inter-variety breeding prevalent unless steps are taken to separate varieties and control spawning as required.

Availability: Commercial bred fish widely available.
Line bred specimens only available from specialist breeder.
Before you buy check that the fish appears healthy and alert; avoid listless fish with folded fins.

Show Class: F.B.A.S. Show Class. U.

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