

# FEDERATION OF BRITISH AQUATIC SOCIETIES

**FISH CARE SHEET No: 35**

**Twintail 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. Selectively bred to produce many varieties.

**Common Names:** Bubble-eye, Celestial, Fantail, Moor, Panda, Jikin, Veiltail, Ranchu, Ryukin etc.

**Compatibility:** These fish can grow into 280mm specimens but very rarely so, as they are mostly kept in aquariums. They are not suitable for keeping in garden ponds. The exception being when in the care of expert goldfish breeders. 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 fish over 60mm, then tank of at least 1500mm x 450mm x 450mm / 60" x 18" x 182 will be necessary.

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

**Habitat:** As a rule of thumb Twintail Goldfish are not suitable for stocking garden ponds; losses will occur over the winter. They are best kept in aquariums.

**Water Parameters:** Not fussy, as long as water is low in nitrate and devoid of chlorine. Avoid changing more than a 1/3 of their water at any one time unless absolutely necessary.

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

**Diet:** Omnivorous. Will basically consume anything. Many commercial foods available.

Twintail Goldfish are prone to swim-bladder problems if fed solely on dry food. It is important to vary the diet and feed a type of live food at least twice a week. A day without food once a fortnight can also be of benefit, as most people over feed fish.

**Plants:** Will enjoy a well planted tank.

**Breeding Notes :** Breeding these Fancy Goldfish varieties demands strict discipline on the part of the fishkeeper if a true colour strain or particular variety is to be maintained  
It is better to concentrate on one variety rather than to attempt breeding several.  
Seeking information from Specialist Societies in your area, or from the national body is highly recommended.

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

When selecting fish, especially for exhibiting, always check that caudal and anal fins are divided as required by the Show Standard for these fishes.

**Show Class:** F.B.A.S. Show Class V.