

SOUTHERN LIVEBEARERS AQUATIC GROUP

QUARTERLY JOURNAL - MARCH, 1979. Number 2.



XIPHOPHUS BILGEEI.



**SOUTHERN LIVEBEARERS AQUATIC GROUP * QUARTERLY JOURNAL *
NUMBER 2**

MARCH 1979

Editorial ?

There is really nothing to do or say this time! There's a lot I could write about, but there is no time, because I am in the middle of hasty preparations for a short trip to Mexico. This visit has had to be planned at short notice, and I probably won't be away for more than two weeks, but I hope to be able to bring a few specimens, not necessarily of new species, but at least some fresh blood for existing strains. There is a great deal of hard work ahead of me if I am to succeed in getting any "wild" fishes back alive, and it should not be automatically assumed that I will be as successful as in the past! The ray of hope, as far as I am concerned, is that I have made contact with Erich Hnilicka in Puebla, Mexico, who has supplied the D.G.L.Z.

with many of their livebearers. Please wish me luck! - you may think I'm going for a holiday, but really it isn't quite like that. In the meantime I have had to neglect the Journal, and I hope that some of you at least will receive copies of this before our April meeting hopefully Dave Cheswright and Ivan Dibble will be able to assist, for which I am grateful. If we haven't had time to correct errors or anything like that, please bear with us! My contribution the continuing story of the Purple Platy (*X. xiphidium*), is postponed until June, when maybe I will be able to add some new details
Must go now - I have a plane to catch!

HOWARD PRESTON

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FROM THE CHAIRMAN

This being a Quarterly Journal the 2nd issue was not due until the middle of April. However with Howard leaving for Mexico on 28th March and not returning for 2 or 3 weeks a combined effort has been made to produce this issue. I have put all the pieces together but you will see that most of the writing has been done by others. Thanks are due for copying work to Ivan Dibble's Wife and to a member of Southend, Leigh & District A,S. who, quite by chance, mentioned to me that he would be willing to help. Without these 2 we would have had to wait until Howard returned. Membership is now over 50 and there are also several other organisations to which we want to regularly send copies of the Journal, e.g. F.B.A.S., N.G.L.S., "Aquarist" "Practical Fishkeeping" We, therefore, need at least 60 copies at present and, if we take into account the possibility of selling copies at Shows, I would have thought that at least 100 copies should be produced. Every 10 pages equals 500 sheets and we really need ideas or offers as to the production of the Journal in the future, at minimum cost. It would be easy to give it to a printer BUT how would we pay him??? Howard is first-and-formost the Editor, what we need is a printer!!!

You will see from the Committee report that we have affiliated to the Federation of British Aquatic Societies (F.B.A.S.). For members who do not know much about this organisation health a brief summary.

The F.B.A.S. was formed in 1938 and covers the whole of the U.K. There are about 180 Societies affiliated to it. A comprehensive series of Booklets is published covering all aspects of Showing and a panel of Judges and Speakers is available to Societies. Tape/Slide lectures are available and are of a high standard. One of these covers some of our Livebearers. Keith Dryden should have received the Group's set of booklets and, if he has, they will be available on 20th April for you to look at. Orders can be placed for booklets at that meeting. The F.B.A.S. Also publishes a complete set of Show rules. Other items produced for sale are such things as Ties, Bages, show tank and place stickers, plastic show tanks, etc.

Quarterly meetings are held at London at which affiliated Societies can air their views. The running of a large Show at the Alexandra Palace, London, from 13th to 15th July, 1979, is the responsibility of the F.B.A.S. and the "Aquarist" journal. At that Show there is to be a special class for A.O.S. Livebearers (F.B.A.S. Class T). The F.B.A.S. issues Championship Trophy Shields to Societies for their Open Shows. The class T one for 1979 is at Brighton and Southern A.S. Show on Saturday, 5th May.

You will see that Mervyn has done a tremendous job to date in compiling information on species we have and who has them. Please note Mervyn's request that members wanting to acquire fishes must write to him with S.A.E. He will then put the member who has fishes to spare in touch with you or will let you know who to contact. The Committee members' telephones are red-hot already with Group business so, please write to Mervyn, rather than 'phoning.

Elsewhere you will see a list of members to date, with Membership numbers.

The first Journal, which came out in January, 1979, has been issued up to member No.

50, it WILL NOT be issued to members after that number.

Finally, Howard will need copy for the next Journal when he returns. Please - try to write something for us.

Dave Cheswright.

P.S. Howard has gone off to Mexico with all my plastic bags and a net, "diplomatically" borrowed by him from my shed.

D.C.

DO NOT FORGET the Next Meeting at 8 p.m., Friday, 20th April, 1979, at:-

Highcliffe Hotel, Wellington Terrace, CLEVEDON, Avon,,

Suggestions for future meeting dates and venues to Keith Dryden

PLEASE

PRIAPELLA INTERMEDIA.

Dave Cheswright.

(Apologies for typing errors).

This Species is commonly known as the Blue-eyed, livebearer. The only importation into the U.K. which I can trace was those brought in by Howard Preston.

Mr. Ken Usher first had some from Howard and as I remember maintained and bred them quite successfully. I acquired some but cannot now remember whether they came direct from Howard or from Ken. Mr. Tony Naronha also kept and bred them and this species was spread about the country by the 3 above-mentioned and since early 1978 by me. Others have, I hope, also bred and distributed this species.

Many Aquarists have had problems with this species. I have heard it said "they never breed", "they have died", "they have only dropped 2 or 3 fry" Priapella must be kept in clean, moving water; they shoal, even if there are only 2 or 3 in the tank. This shoaling tendency is particularly noticeable with the fry.

Aeration is, therefore, essential. I do not use filters with this species as I do not use filters much anyway. The tanks all have good plant growth. Water changes I would recommend and this applies to practically all the species I keep; of only about 10% every week or two. I have very seldom changed more than this with any species as a).

I do not trust the tapwater . . . :b), a lot of time is required when you are dealing with a large number of tanks to change and c). I have never yet seen any necessity to change more. Indeed, many Aquarists have lost fishes by changing too much at one time.

Temperature Priapella are quite happy at 72 to 75°F, which is the range approximately in my fish shed during the winter; it is obviously higher in Summer. The species is very susceptible to mouth fungus. This does not appear to me to be caused by lower temperatures. It appears if the water is not clean enough and disappears if you correct this; It often appears when you transfer them to a different tank, even if the water is taken from the original tank; it appears quite often if you take fishes to a Show or a fellow Aquarist. They are a nervous fish and any shock seems to affect them and bring on mouth fungus. Mr. Usher was of the opinion that they are very prone to white spot. I have only had 1 experience of this; a

pregnant female was transferred

to have its fry, these were born and the female removed. The next day all the fry had white spot very badly and they all died within a few days. No sign of white spot was on the female or any other fishes in my shed at the time.

The question of "difficulty to breed" must be dealt with. They can be sexed when quite small By the fact that the underside of the Male between the Caudal and anal fins is slightly convex whereas, in the female, it is straight; this can be seen before the gonopodium develops. The lack of fry is to be expected but not to the extent which most aquarists have reported. I have at present 3 large females from a brood born in 1977. They are dropping 12 dry each at about 6 week intervals. The last brood was 13 which has broken the pattern. This was only about 6 in number when they were younger but this built up to the present number very quickly.

The Females do not become fat and pregnancy is not obvious; there is no gravid mark to speak of although a tiny brown area can sometimes be seen. The main points to bear in mind are that the female will look healthy and well-fed when she is almost ready to drop fry and she should drop them at intervals as above. If you obtain 1 brood you can then roughly time the next one. If you have more than 1 female you can look for the one looking the most "well-fed". Remove the female carefully and place her in a small tank, I use 8 x 6 x 6 inches, with aeration and plenty of plant &/or nylon mops. From experience you should be satisfied if you obtain anything from 6 fry upwards, I

can see no evidence of the females eating the fry, although I have always removed - the female within hours of the fry being born. The fry will definitely be eaten if the females are left with other Priapellas or with other species. I have never found any fry under those conditions. In Germany in 1978, this species was stated to be a "problem fish". They were being kept all together in 1 tank and only a few fry appeared. With a species which only has a small number of fry it is essential to separate the female. If you keep these , and other species, at high temperatures you may get the fry to grow quicker but, from my experience, you will not end up with such healthy or long-lived specimens. I would think that the life-span of Priapella is 18 months to 2 years. I have had them suddenly waste away and die when only about 1 year old onwards; If you have a Priapella which spends its time near the air stone and does not swim about at all it is a sure sign that something is wrong, you can try a partial water change but quite often it will die.

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GAMUSIA

AFFINISAFIN	' - ' •	LONGISP	PUNCTATA
IS	i- . •	INIS, -	/
HOLBROOKI* •	- -	' luma	RACHOWI"
1:	-	MANNI	REGANI
BARACOAKA	GAIGEI	MYERSI.	SENILI
; ' :	-,	, i: •	S
BUCHERI- \	GRACIL	•	TOMKIN
:	IOR -	MCARAGU	SONII
'	•	ENSIS	VITTAT
DOMONCENSIS	HETERO	NOBILIS	A
■ ' CHIR\	'	- -	WRAI
' GAMBUSIA '	'	PANUCO.	YUCATANA
		• -	

A B I C H L B R O O I Y C S B O A X +
 I J C P ? f K K I Y s 2 T Z f S E E A 3 3
 V s F F Y B M R I O z A X A A I B C C E
 B Z J I X S T A M u L T E E L V Y X Y A " "
 B U B A K X € I T T A O O Z S I I I B O S
 K u B L I T T A T A K M A X K I A A C
 A L E € 7) 3 S Z A W v G K F O E O T A I C
 G L T A D C c A A T T I I L R S X X R
 A I E I u B X F V S X E L E H A I F
 B O R K R O F X F O P S I S H E Y K G I
 F Y O L E G X P N I I O r V S E U I G O
 C I C V T B S u K K B L O O I C K O F .
 O X H C R Y Z c X X u I I B W C J E ^ A Y D S
 c £ I C A E A G T E i S I S I L Z T O P E . "
 E L R A E K A X 3 A R A o A S A P U
 O C D I G K I G F O P G F P Y P S O B Y
 . F F Z Y F Y G R A C I L I O R G A P S B
 Z O X Z S X K E F W P I C F O Y K A E E C
 F X F S , A I N T C S I Y A R V B P A
 I O K a x C E X S I S S A E C D Y X P A
 B E I B S R E s C z E Y F I V O E C A I

When you have found a word in the diagram, circle it and cross it off the word list
 words are always arranged in a straightline either FORWARD, BACKWARD, UP, DOWN, or
 DIAGONALLY. . All the letters will not be used up in a given diagram.
 This puzzle was submitted by M. Jenkins.

GOODEA ATRIPINNIS

Bernard Meech mentioned that he had lost some of this species by sudden death and that the area on top of their heads was whiteish in colour and apparently scaleless. This species is well known being very boisterous and quite often some scales do get knocked off in all their rushing about I lost 4 within a week sometime ago and noticed this white area on their heads some few days before they died-, I assumed that this was caused as I have just said. BUT, subsequently, on hearing about Bernard's we now wonder if this is some sort of disease. I have not noticed any with the white patch since the others died. Have any members' comments to make on this ??? Please send to the Editor.
 Dave Cheswright .

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SPECIES RECORD REPORT

Firstly may I appeal to all members that have so far **not** sent in a record of livebearers being kept, to complete forms so that we can build up a more complete picture for inclusion in future SLAG Journals. When we first formed the group we had an idea that from the records received from the members, we would be able to build up a "history" of each species being kept by tracing movements, this is an ideal that has proved to be impracticable, so let us determine what is practicable and possible. From the start we asked members, now defined as Member (Breeder) to "declare" several species, and it was agreed it was reasonable to ask for three species each member, but let us make this clear this is entirely the members choice as to the quantity and species.

What we mean by "declare" is that the member will assure the group that he/she will make all effort to maintain a species, in sufficient quantity, true to the species, and where applicable to

the strain/blood line, so as to ensure that the species are not lost to the hobbyist, and so that through the group, fish can be made available to others in order that they also can maintain the particular species, and also of course so that the species can be strengthened by the introduction of other blood lines.

With three or four members (breeders) declaring for a species we could be certain that that species would be "safe" and it has been agreed that as the group is at the present feeling its way, and it is natural that all of us will want to change the fish we are keeping, and therefore the fish that we "declared", that we should all examine the record sheets (updated in each journal?) and so help to make "safe" as many species as possible, that we should each confirm and/or change our "declared" to coincide -with the A.G.M. (later in the year) and it has been agreed we must declare for a minimum period of IS months, in order to give an overlap period during which we can examine the sheets and records and if necessary transfer fish between members to ensure species continue to be "safe (i.e. 3 or 4 members).

There has been lengthy discussions on how we should identify blood lines within each species kept, and to develop a system: obviously if it is at all complicated it just will not work. We have talked about "original sources" and with many species we can define this to where the fish have been collected from the wild. There are other easily defined points of entry into our hobby, both from German and U.S.A. sources, some of these can be traced back to collection in the wild. For the rest of these species from Germany and U.S.A. and maybe we shall get species from other places, these we will have to define from that point and refer to them as "German Aquarium Species" etc. Then there are fish which we can trace back perhaps many years to some point in time, these we should refer to as "British Aquarium Species"

For those fish which have been with us over the years with no clear lineage, it would be pointless to try to record movements, *Heterandria formosa* as an example.

The simple way is to number each "original" source or blood line progressively from 1 onwards for each species kept, and prefix this with a letter that can be used to indicate the source.

The letters being allocated as follows:-

B = British Aquarium Species
G = German " "
U = United States of America Aq. Species.
M = Mexico,

and so on as required.

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A fictitious species record may explain this thinking i.e. *Ameca cultratus*
B1 = source being Mr
 X.southampton1970= 1st Blood line
M2= Source being Power Heston
 collected from Rio Blanco Mexico
 August 1974 = 2nd Blood line
G3= Source being German Aquarium
species via Idan Wibble of Screwsea
 1978 =3rd Blood line

Whatever system we finally decide to use, we will publish full details in the Journal. We are still open to suggestions (not

rude ones)if anyone can think up a simple workable system. Think about it and you will realize it can easily become too complicated.

Mervyn Strange, Species Control

ON A LIGHTER NOTE

Southern Livebearers **Are** Great

Southern Livebearers AchieveGreatness ???

Several Large Amecas Gestate,

Should Latipinnas 'Ave Greens?

Some Livebearers Arrive Germany.

Some Livebearers Are Gracilis,

Some Livebearers 'Ave Gonopodiuras"

Some Livebearers Are Goodeas,

Strange Livebearers Amazing Growth,

Several Livebearers Appreciate Grindal,

The above, plus some unprintable, were donated by a Mr, Peter Capon who is well-known in the Southend, Essex, area, for his writings, humourous and serious. To date, we have not been able to talk him into joining us as he is up to his ears in work.

CAMALLANUS. This is a live-bearing parasitic worm, Red in colour and shows from a fish's Anus occasionally; mostly shows when a fish is still in the water. Something like a Tubifex worm in appearance and can be mistaken for Excreta. One worm can produce 230,556 offspring—the carrier dies—the other fishes in the tank eat the worms,

MASOTEN is produced by Bayer. It- is **VERY POISONOUS.** It MUST be kept away from children—hands must be washed.

Note. Ivan has details of the treatment dosages, -I am not printing them here in case, if I get them wrong, disaster could result, **Masoten may** be available in the U.K., possibly from your local Vet.

Dave Cheswright,

S.L.A.G. SPECIES IDENTIFICATION RECORD SHEET		NO. 13/79 . / 8*
SPECIES	SOURCE	ORIGINAL SOURCE
Brachyrhaphis Rhabdolphora	U.1.	U.S.A. 1Q?5 Received from:- Mr B Bailey Received by:- D & J Renton N.G.L.S. ered that all of this species one source, if any member has ry, inform S.C. immediately.
Goodea j M.1. Atripinnis	I ! j This is the only or 2. to S.C. immediately	Mexico, San Juan del Rio. 1975 Collected by J H Preston S.L.A.G. iginal source on record, any o ther information
Xiphophorus Pygmaeus Pygmaeus	M.1.	Mexico, tributary of Rio Axtla a few miles north of Tamazunchale. 19?^ Collected by J H Preston S.L.A.G.
Xiphophorus Milleri	M.1.	Mexico, Lake Catemaco. 1975 Collected by J H Preston S.L.A.G.
with X. V intent, Jj-. and X. El	t be consid this one ariatus. a	ered that all of the species d source. Unfortunately this s nd crosses were distributed wi since been identified in error true strains are available via distributed in the U.K. species crosses readily thout knowledge or as X. Variatus (wild) members 2.8.30 etc.

<p>Xiphophorus Montezumae Montezumae</p> <p>5. to S.C. i</p>	<p>M.l.</p>	<p>Mexico, tributary of Rio Axtla a few miles north of Tamazunchale. 197^- Collected by J H Preston S.L.A.G.</p> <p>iginal source on record, any o •</p>	<p>To various areas of Southern England 1975 onwards. North, NE England L Scotland I976 West Gremany in 1976 & 1978.</p> <p>other information</p>
<p>Limnurgus Innominatus</p> <p>6.</p>	<p>M.l.</p>	<p>Mexico, Chapultepec Park in Mexico City. 1975 Collected by J H Preston S.L.A.G.</p>	<p>To many S.L.A.G. members.</p>

SPECIES	DECLARED	OTHERS KEPT
Ameca Splendens	4.11.13.19.28.38	2.5.10.12.26
Alfaro Cultratus	1.4.5, 2.	16
Belonesox Belizanus	3	2.
Brachy: Rhabdolphora	4.18.22.24.45	2.5.8.12.16.19.30
Carlhubbsia Stuarti	4	1.12.30, 2.
Cnest: Carnegei	1.16	2.3.5.8
Dermogenys Pusillus		8.10.47
Gambusia Affinnis Affinnis	28	8.20
" " Holbrookii	4.5.18.20, 2.	1. .8.12.13.16.19.24.36.38
" Panuco		13.38. .
Girardinus Metallicus	4.24.36	2.10.12.13.38
" Falcatus	1.4	5.16.20, 2.
Goodea Atripinnis	4.5.12	2.8.13.16.18.22.28.38.47
Heterandria Formosa (German X)	4.10.20.28.36.45	1.5.8.12.13.16.18.19.38, 2.2
" Bimaculata	1.2.4.22	5.8.12.19.20.21
Jenysia Lineata	2	11
Limnurgus Inmominatus	2.4.36	1.5.12.16.20.38
Neoheterandria Umbratilis	1.4	2.5.11.12.20
Normorhaphus Sp.		8
" Celepenes		13
Poeciliopsis Gracillis (5)	12.13.38	5.8.16.20.22) 2.
" " (9)	4.38	5.8) 10.
" Viriosa	4	2.11.16
Poecilia Reticulata	10	28
" " Gold		38
" Latipinna Gold	24	
" Orri	-	5.12, 2. 4
" Sphenops	6	2.11
" Velifera Gold, & Black, & Black Lyre		28
" Melanogaster (German X) 2.1.	6.10.18.46.47	5. 4, 4x
" Melanotata (Versicolour)	2.4.20.38	1. .8.16.21.26
" Nigrofasciata	4.11.45	2.5.8.11.12.13.16.19.20.38
" Vittata	13	2.8.10.20.26.30. 4
" Latapunctata (Wild Vittata)		2.11
" Vivipara	4	2.11.12.16
" Chica		2.11
" Caudofasciata		4.11
" Dominicensis		2.11. 4
" Formosa (Females)		2.11
Phallictys Amates Amates (German X)	1.4.10	2.8.11.13.20.38, 2x
" Fairweatheri		2. 4.
Phalloceros Caudomaculatus		2.11.16
" " Reticulatus	4.30	2.5.11.12.16.20
Phalloptychus Janurius	4	2.11.16.30
Priapella Intermedia (German X)	.30.2	1. .5.8.16.18.20.4.(4x)(2x)
Scolichthys Greenaway		.11
Xenotoca Eiseni (German X)	2. .5.13.16.19.47	1. .8.10.26.28.38 2x. 4
Xenophorus Captivus	4	2.11.16
Xiphophorus Milleri	21.30	2.4.8.16.26
" Montezumae	4.11	1.2.5.8.10.12.20.26.28.38
" Pygmaeus	2.21	5.16
" Xiphidium	2.4	.21
" Helleri Wild	21	1.28
" " " Red		28.
" " Red/Black		10.
" " Albino		2.

S.L.A.G. RECORD SHBBT-Continued

SPECIES	DECLARED	OTHERS KEPT
Xiph: Maculata		38
•' " Red		.2, 4, 36
" " Red Wagtail		4.36
" " Marigold		4.36
" " " Highfin	36	
" " Red Pintail		4.36
" •' Wagtail Pintail		4
" " Tuxedo Pintail		4

Numbers refer to membership as recorded by Treasurer/Secretary. Detail is complete from paperwork received by Species Control as on the 23.2.79. Obviously there is more complete information due from existing members, and it would be ideal if members would **declare** for species shown by this record as "Not Safe". If the majority of members would declare for three or more species, most would be adequately covered. As for the more recent acquisitions, every effort is being made to multiply these. Please have patience, write in requests and send these with record sheets. Do not badger the members that have the species, preference will be given to members at auctions and with other distributions.

N, Strange, Species Control Officer.

INFORMATION SHEETS. - M. Strange.

It is intended to produce information sheets or standards for each Species an aid to identification, maintaining and breeding livebearers. these would be distributed to Members and other interested individuals.

YOU ALL should and could play your part in bringing together the information needed, /or this to be a useful exercise, what we want are all the snippets of information and knowledge gained from observation and breeding -write down or prepare your own idea of what you think an information sheet should be on Species you know well, AH ideas and information will be collated by the committee and distributed to all Members,

Please do not criticize efforts, get in first and make S.L.A.G, a byword for high standards.

All items to any Committee members please

If you are a member of the showing fraternity and disagree with your federations size estimates for all or some Livebearing Species, prepare list so that we can make an approach to the relevant authorities,

DO IT NOW - POST IT TOMORROW.

S.L.A.G. RECORD SHEET-Continued

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" " Marigold		4.36
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LIST OF MEMBERS

All members should have received a list of members from Keith Dryden :- headed "October 1978" This covered members 1 to 30 inclusive.

1 to 30 inclusive.

- 31). G.Kane, 161, Beatty Crescent, KIRKCALDY, fife, Scotland,
33). S.Furzedown, 39, Mount Pleasant Road, IEWISHAM, London, S.E.13,
34). P.Mills, 79, Hoppers Road, WINCHMORE HILL. London, N_e21,
35). Hiss. 12, Sewardstone Road, CHINGFORD, London, E,4
82, Barnstaple Road, THORPE BAY, Essex.
K.Turner, 1, Sunset Avenue, CHINGFORD, London, E,4
23, Stretton Road, ADDISCOMBE, Surrey,
36). B.Myers, 338, Coggeshall Road, BRAINTREE, Essex,
37). N.Wiriford, 2, Hanger Farm Cottages, FINGEST. Henley-on-Thames,
38). B,Meech, "Oak Tree", Clements Gardens, Hawkwell, Essex,
39). M.Clark, German Members - Names to follow,
40). T.Blackmore, 21, Park Place, MERTHYR TYDFIL, South Wales.
41). to 44). 25, Denny View, PORTISREAD, Bristol*
45). S.Manuel, Feather Dell, HATFIELD, Herts,
Tennyson Road, GILLINGHAM, Kent.
46). A. McDonald, Bligh Street, WAVERTREE, Liverpool.
47). C-.Hendrie, Hartham Road, ISLEWORTH, Middlesex.
48), G.Carpenter, Blacknell Gardens, Chapel House Estate,
49), D.Francis, 62 Elm Close, Houghton Regis, Dunstable , Beds
50). P.Rogers, Please notify Hon. Secretary, Keith Dryden, of any errors in
51). G.Martin, the above list.
52). P,A.Moye,

Correct Member No 30, P.Martyn, (N O T T .Martin).

Notes on some of the "new" species received from Germany. Oct/November

1978 D.Cheswright,

1) Phalloptvcus Januarius. This species apparently drops fry over a number of days, similar to Heterandria Formosa (Mosquito). Seems to be susceptible to adverse water (or perhaps it is wrong feeding). Some have dropped dead suddenly. Ivan obtained fry and he passed some to me, Ivan now needs females as originals lost,I have obtained only 1 fry to date,

2) 2), *Poecilia Dominicansis*. I had the only specimens, some brought back by Ivan and Dave in October and the others by Mike and myself in November. Similar colour to *P. Melanogaster* but has orange mark on Dorsal Fin. Specimens received were very weak. I obtained 1 brood of 15 fry, then passed 1 Pr to George Kane, 3 others died, leaving me with 1 Pr. 1 fry only born March, 1979, Of the 15 fry above I passed some to Ivan some of those died and he is left with Males only. Of the fry I kept, all except 1 suddenly died in the 3rd week of March, their fins were folded, then caudal fins fell off and they died. The 1 left seems to be quite fit, I treated with Diseasesolve when they were first "off colour" then a fungus cure the next day, by which time only 3 were left, 2-tail-less. They died within 48 hours of first noticing the trouble, some within 2/3 hours,

Can we have a report on this Species from George please??

3) *Jenynsia Lineata*. The "one-sided" Livebearer, The males can move their Gonopodium in 1 direction only, we brought back 2 F and 4 M and Mike and I had 1 trio each, Mike has had 3 broods of about 9 each and had caught these from the heavily planted Aquarium in which the trio was kept, I have had 1 brood of 36, BUT, they were slightly premature and 26 were dead—they were born over 3 days. The other 10 are doing very well. Both of my Males can move their Gonopodia to the right when viewed from behind. They do not like dry food and do well on crushed snails. I will continue with other species in the next issue. Can we have comments from Ivan Dave and Mike ?

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REPORT OF MEETING -

26th January. 1979,

K. Dryden/D. Cheswright,

This was the 3rd Meeting held since formation, that and the 2nd, in September, 1978, having been held in Basingstoke, Hants₀

About 25 were present. Ivan Dibble. Dave Hanns and Mike Thomas had arrived at Dave Cheswright's during the afternoon, Dave H, had come by train and, being very tired, had awoken at Southend-On-Sea at the end of the line and had to get a train back to Wickford₀ The other 2 arrived by Car.

The meeting was held at St. Andrews Hall, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex and started at 8p.m. Support for the Table Shows: Goodeas and Xiphophorus, was not great but Howard Preston and Terry Waller definitely entered, Ken Saxby, F.B.A.S. Judge did the necessary rather late.!! The meeting ended rather late and the results were not announced, they will be at the April meeting.

The Chairman welcomed all those present and thanked Ivan for his P,R.O. work to date and Howard for getting out the first Journal, He mentioned that we are in touch with Dr. Radda, Austria, re identification of fishes left in Germany for him and that we had received a letter from Mexico re obtaining fishes direct. (See Editor's remarks), He also mentioned that Terry Waller had lost all fishes in his shed after carrying out a 90% water change- livebearers, Killie-fishes and cichlids all died. Dave Hanns had also lost some fishes earlier after a water change.

Mervyn then spoke on Species control and this he has fully covered in this Journal.

Slides of some of the new species, plus some well-known were then shown with comments on them from Dave and Ivan. These slides had been provided by D.G.L.3.(West Germany) and by Ivan.

We then had a break for refreshments, provided by the Chairman's wife,

Audrey.

*»

After the break we held an Action, mainly of fry from the species brought in from Germany, but including quite a lot of other surplus fishes. The only ones which appeared to be surplus to requirements were Ameca **Splendens** which had to be given away. Members were else swapping fishes. We hope that members will use future meetings in the same way as the costs of posting fishes and the time taken to pack there are both high.

All present enjoyed a thoroughly good evening and some of the guests joined,

Ivan, Mike and Dave stayed the night with Howard and Dave. Or On the Saturday we met up at Howard's and had a look at his shed. Ivan and Mike then left for home with Dave Hanns staying for the day with Howard, On **Sunday** he was collected by Dave Ches and delivered to British Railways,

PLEASE SUPPORT THE APRIL MEETING,

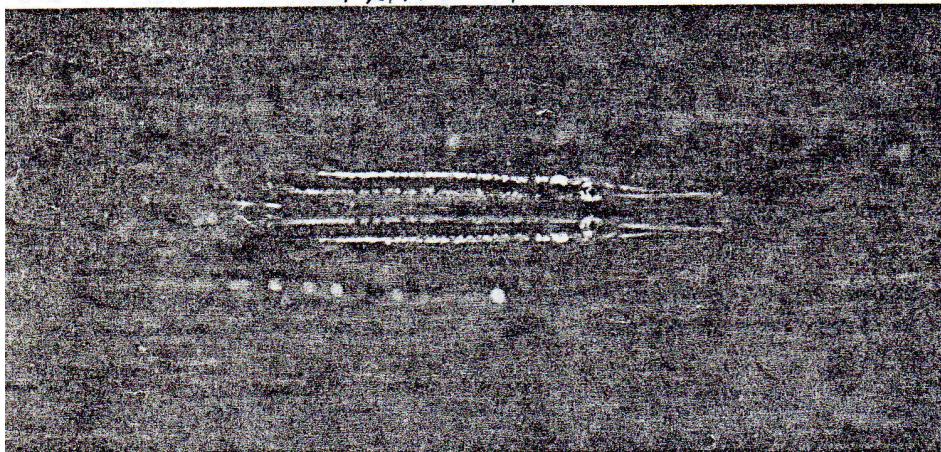
**Ein neuer Halbschnäbler
aus Kalimantan
(Süd Borneo)
Vorläufige Beschreibung
von Hemirhamphodon
chrysopunctatus spec. nov.**

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Text: Manfred Brembach

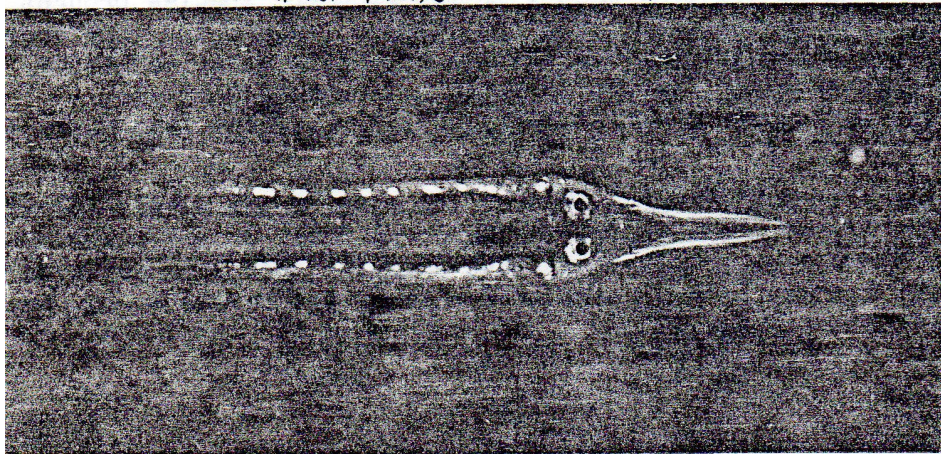
Korthaus das von ihr gesammelte Hemirhamphiden-Material freundlicherweise zur wissenschaftlichen Bearbeitung überlassen. Die Fische stammen aus einem Gebiet nördlich und nordwestlich von Banjarmasin, der im Südosten gelegenen Hauptstadt Kalimantan. Da es noch keine gültige Karte von diesem Gebiet gibt, kann es nur mit den groben Angaben 114°-116° östlicher Länge und 2° südlicher Breite umrissen werden. Nördlich von Banjarmasin leben die Halbschnäbler im oberen Flußsystem des Barito, nordwestlich von Banjarmasin, etwa in der Mitte des südlichen Borneo, im Mentaya-Flußsystem. Für die Fundstellen dort gibt es nach Angaben von Frau Korthaus nur die Bezeichnungen der Eingeborenen, vorhandenes Kartenmaterial entspricht in keiner Weise den tatsächlichen Verhältnissen.

PLATE 1



Ein „Neon“ unter den Halbschnäblern stellt diese neue Art dar. Das Bild zeigt Hemirhamphodon chrysopunctatus in der beschriebenen Form, mit den zwei nicht unterbrochenen Leuchtbinden. Das Tier spiegelt sich in der Wasseroberfläche. Im Hintergrund ein Tier mit unterbrochener Leuchtbinde.

PLATE 2



Dieses Bild zeigt den Leuchtpunkt-Halbschnäbler mit der unterbrochenen Leuchtbinde. Es sind ausgesprochene Oberflächenfische, wie alle Halbschnäbler, und so spiegelt sich auch dieses Tier in der Wasseroberfläche.
Fotos:
Manfred Brembach

The following data is available of the fish in question i.e. measurements etc.

	H. chrysopunctatus sp. males	H. pogonognathus males (according to Mohr 1936)
Standard length	<u>56</u> mm	
Total length	<u>83</u> mm	
* Length of head (without beak)	<u>14</u> mm	
Lower beak	19 mm	
Dorsal	<u>18</u>	15-17
Anal	9	7-8
Beak length in total length.		5x

Whilst adults (mature species) males of *H. Pogonognathus*, the third ray of the andropodium nearly touches the tail fin, but frequently it becomes very much longer, but if it is *H. Chrysopunctatus* it is considerably shorter and does not go as far as the caudal peduncal.

Plate 4

The above photograph shows the luminous point of the half beak with the interrupted luminous line. One recognises on this picture the long downward bent beak. Also the fins are clearly shown. (Photo by Dr. Walter Forsch).

Plate 5

Andropodium of the Hemirhamphodon Chrysopunctatus an important marking of the half beak.

Plate 6

Andropodium of the *Hemirhamphodon Pogonognathus* shows clearly the difference of the new type. (Photos M. Brembach).

COLOUR DESCRIPTION OF THE HALF BEAK AND REMARKS TO BIOTOP.
Text - Edith Kortheus.

A few days after I caught them I had already commenced to describe the colour of the freshly caught fish in Borneo. To begin with I was of the opinion that I had two types of half beak, however, as it showed, there is only one type. Perhaps the variation of colouring may show either sex or respectively age. According to the way the light falls onto these fish, it would appear they have either a red or a black longitudinal line. This line commences to show in the lower part of the beak and is interrupted by the eye, but then carries on to the caudal peduncle. It is, however, accompanied by a longitudinal line which could be slightly golden, yellow, green or even blue. The longitudinal line varies in accordance with the light influx. The anal fin and dorsal fin appear to be slightly red and the dorsal on the upper edge has a black rim. The caudal is colourless. The eyes are big and dark and surrounded by a golden ring. Other fish, however, show a yellowing brownish base colour to dark red up to a black longitudinal line, this commences at the eye. This line below is, however interrupted with a golden colour and is accompanied by an uninterrupted longitudinal line. Dorsal yellowish dark surroundings. Anal yellowish. Pointed dark tail fin yellowish. The very long lower jaw is pointed downward at the end but seems to have reddish ^edging, between is dark up to a bluish colouring. The gillfluctuate in colour in accordance with the light reflections. All the living fish I brought back with me from Banjarmasin were given me by my really helpful friend, Franz Hudoro, to whom I owe many thanks. They originated in the river system of the Northern Barito. The fish we caught we put into formalin, as it was not possible to bring them back alive, taking into consideration the conditions under which they had to be transported. Although the distances between the two different types were quite considerable, it surprised me that these fish were identical. This was verified after the investigations carried out by Herrn Brembach. At the same time I would like to take this opportunity to convey my thanks to Dr Liem from Vivivara Indonesia in Djakarta who was responsible for feeding and maintaining all our living fish whilst I had a dip in the Java sea. In addition I must be grateful to Herren Pater Stroch and W. Pfeuffer because without their help I wouldn't have been able to get into the heart of this Country, I may add, **not without great loss**, of **time** anyway, and time is an important factor when the date of return has already been stipulated.

The areas in which we found the half beak, namely the ones we caught ourselves, were primarily little streams in the swamps, which are flooded during the rainy period. The bio type in accordance with the statement made by Mr. Undero appear to be identical with those seen in the northern part of Barito. In my opinion, during the high water period, the fish will retain its normal areas of living i.e. little streams etc. the reason being that when the flooding period is over, they can automatically return to the habitat where they were before. We did, however, find a few half beaks in flooded areas, but again they were within a short distance of their original habitat. Frequently it was very difficult to

find the actual little rivulet or stream bed without the help of the friendly river Dayaks, without them we would have had great problems. The Holotypes were caught at the end of the most magnificent Cryptocoryne

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bed in the middle of prehistoric woods which have been described as a second wood, as the primary woods have rotted away. Unfortunately this rotting process seems to spread considerably, which, of course, has a detrimental effect on the fish around.

The values of the waters in that and other areas do not differ considerably from each other. The water was dark everywhere, just like dark coffee, but at the same time it was clear. We tried with normal measuring instruments to determine hardness, but were unsuccessful. It was under 1 dH this corresponds to 15 microsimens, at a temperature of **26°** C and under such extreme conditions, no correct pH value could be obtained. This is understandable.

Finally I should like to say that the water is extremely soft but sour. Besides the dark colouring and the acidity result from humic material.

Article interpreted and edited by I.H. Dibble with many thanks to Herrn Brembach and Frau Korthaus for their kind permission to publish in our Journal. All copyrights reserved by Herr Breabach; and Frau Korthaus.

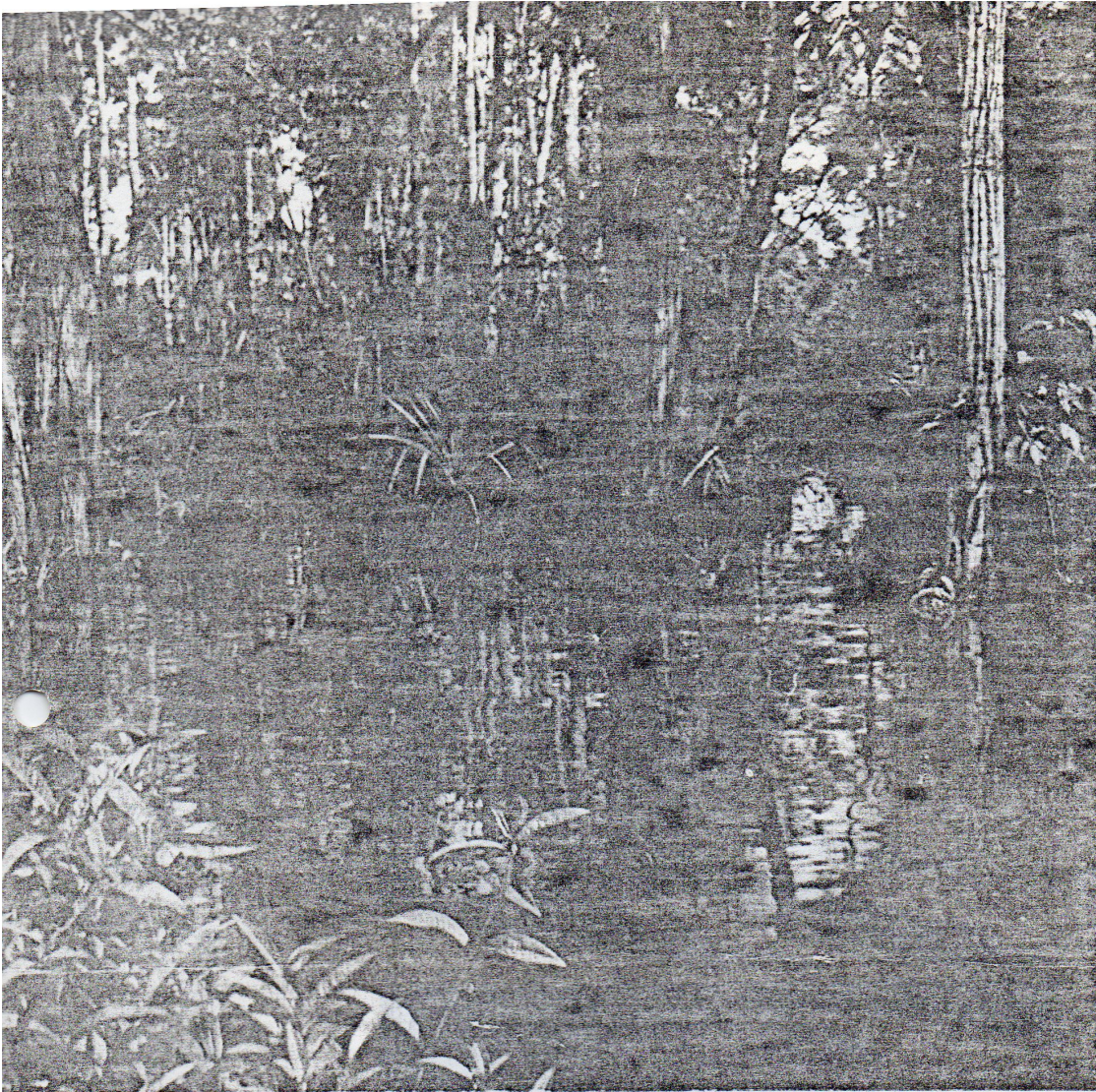


PLATE 3

Eine extreme Landschaft stellen die Sumpfwälder Borneos dar. Das Wasser ist kaffeefarben. Hier verläuft ein Bach durch den überschwemmten Wald, der sich zur Trockenzeit in eine Sumpflandschaft verwandelt und dann schwer passierbar ist. Das ist der Lebensraum des neuen Halbschnäblers.

Foto: E. Korthaus

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Neben einem *Dermogenys pusillus*-Weibchen, konnte ich die ganze (oder besser die noch ver-

PLATE 4.

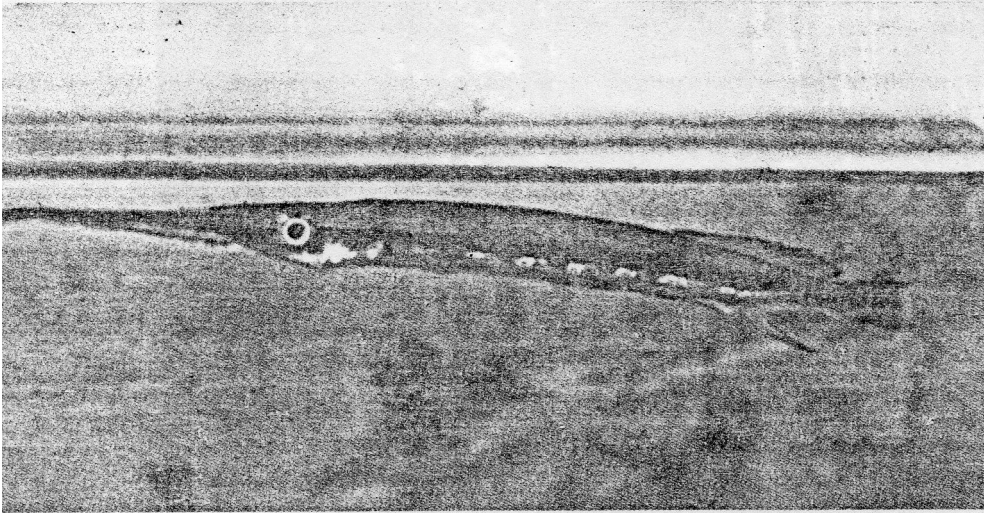


Foto oben:
Das Foto zeigt den
Leuchtpunkt-Halb-
schnäbler mit der un-
erbrochenen Leuchtli-
nie. Man erkennt auf
dem Bild den langen,
nach unten herabgebogenen
Interkiefer. Auch die
Ablösung wird deut-
lich.
Foto:
Dr. Walter Foersch



PLATE 5

Endopodium von He-
miphodon chry-
sopunctatus spec. nov.,
ein wichtiges Bestim-
mungsmerkmal bei
Halbschnäblern.

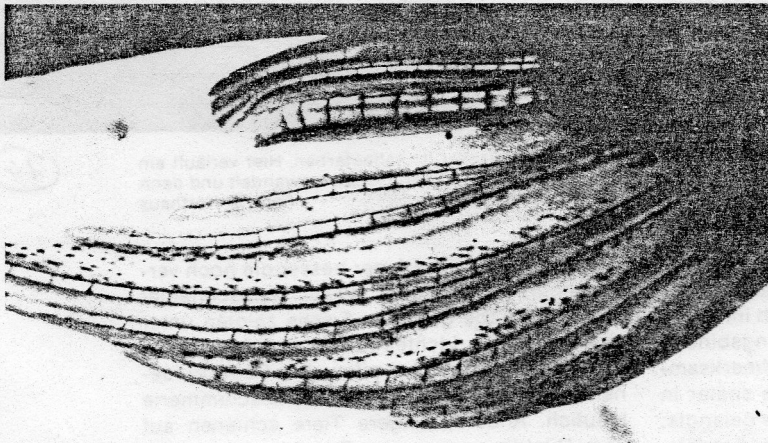


PLATE 6

Endopodium von He-
miphodon pogo-
gnathus. Es unter-
scheidet sich deutlich
von der neuen Art.

