

A Guide to Ornamental Fish Farming & Management

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Abstract

Fish farming, often known as pisciculture, is the commercial reproduction of fish, typically for food, in fish tanks or simulated enclosures such as fish ponds [1]. It is a type of aquaculture in which aquatic creatures such as fish, crustaceans, and mollusks, and so on are cultivated and harvested in a natural or pseudo-natural setting. A fish hatchery is a facility that releases juvenile fish into the wild for recreational fishing or to supplement a species' natural numbers [2]. Carp, catfish, salmon, and tilapia are the most common fish species produced in fish farming around the world.

Global demand for dietary fish protein is increasing, which has led in widespread overfishing in wild fisheries, leading in severe reductions in fish stocks and, in some locations, outright depletion. Fish farming allows the establishment of fictitious fish colonies that are fed adequately, protected from normal predators and competitive threats, have access to veterinarian services, and are easier to harvest when needed, all while being separated from and thus not affecting the sustainable yields of wild fish populations [3]. While fish farming is practiced all around the world, China alone accounts for 65 percent of the world's farmed fish production. Aquaculture produced more than half of all seafood in 2016 [4]. Aquaculture has been the primary driver of development in fisheries and aquaculture production over the previous three decades, with an average annual growth rate of 8.3 percent from 2010 to 2021, reaching a record 82.6 million tons in 2022.

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Introduction

Ornamental fish farming or culture is the raising of attractive, colorful fishes of varied elements in a limited aquatic setting. These fish are mostly grown by farmers and hobbyists [5]. Living jewels is another term for ornamental fish. Many people find ornamental fish care and multiplication to be a compulsive activity that provides not only aesthetic pleasure but also money opportunities. Across 600 ornamental fish species have been announced from various aquatic settings around the world [6].

Ornamental fish and the industry

The aquaculture business is currently the world's fastest expanding food sector, and the open oceans are viewed as one of the most likely zones for largescale expansion. The aquaculture sub-sector is made up of three major components: brackish-water aquaculture, freshwater aquaculture, and mariculture. A

hobby involving ornamental fish can give pleasure to both young and old, calm the mind, keep blood pressure normal and so prevent heart-related diseases, and be aesthetically pleasing and rewarding.

Types

They are classified into eight families: anabantidae, callichthyidae, characidae, cichlid, cobitidae, cyprinodontidae, cyprinidae, and poeciliidae. Aquarium fishes are generally divided into two types: egg layers and live bearers.

Zebra fish (*Brachydanio rerio*), *Notopterus notopterus* is a type of black knife fish, *Botia lohachata* is a kind of reticulated loach.

Conclusion

Ornamental fish breeders and those who are unemployed

can benefit from the culture and breeding of aquatic animals. Aquaculture requires less space and initial investment than most other types of aquaculture. It is only necessary to understand the habits and biology of fishes in ornamental fish farming. Even in urban areas, it can be

practiced with little disruption to backyards or roofs of houses. The women and elders can run these small units and boost their social and economic well-being since less manpower is needed.

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