

NOVEMBER NEWS

from **NIELSEN'S MARINE MATES**


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AQUA MEDIC NANO PROP 5000

Now available is this well priced submersible pump providing great current and waves for the marine or even a freshwater aquarium. The magnetically coupled pump is very quiet in operation and has a fully encapsulated synchronous motor with a polished ceramic shaft and bearing to ensure long operating life. There is an integrated thermal overheat protection to prevent damage should the impellor become jammed. The pump can be adjusted from 2000 to 5000 It per hour by changing the wattage on the included transformer between 6, 9 and 12 Volts. A new rubber leverage sucker has been developed which creates a vacuum to fix the pump to the aquarium glass. The Nano Prop is very economical to run, using a power uptake of only 4 – 7 Watts.

The image shows a cylindrical, metallic submersible pump with a fan-like outer casing and a central impeller. It is designed for use in aquariums to create water movement.

Great Price \$149.99.

NEW DISCUS SHIPMENT

For the Discus lovers, we have a new shipment of beautiful Discus now in store. There is a good variety available including Blue Diamond, Red Dragon, Red Melon and others.



Most are the more economical smaller sizes but we do also have some larger fish available. As always be early for the best selection as discus as nice as these always sell fast.

PRODAC DISCUS FOOD



Speaking of Discus, have you tried our new Prodac Discus Granules? This is a quality granulated food specifically formulated for discus and includes astaxanthine to enhance the colour of these beautiful fish. It also is a great food for most other cichlids. This food is very taste attractive and accepted well by most discus and is comparable to well known brand granule foods. Available in the 35g size for \$12.99 and a 90g size for \$28.50.

FRESHWATER PLANT OF THE MONTH - HAIRGRASS

As the name implies, this plant has hair-like leaves and is a small growing foreground plant with attractive bright green foliage. It is sold in clumps and can be planted as such or divided out into small pieces.



Hairgrass grows on a runner and will slowly cover the substrate forming a bright green carpet. Usually \$4.99.

**NOVEMBER SPECIAL
\$3.99 PER BUNCH.**

Are you registered for our newsletter?
If not, send us an email to
nielsensmarinemates@bigpond.com
or register next time you are in the store.
Also check out our website for details of
our new **REWARDS SCHEME**

BARBS FOR THE TROPICAL COMMUNITY TANK

Yes, you read that correctly – for a community tank. There are many species of barbs which are admittedly fin nippers and an absolute pest in a community aquarium, but there are some which make a nice addition to a community of suitable fish. Having said all that, perhaps slow swimming, long finned fish such as guppies and Siamese fighters are just asking for trouble in a tank with any sort of barb.

Some barbs which can be recommended are as follows:

FIVE BANDED BARBS

(*Puntius pentazona*) These are similar in colouration to the common tiger barb but are more elongated in the body and their

stripes do not extend so far into the belly of the fish. They grow a maximum of 8cm, usually smaller, and originate from South East Asia – mostly the Malay Peninsula and Sumatra. As with most barbs, they display best colour when kept in an aquarium with

dark gravel and lots of nice green plants. These fish can be inclined to be



nervous and a little shy at first, particularly if mixed with very boisterous fish, but once settled they are quite a hardy fish which feed readily. Should be kept in groups of at least five, more is better.

CHECKER BARBS (*Puntius oligolepis*). Now here is a lovely



little fish, growing only to 5cm maximum and originating from Indonesia.

The males have a little more colour particularly in the fins, which are red

with a black border, contrasting nicely with their black and silver checkered body pattern.

Checker Barbs display best colour when kept in a school of at least six or seven, with at least two or three males to display to the females.

These barbs are egg scatterers and show brilliant colour during spawning. Eggs need to be collected and raised in a separate tank as there is no parental care of eggs or babies.

DID YOU KNOW??

Barbs are the cattle dogs of the fish world. They have a strong schooling instinct and if kept singly or in a small group they try to herd up other fish to form a school. Keeping barbs in a school, the larger the better, tends to decrease their desire to nip other fish.

BLACK RUBY BARBS (*Puntius nigrofasciatus*) The dark body colouration and ruby red face are very attractive and in addition their scales are highly reflective showing tiny diamond-like flashes as they turn in the light.

Grow to 6 – 7 cm and originate from Sri Lanka. A much more solid fish than the



Checker Barbs but still quite peaceful. A school will look great in a well planted tank.

FRESHWATER SPECIAL OF THE MONTH

ALL THREE BARBS ARE USUALLY \$3.30 EACH.

NOVEMBER SPECIAL 5 (OF ANY ONE SPECIES) FOR \$12.50.

**COMING SOON –
TECO E-CHILL – AN INNOVATIVE
AQUARIUM COOLING SYSTEM**

Soon to be released, just in time for summer, the Teco E-Chill energy saving aquarium cooling system is an innovative development in evaporative cooling systems, with pricing sure to catch your attention. The E-Chill can be used as a stand alone aquarium cooling system or in conjunction with a Teco chiller where an average energy saving of 30% can be achieved depending on humidity, room temperature etc. Running in conjunction with a chiller will reduce the time taken to reach the desired temperature.



Installing the E-Chill independently will result in a decrease in temperature of 1 - 5°C.

The Teco E-Chill is easy to install on either the sump or aquarium itself. The integrated digital controller shows temperature with a resolution of 0.1°C, and also continuously monitors water level with an alarm and automatic shut down if the water level reaches a user-defined point.

The innovative design also allows adjustable airflow direction for optimum cooling. It has a safe 12v DC power supply.

Available in three models:

TECO E-CHILL 1

Tank Size: up to 500lt if installed together with a TECO chiller
OR up to 100lt in case of independent installation.

Dimensions 130 x 220 x 200H mm
Power Consumption 8W.

Price \$230.

TECO E-CHILL 2 (PICTURED)

Tank Size: up to 800lt if installed together with a TECO chiller
OR up to 200lt in case of independent installation.

Dimensions 260 x 220 x 200H mm
Power Consumption 14W

Price \$305.

TECO E-CHILL 3

Tank Size: up to 1500lt if installed together with a TECO chiller
OR up to 300lt in case of independent installation.

Dimensions 390 x 220 x 200H mm
Power Consumption 20W

Price \$376.

It is expected that only a limited number of E-Chill units will be imported initially by the importer, so please let us know if you are interested in a E-Chill as we are taking orders NOW.

**MARINE FISH OF THE MONTH –
BANANA WRASSE**

The bright citrus yellow of this fish makes it a real standout in the marine aquarium. Banana Wrasse tend to mind their own business in the tank so make a great community fish. Easy to feed on frozen marine diet, brine shrimp and



dried foods. As with many wrasse, banana wrasse will bury in the substrate if

distressed in any way, but generally, once settled, they will only bury to sleep at night. Reef safe, growing to only 11 cm. Usually \$30.

NOVEMBER SPECIAL \$25.00.

AQUA ONE HORIZON 65 FRESHWATER AQUARIUM SETUP

Here is the ideal starter setup and would make a great gift. The tank holds 65 litres and measures 60 x 30 x 36(H) cm. The setup comes complete with bookcase stand, 18W light, 100W heater and filter and is especially suitable for a tropical freshwater setup. Priced at **\$249** this is an economical and practical setup for the beginner or the more advanced looking for a smart looking, everything supplied aquarium. Please see our item below, and place your order for Christmas now. Plenty of other models to choose from also!



CHRISTMAS TANK ORDERS

If you are thinking of a new aquarium setup for this Christmas, either as a gift or for yourself, now is the time to place your order. As you will appreciate, Christmas is always a very busy time for these items, and delivery times to us can be much longer than usual. Also our local tank and cabinet manufacturer closes over the Christmas holidays, as do a number of importers, so to avoid disappointment please place your order as soon as possible. Lay-by is also available and items can be picked up just before Christmas.



BANDED CORAL SHRIMP

If you have a marine aquarium, banded coral shrimp are a fascinating and interesting addition. These are available singly or in pairs. Banded shrimp generally mate for life so if you want to keep two it is necessary to buy a pair, rather than two single shrimp. With a pair, it is quite interesting to watch the interaction between the two shrimp.

Banded shrimp can be mixed with fish provided they are not of the 'toothy' variety. Although banded



shrimp are known to setup a cleaning station to pick parasites from fish, some varieties of fish will still prey upon them e.g. trigger fish, tusks, larger wrasse, eels and generally any fish with a large mouth and teeth!

Banded coral shrimp have 'arms' with two claws which are somewhat ineffective as a defence, being used mainly to convey food to the mouth. Indeed, if threatened, they will throw off their arms and claws in an attempt to escape their attacker. Banded shrimp shed their shells around every six weeks or so and will grow new claws with each shedding, so do not be concerned if your shrimp has an arm missing upon purchase or if it throws a claw on the way home! When the shrimp sheds it's shell, it will usually hide away for a day or two until it's new shell hardens. Be careful when discarding the empty shell that it is in fact empty, as it will be complete with claws, feelers etc and it has been known for aquarists to throw out the living shrimp instead of the empty shell!