

# AUGUST NEWS

from **NIELSEN'S MARINE MATES**

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Seems in August we have gone a little 'Catfish Crazy' with heaps of fresh water catfish to suit almost any tank and all at great prices. Check out the range on Page 2.

We are also featuring two brand new LED lights – yes, we seem to be always getting in new LEDs, but these both look like being very popular. One is especially suited to a nano tank or refugium light and the other is the tech-head's delight at an amazing price.

For the marine aquarist who doesn't have a reef tank, we offering two predators for our monthly marine special – a lionfish and an eel – certainly something different!

Last month we featured the new Red Sea Max C Series Setups and we have now finished setting up a C130 as our seahorse display tank so please drop by soon to see one of these great new setups in action.

As always until next month ... good fishkeeping!

## FRESHWATER PLANT OF THE MONTH – AMBULIA

Ambulia is a spectacular plant with fine, lush, lime green foliage. It is a beautiful background plant as it grows quite tall and full so is good for hiding filters, heaters etc. As it is a soft leafed plant it is perhaps not suited to keep with plant eating fish but will do best in a well lighted community aquarium. Sold in bunches. Normally \$6.50 per bunch. **AUGUST SPECIAL \$5.50.**



## New! NANO LED LIGHT

This light measures a tiny 290mm x 100mm and is ideally suited for a nano tank. Alternatively, it can be used over a refugium to grow caulerpa.

With a total of 27 Watts, the light features three clusters of bulbs, all 3 watts each, with 2 blue and 1 white in each end cluster and 2 white and 1 UV in the centre cluster.



The light attaches to the tank via a sturdy, adjustable, clamp-on fixture and the flexible arm makes positioning for the best lighting very easy.

Priced at only **\$149**, this is just the light that many nano aquarists have been waiting for.

**REGISTER FOR OUR NEWSLETTER** either in store or email us at:

[nielsensmarinemates@bigpond.com](mailto:nielsensmarinemates@bigpond.com)

Check out our **Facebook** page which is regularly updated with lots of photos of new livestock and products as they arrive. 'Like us' to receive notification of updates.



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Ask us, or visit our website for details of our Rewards Scheme. Pick up your Rewards Card and start collecting Rewards stamps NOW!

# CATFISH CRAZY

## TALKING CATFISH!

Want a fish that will answer back?

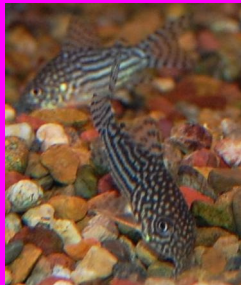
Talking catfish are a South American catfish which grow up to 20cm in the wild but often only 10 - 15cm in the tank. Peaceful with all but tiny fish, these are quite gregarious in the wild and although they can be kept singly, they will school, even with similar looking relatives. A nocturnal fish, they will like to have hollow roots and driftwood or rocky caves to rest in and will also bury in fine gravel or sand. Fish of this family have rigid pectoral spines which can inflict a nasty sting. They are easily entangled in nets and are best caught using a plastic or glass container. When removed from the tank they emit quite loud squeaking and clicking noises - hence the name, Talking Catfish.

We have two types at present, the **Striped Talking Catfish** (pictured) also known as the Striped Raphael for **\$19.00** and the less common **Spotted Talking Catfish** for **\$69.00**.



## SYNODONTIS PETRICOLA

These Lake Tanganyikan catfish grow to a maximum of around 11cm and are a popular addition to tanks with Rift Lake cichlids. However they can be kept with larger tropicals which enjoy hard water. They are not fussy feeders at all accepting most live, frozen and dried foods. Petricola are known to breed by the 'cuckoo' method by placing their eggs in with mouthbrooding cichlids for incubation. Petricola display best when kept in a small group. They should have plenty of rocky caves etc. for hiding places. Although we usually sell these fish for \$29.00, this month we have them on special offer for only **\$19.00. BARGAIN!**

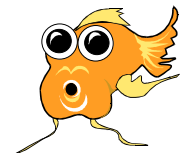


## CORYDORAS CATFISH

Absolutely the best scavengers for the tropical tank - these guys are ever busy cleaning up the substrate. Corydoras come in a huge variety of colours and patterns from the more common **ALBINO CORY \$4.50** (was \$6.50) and **BRONZE CORY \$4.50** (was \$5.99) to the sought after spotted/striped **STERBAI CORY** (\$12 value, now **\$8.99**).

## BRISTLENOSE CATFISH

Perhaps one of the most popular catfish, these peaceful catfish are terrific algae eaters and can be mixed in almost any tank. Apart from standard bristlenose we currently have in stock **PEPPERMINT BRISTLENOSE** (pictured) from **\$19.00**, regularly \$26.50 and **LONG FIN BRISTLENOSE** at only **\$11.50**.



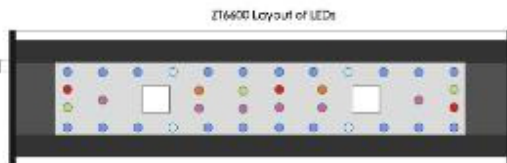
## BRISTLENOSE A BIT TOO SMALL? TRY A GOLD SPOT PLECOSTOMUS! THIS MONTH FROM ONLY \$29.00

These fish grow up to 30cm and are great algae eaters also. As with all catfish be sure to feed sinking foods to supplement their diet and prevent starvation.

## ALSO DUE IN THIS WEEK - ROYAL WHIPTAIL CATFISH

Stick-like catfish with graceful extended finnage. Another great algae eater. Can be kept with most tropical community fish except fin nippers! **GREAT VALUE \$29.00**

## INTRODUCING THE NEW ZETLIGHT ZT6600 LED LIGHT *Ultrathin, energy saving lighting*



This light, a total of 200W, measures 69cm long x 26cm wide and only 4cm high and can be mounted either on brackets or suspended. Fixtures for both options are included. The flexible brackets attach to the aquarium via sliding ratchet clamps which fit thicknesses up to 3cm. The bracket can be extended to a maximum of 120cm and a minimum of 72cm. It is recommended for tanks 74 - 120cm long by 50-70cm wide.

Two smart fans are mounted on the top of the light and they are very smart indeed as they sense the exact temperature and turn on at high temperatures and off at low. As they are not running continuously they are very quiet.

Lighting is provided via both Bridgelux and Cree LEDs and has 2 groups of white 12000K Lights, 20 Royal Blue (450-465nm), 3 Red (620-620nm), 3 Green (520-535nm), 2 Orange (610-620nm), 6 Violet (410-420nm) and 4 Blue (465-485nm). If all that means nothing to you, it means it's a pretty damn good light. A side light beam is used for moonlight. With all of this lighting you can simulate dawn, sunrise, daytime, sunset and night time in countless configurations, even clouds and storms, all via a fully programmable infra-red remote control.

The light has two digital display screens – the main screen for controlling lighting and an auxiliary screen to control the moonlight.

We are sure you will be delighted to know that the ZetLight is priced at only **\$850**, great value in view of all of its features.

Left and below are pictures of a ZetLight installation at the Foshun Hilton Hotel in Guangdong (formerly Canton), China. This shows some of the lighting suspended on circular rails above the 9 metre x 5.5 metre high acrylic aquarium and the finished product, complete with walkway to a lounge on top of the aquarium – doesn't everyone have one of those?



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## THIS MONTH'S MARINE SPECIALS



We have limited stocks of Volitans Lionfish and Snowflake Moray Eels so if you are into predators don't delay in coming in.

**SNOWFLAKE MORAYS** are perhaps the most popular of the morays to keep in the aquarium. Mostly this is because they do not grow too large and are attractively patterned. Probably the number one rule in keeping any eel is to have the tank securely covered. This means every little gap blocked and heavy cover glasses as eels are great at escaping from tanks but no good at getting back in!

The number two rule is don't hand feed your eel. Whilst they will become quite tame, they do have poor eyesight and no not distinguish between food and fingers very well at all. Having an eel bite your finger is a very nasty experience so please use tongs. Eels will eat most fleshy foods – fish, prawn, mussels etc. They will also eat small fish so keep that in mind when choosing tank mates. They will need to have rocks and caves to call home but otherwise are unfussy. **SNOWFLAKE MORAYS** are regularly \$49.00. **THIS MONTH \$40.00.**



Our second predator is the Volitans Lionfish. The most spectacular of the Lionfish because of its beautiful finnage, it can grow up to 30cm so needs a large tank. As with the eels, it will eat smaller fish, in fact anything it can fit in its mouth. It's dorsal spines (on its back) are **POISONOUS** so care is needed when maintaining the tank,

feeding etc. Please give this consideration especially if you have children in the house. Whilst we are not aware of fatalities from a lionfish sting, it is excruciatingly painful, so be warned. Both Lionfish and Morays are best kept in a fish only tank, not only because they are predators but also as they produce a great deal of waste and maintaining the water quality suitable for corals, inverts and more delicate fish is difficult. **VOLITANS LIONFISH** usually sell for \$79.00. We have limited numbers now for **\$69.00.**



## ODDBALL FISH OF THE MONTH BLACK GHOST KNIFE FISH.

These would have to be one of the most bizarre looking fish for the freshwater aquarium. In the photo the head is on the right! They originate from South America and can grow to about 30cm in the aquarium.

They have little eyesight but have a weak electrical sensor to locate food etc. They are semi nocturnal and like plenty of roots and rocks for hiding places and subdued lighting.



If you would like to see more of your black ghost, supply a clear plastic tube for it to hide in. The fish will feel secure as it can sense something around it, and you will be able to view him easily. Unusually these fish can swim backwards as fast as forwards. They are relatively peaceful with fish of their own size or larger but can not be trusted with very small fish. They are sometimes aggressive towards other black ghosts especially if kept in a very confined space.

They eat frozen foods, especially bloodworms, chopped earthworms and small pellets and in time they may become tame enough to hand feed.