

# APRIL NEWS

from **NIELSEN'S MARINE MATES**

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## GREAT NEWS!

Many thanks to all who came along to our fund raiser weekend and donated to beyondblue. It was a great weekend with lots of activities throughout the centre including the nursery and coffee shop as well as the aquarium. Thanks again to all of our sponsors who donated items for this worthy cause.

This month we have quite a few new products ranging from a super quiet air pump, wave maker, skimmer, reactor and also an innovative canned food sure to rival frozen foods. Of course, as usual we have great specials of the month on plants, fresh water and salt water fish.

If you intend popping in, why not have a coffee or lunch at our newly renovated Lorikeets Coffee Shop – it's looking pretty spiffy!

As always, till next month .... good fishkeeping!

## PLANT OF THE MONTH - HYGROPHILA

This popular plant is tall growing and is great as a backdrop in the



tropical aquarium. It has small, bright green leaves and, given good light, is a quick grower.

Hygro can sometimes grow so quickly that it becomes a little 'leggy', but as it grows from cutting this is not a problem as it can be easily trimmed.

Regular Price \$6.50 **NOW \$5.50**

## AQUAEL OXYPRO 150 AIR PUMP



The Oxypro 150 is a modern, ultra quiet aerator, in fact when running it is almost inaudible – a welcome change from many aquarium pumps which make a constant annoying buzz. The quiet effect is achieved by special construction of the electromagnet as well as double walls on the pump. These walls are transparent allowing the inner workings to be viewed. An LED light indicates when power is connected to the pump.



The output of the pump is an impressive 150lt per hour which can be easily adjusted by the knob at the end of the pump. Even more impressive is the pump's ability to deliver air to a depth of up to 2 metres! Although recommended for tanks from 20 to 150 litres, its ability to pump to 2 metre depths will make it useful for many aquarium applications. \$87.99.

**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.



## PLEASE REMEMBER

Monthly specials are available only until the end of April, unless sooner sold out.

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## FRESHWATER FISH OF THE MONTH - CLOWN LOACHES



Apart from its smart colouration of gold and black stripes with red tail and fins, the Clown Loach is a very useful fish in that it LOVES to eat snails. As most freshwater aquarists know, snails can be an absolute nuisance - particularly the small cone shaped ones. Clown Loaches are very diligent in seeking out and eating every single snail in the tank - they may take some time to clean up big numbers as, after all, there are only so many snails which will fit in the Clown Loach stomach at one time.

Apart from this, Clown Loaches exhibit very amusing behaviour, often lying upside down or on their side - somewhat disconcerting for the aquarist at times!

Clown Loaches mix well in the community tank (except with snails) and can be kept either singly or in groups. Be warned that these are a large growing fish. Regularly \$11.55 each, **THIS MONTH'S SPECIAL ONLY \$9.99.**

### NEW - OCEAN FREE INSTAFRESH FOODS

This food offers an alternative to frozen foods. It is canned under high pressure heat steam sterilization and is parasite free, virus free, bacteria free, fungus free and is fortified with calcium, vitamins and minerals for better fish growth. The food is densely packed so that you are not paying for water

and is claimed to have double the nutritional value of most frozen foods.

We currently have three types of Instafresh available:



Ocean Free Insta Fresh Brine Shrimp  
100g \$9.50



Ocean Free Insta Fresh Cyclops 100g \$8.50



Ocean Free Insta Fresh Bloodworms 100g \$8.50

## AQUAEXCEL AE-FR50 REACTOR



The new AquaExcel Reactor is ideal for use in-line for mediums such as phosphate or nitrate removers, high quality carbon products, small bio pellets or balls and really almost any medium you wish to filter through. Using a reactor negates the

need to have unsightly filters inside the aquarium. Most reactors work best with a reasonably slow flow through them and it is important to remember that mediums will generally require replacing from time to time and using a reactor does not replace regular water testing to ensure the medium is still working efficiently. This model measures 160mm x 455mm with the chamber room 120mm and is priced at \$147.50.

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## MARINE FISH OF THE MONTH – DISPAR ANTHIAS



This little anthias is very much a schooling fish and, in a group, give a marine tank a real 'look of the reef'. They grow to a maximum of 10cm.

Whilst initially they may be a little timid, once settled they are quite outgoing and are a lovely sight darting in and out the coral or hovering as a school in the currents. These would have to be one of the easiest to keep of the anthias family and generally feed well. Feeding should consist of fine particled foods – frozen fish roe, lobster eggs and various planktons are ideal whilst they may also take fine pellets. Anthias should be fed several times a day to keep them in great condition.

Anthias are generally found in schools of a single male with



a 'harem' of females. Male dispars are only a little more colourful than the females. They are hermaphroditic and if the male dies, the dominant female will change sex. In the aquarium, we suggest keeping one male to four or more females.

They are very peaceful and make a great community fish in either a reef tank or a fish-only tank with fish of similar size.

**Dispar Anthias** are usually \$30 each.  
**APRIL SPECIAL \$24.00 EACH.**

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## NEW SICCE XSTREAM-E STREAM PUMP

The new XStream is the latest generation of stream pumps or wave makers, designed and made in Italy. This technically advanced pump demonstrates high performance, long lasting reliability, low operating costs and user friendly maintenance. It has a wide adjustable flow up to 360° and the strong magnet holders guarantee secure holding even on dirty glass. The electronic mini controller allows the user to adjust the flow rate from 3000lt/hr to 8500lt/hr and shift between four different modes – short pulse 5 second duration; medium pulse 20 second duration; long pulse 30 second duration and random pulse 5 – 30 second duration.

The mini controller cannot be submerged in water and must be



placed to avoid accidental drips and splashes. It can be attached to the glass with the suction cup or placed on the cabinet. It is suggested to make a drip loop in the pump's cord to prevent water running down and reaching the power source.

The XStream-E is the perfect combination of quiet operation, small size (only 5.28cm x 7cm x 6.2cm), high performance, quality components and low running costs.

Available now **\$247.50**

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## AQUAEXCEL DOSING PUMP

This new dosing pump has four dosing heads with great dosing flexibility. The timer can be set in manual, auto or custom modes. It can be set with a start and stop time which does not have to be 24 hours – for example, the user can set an auto dose from midnight to 6 a.m. only, select the total number of millilitres to be dosed over the time period, the number of times to dose each time period and the doser does the rest.

You can even choose to dose every



'x' number of days (up to 31) or even certain days per week. In addition, auto mode allows the user to select specific time per day, from 1 to 24 times and custom mode allows the exact time you require (1 – 10 times per 24 hours).

The dosing volume in auto mode can be selected from 1 to 2999 mls. whilst in custom mode, doses of 1 – 9999 mls are available. A delay setting between the four channels prevents chemical interference between different additives.

The unit has a battery back up so that clock and user settings are saved if power is lost. It also utilises high quality PharMed tubing in the pump heads. It is possible to add further 'slave units' to extend dosing capacity.

With all of these features this unit is sure to make life much easier and ensure additives are administered correctly and on time.

Available now **\$222.99.**

## AQUAEXCEL PROTEIN SKIMMER

Yet another new product from AquaExcel is this cone protein skimmer model AE-ZPS60. Measuring 270 x 195 x 540mm, this efficient skimmer comes with a 29W Sicce PSK600 Needlewheel Pump. Sicce is an Italian company which has manufactured great quality aquarium pumps since the 1970s. This skimmer is recommended for tanks from 600 – 1000 litres.



Sicce PSK600



Sicce Needlewheel

A protein skimmer is a great way to improve the water quality in a marine aquarium and is considered a 'must have' for a reef tank. Whilst protein skimming would be beneficial in freshwater aquariums, since freshwater is less dense than salt water, the fine bubbles required to foam the water are not produced in freshwater and so unfortunately skimmers generally do not operate efficiently in a freshwater aquarium. Protein skimmers work by producing super-fine bubbles to foam the water in the column of the skimmer. Dissolved organic waste and fine floating particles are suspended in the foam which is pushed up into a collection cup. When the bubbles burst the waste is left behind and so can be removed from the aquarium when the sludge collected in the cup is cleaned out.

The AquaExcel AE-ZPS60 Skimmer including Sicce pump is priced at **\$510.00.**