

SEPTEMBER NEWS

from **NIELSEN'S MARINE MATES**

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Welcome to September's newsletter! This month we are pleased to bring you news of a new range of protein skimmers from large to a nano skimmer. The EShopp's range has enjoyed a lot of success in the U.S.A. and boasts up to 400% more efficiency than other brands of protein skimmers. Drop in soon for all the lowdown on the various models and their features.

Our freshwater specials include the ever-popular potted Amazon Sword Plants, Venustus cichlids and Black Widow Tetras. The Black Widows are a larger growing tetra and, unlike many of the small tetras, are suitable for those of you keeping some of the medium/large freshwater tropicals whilst still being suitable for a tetra tank.

Our marine special features the Bubble Anemone. This is the species voted 'favourite' by most clown fish looking for a home so here is a chance to provide just that at a good price.

Until next month ... good fishkeeping.

REGISTER FOR OUR NEWSLETTER

either in store or email us at:
nielsensmarinemates@bigpond.com

Check out our **Facebook** page which is regularly updated with photos of new livestock and products.

'Like us' to receive notification of updates.



CICHLID OF THE MONTH – VENUSTUS

This Lake Malawi cichlid is a big grower – up to 25cm, so a large tank is required with good filtration and plenty of regular water changes.



MALE VENUSTUS

They can be aggressive, particularly between males. Adult males can be identified by a blue face whilst females and juveniles show the blotched pattern on a silvery background.



FEMALE/JUVENILE COLOUR

They will feed readily on a variety of larger sized frozen foods along with good quality cichlid pellets containing some vegetable matter.

Regular price \$16.99

THIS MONTH ONLY \$13.00

**FRESHWATER FISH
OF THE MONTH
BLACK WIDOW TETRAS**

The Tetra family would have to be one of the most popular choices for the tropical freshwater community tank. One of the larger growing tetras is the Black Widow Tetra.

These are a very hardy fish and have a lot to recommend them, being quite peaceful, easy to feed, very



undemanding of water conditions and an attractive fish.

Black Widows may take a little time to develop the deep black colouration when new in a tank, but once settled, and especially in a planted tank, will display good colour – black with metallic silver.

Black Widows can be kept in pairs or in a school. They have a more round body shape than most tetras so make a good contrast to more slender tetras such as neons, glowlights, black neons etc. Their larger size also means they can be mixed with some of the larger tropical fish such as angelfish which would normally be a problem with smaller tetras (by eating them!).

Feeding Black Widow Tetras is easy as they will accept almost any foods from flake to frozen.

Normally \$4.55

THIS MONTH \$3.50

**SPECIALS IN THIS NEWSLETTER
ARE AVAILABLE ONLY FOR THE
MONTH OF SEPTEMBER UNLESS
SOONER SOLD OUT.**

**FRESHWATER PLANT OF THE
MONTH – ASSORTED POTTED
AMAZON SWORDS**



Amazon Sword Plants come from, well, the Amazon! There are a wide variety of leaf forms available in this plant family, ranging from quite broad to very narrow and colours can

be various greens to reds. A wonderful feature plant in the aquarium, they can be prolific growers given a little TLC. Most grow to a larger sized plant. As a tougher leaf plant these will often do better than some other plants in tanks with plant eating fish. These come already potted up and ready for planting.

Normally \$9.50

SEPTEMBER SPECIAL \$7.99.

**MARINE SPECIAL OF THE
MONTH – BUBBLE ANEMONES**

This month we are offering the beautiful bubble anemone as our special of the month.

Clownfish will not adopt just any type of anemone as their home but



this type seems to be amongst their favourites. Anemones should be fed once or twice a week by dropping small pieces of frozen food onto the tentacles. Normally \$59.00 each.

THIS MONTH \$54.00

ESHOPPS S-SERIES PREMIER PROTEIN SKIMMERS

New in store is this range of premier protein skimmers which bring a whole new standard of convenience



and performance in protein skimming. At the heart of this innovative range is a bubble plate called EDDY. The EDDY Bubble Plate creates a cyclone of ultra-fine

bubbles. These bubbles are forced through spinning blades that act as baffles inside the EDDY, lengthening the path of the bubbles through the skimmer chamber and thus extending the contact time for more efficient skimming. A transparent venturi also alerts the user to the build-up of sludge and calcium, signalling the optimum time to clean to maintain optimum performance.

These skimmers are designed with ease of use in mind – they feature a quick release pump lock that slides away, releasing the pump from the skimmer base for ease of cleaning. Also, in less than 3 seconds, the base can be twisted off for cleaning, the most effortless removal in the industry and a big improvement on the traditional method of screwing on the base. All models feature good, larger sized collection cups so that emptying is kept to a minimum. Visit: <http://www.eshopps.com/products/proteinskimmer/premierline/> for videos and more information.

Three models are available in this range.

S-120:

Diameter 14cm, Height 46cm
Footprint 14cm x 18cm
Water Level 18cm – 23cm
Tank Size 150 – 450 litres
Pump Sicce SE-200, 10 watts
Price **\$412.40**

S-200:

Diameter 18cm, Height 51cm
Footprint 18cm x 23cm
Water Level 18cm – 23cm
Tank Size 450 – 1000 litres
Pump Sicce PSK-1000, 18 watts
Price **\$659.99**

S-300:

Diameter 24cm, Height 60cm
Footprint 24cm x 30.5cm
Water Level 18cm – 23cm
Tank Size 1000 – 1900 litres
Pump Sicce PSK-1200, 22 watts
Price **\$808.50**

ESHOPPS NANO SKIMMER

Think you have no room for a protein skimmer in your nano tank? Think again!

This tiny, but powerful, skimmer has a diameter of only 76mm and a maximum height of 300mm, allowing convenient placement in small



spaces and perfect for all-in-one nano aquariums. The easy to install skimmer is powered by an energy efficient 6 watt Sicce Micra venturi pump with needle wheel impellor.

The Eshopps Nano Skimmer features a magnetic mount allowing adjustable positioning for optimum placement and has a removable collection cup for convenient disposal of collected waste materials.

This model is recommended for marine aquariums between 38 to 130 litres and is priced at **\$195.00**.

LIONFISH

Like to keep something a little different in marine fish? Maybe even something a little dangerous? Look no further than the fabulous Lionfish family. These stunning fish are admired for their flowing fins and spines but be aware that their dorsal spines (those on their back) are **POISONOUS**, so please consider this, 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. Extra care will be needed when maintaining the tank, feeding etc. There are a surprising number of reports of aquarists being stung on the elbow and this apparently occurs when they back into the lionfish with their elbow whilst cleaning the tank. Generally speaking, Lionfish will not set out to attack you and will avoid you when possible, but if cornered or threatened will use their spines as defence. There are a number of lionfish available and perhaps none more beautiful than the **Volitans Lionfish** which boasts long, flowing finnage. It is also the largest growing, reaching up to 30cm, so needs a large tank and heavy filtration as it is also a heavy feeder, eating anything it can fit in its mouth, including smaller fish. This variety is probably the easiest to get



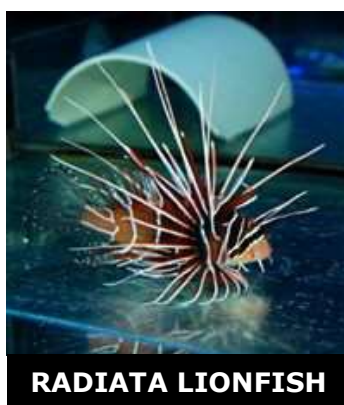
VOLITANS LIONFISH



FU MANCHU LIONFISH



ZEBRA LIONFISH



RADIATA LIONFISH

to take frozen foods, but it may be necessary to start them off on live food.

In contrast, the smallest of the family is the **Fu Manchu Lionfish** growing to around 10cm maximum. These have interesting appendages on either side of the mouth looking rather like a moustache. These, along with the Zebra Lionfish require patience to get them to take frozen foods.

Zebra Lionfish, often referred to as a dwarf lionfish, grow to a maximum of 17cm and are characterised by a sturdy body and webbing between their pectoral spines.

Radiata Lionfish are yet another stunning variety with bright white pectoral rays and a dark red to chocolate body colour. These grow to around 20cm.

As previously mentioned, lionfish can be fed on larger pieces of frozen foods such as fish, prawn or other sea foods. Do not overfeed as they will continue eating, almost to bursting, if given the opportunity. They can be mixed with other fish that are large enough not to be eaten, but because of the amount of waste they will produce they are not recommended for coral

tanks.

At the time of writing the newsletter we currently have Zebra, Radiata and Zebra Lionfish in stock.