

The Greater Akron Aquarium Society

Breeder's Award Program Rules

(Originated 12/74, revised 1/89)

I Purpose:

An ongoing program designed to promote an active interest in and to further knowledge of the spawning of fishes and to give recognition for achievement in this area.

II Requirements

Before any award can be presented certain requirement must be met. They are relatively easy and have been designed to benefit all members of GAAS.

- a) Verification of the spawning – standard procedure will be to bring at least six fry to the general meeting after 30 but before 90 days from date of hatching for verification by one of the BAP committee. (This can coincide with auction of fry if that is the option chosen under b). In extreme hardship cases, such as if moving of the fry may endanger them, one of the committee members will visit the person's home to verify the spawn. At least six fry must survive to 30 days.
- b) A standard spawning report must be filled out and returned to the chairman or one of the committee members. The form includes the fish's name, conditioning information, actual spawning info, and care of the eggs and fry. Spawning reports are placed in binders and are available to any GAAS member.
- c) After the spawning report has been submitted and the spawn has been verified only one of the following three conditions need to be met to qualify for a certificate"
 1. Bringing six (6) fry to the general meeting to be auctioned.
 - a. Fry must be large enough that basic fry foods are no longer necessary to maintain them.
 - b. Please, no leaking bags!
 - c. Each bag of fry for the BAP auction must be labeled showing breeder's name, specie and common name, and date of spawn. Labels are available from BAP chairman.

2. Writing a report of the spawning to be published in Tank Topics. This report must be an INFORMATIVE article containing anything pertinent to the spawning of the fish.
3. A slide or photographic presentation or an oral presentation of the spawning to be given at the general meeting.

III Classes

The fish (or animal) must be a distinct, identifiable species, or sub-species. Color varieties and albinos are considered the same as normal coloration (i.e.: a *Corydoras aeneus* and an albino *Corydoras aeneus* are the same species). Recognition will be given to a species only once toward the advanced awards (plaques). The BAP committee will determine the validity of any questionable spawn. New species to the BAP program or unidentified or unnamed species must be submitted with a reference to a published description or with a photo of the adults to be kept on file.

1. Livebearers – 5 distinct species
2. Catfish – 2 distinct species
3. Barbs, Minnows & Rasboras – 3 distinct species
4. Tetras & Characins – 3 distinct species
5. Killifish – 3 distinct species
6. Anabantoids – 4 distinct species
7. Cichlids – 9 distinct species (5 mouthbrooders & 4 substrate spawners)
8. Sharks, Loaches & Eels – 1 species
9. Marine Fish – 1 species
10. Marine invertebrates – 2 distinct species
11. All Other Species – 2 species (includes puffers, monos, scats, etc.)
12. Native Fish – 4 distinct species
13. Rainbowfish – 4 distinct species
14. Aquatic Animals – 5 distinct species (no more than 3 snail species)

IV Awards

1. Individual spawnings – Every time a species of fish is spawned a certificate of spawning will be presented to the breeder. This will be a paper certificate with the name of the individual, species spawned, date and class.
2. Advanced Breeder Award – This will consist of a plaque to be given to the individual after he/she has met the requirements of a class. Engraved on this will be the person's name, the class and the date. Also on the plaque will be individual tags with the names of the fishes spawned to fulfill the requirements. The participant should notify the BAP chairman when he/she has submitted enough spawns to receive a plaque. The participant should be keeping duplicate records of his/her own spawns. Up until January 1983 only one plaque could be earned in a particular class. Only spawns submitted since then can be applied toward additional plaques.
3. Chairman's Award – In addition to the regular awards, this award may be presented for a spawning or achievement of outstanding merit.

V Additional Notes on BAP part 1

1. Native fishes – Species submitted for this class must be native to Continental US waters (not introduced). New species to the program must have a published reference to verify them as native fish. Spawns can not be used toward a plaque in more than one class (for example, if you spawn the Florida Flagfish it can go toward either the Killifish plaque or the Native Fish plaque, but not both). The choice is yours and must be so stated on the spawning report under the class.
2. Committee Review – Spawnings are subject to review by the BAP committee and may be denied if deemed unacceptable. The spawning of a "hardship case" fish (Those species consistently hard to spawn or those which produce consistently less than 12 offspring) in which there are less than 6 fry may be submitted for acceptance of award to the BAP committee. The committee has the right to refuse any spawn that may be questionable.
3. Any person(s) transferring to GAAS from another club may transfer their spawns if the requirement of the BAP would satisfy ours. Points will be assigned according to our points list but the transferred spawns will not be applicable towards certificates or plaques.

Request for assignment of points must be submitted in writing, along with records of verified spawns to the current BAP chairman.

4. Eggs must be spawned by fish in breeder's own tank. They can not be obtained elsewhere and then hatched.
5. If the breeder desires, parent fish may be brought to the meeting to be auctioned off for a 50/50 split, within three (3) months of meeting the requirements for the spawn. This is to help make breeding quality fish more available to other aquarists. It is also to help the breeder make room for pursuing other spawns.

Point System

As you work toward receiving certificates and plaques, each species spawned is awarded points. These points are accumulative and noncompetitive, and enable you to set your own goal. The points serve to let others know the extent of participation of individuals in the program and also gives you an idea of where you stand in relation to other participants in our club and other clubs across the country.

When the requirements are met you will receive points and a certificate for every distinct species spawned according to the point listing.

The points will remain unchanged so that all participants receive the same number for each species regardless of when participation begins. Any fish not included in the points listing will be assigned points by the BAP committee on request. In instances of distinct, yet unidentified fishes, points will be awarded only if reference can be made to a published photo or if a recognizable photo is submitted for permanent retention in the BAP files.

Where confusion exists regarding the proper identification or relationships of some groups of fish the decision of the committee shall be final.

Following a successful spawning, it is the breeders' own responsibility to see that his/her points have been properly recorded.

Breeder of the Year

At the end of the year (in November), the total number of spawns for the year will be counted to determine the Breeder of the Year. An award will be given in December.