

Asian Arowana

Asian arowana (Scleropages formosus) is being regarded as geomantic fish or Dragon fish by Chinese over the world which is believed to bring good fortune to its owners. Part of its popularity lies in its close resemblance to the Chinese ancient dragon. As such, Asian arowana is excessively captured and traded, leading to its listing as an endangered species by Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Faunas and Flora (CITES) in 1975.



On the another hand, their close relatives, pearl arowana (Scleropages Jar-dini) and the spotted arowana (Scleropages Leichardti) from Australia and New Guinea, are not endangered, and hence, more affordable. Among the cheapest varieties of all however, are their distant relatives, the silver arowana (Osteoglossum Bicirrhosum) and the black arowana (Osteoglossum Ferreirai) from South America.

Origin and Classification of Arowana

Arowana, which is considered to be the "King of tropical fish", belongs to a class of ancient fish known as the osteoglossidae family which still encompass the basic anatomical structure till today (which appeared more than 300 million years ago).



Like mostly bony fishes, arowana belongs to Osteichthyes (bony fish: teleostei) and Actinopterygii in the tree diagrams of taxonomy. The overwhelming majority of the famous and popular arowanas are asian arowanas (scientific name: Scleropages formosus; common name: Asian Arowana – Red arowana, Malayan Bonytongue, Red Tail, Golden Arowana, Green Arowana, etc.).

As mentioned previously, Asian arowanas which belong to Osteoglossidae can only be found in south east asia region such as Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia etc due to the climate condition, geographic position and water quality.



Super Red Arowana

All Super Red arowana are natural colour variants that originated from the Kapuas River system in Kalimantan. Along the Kapuas river, there are pockets of Super Red arowana populations that look slightly different from other populations and thus, named under different types of Super Red arowana.

The plain juvenile fish turns into a stunningly beautiful adult which has scales base colours ranging from green, orange or purple with orange or red colour rims on the outer edge of each scale.

The adult can vary from orange, dark orange to red. Some individuals turn very intense in colour within their 2nd year while others turn more intense in colours as they mature. The Super Red arowana are graded according to the intensity of their colour and scales.

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Violet Fusion Super Red Arowana

The Violet Fusion Super Red arowana are a special category of Super Red arowana that exhibit a purple base core in their scales and superior overall body shape. Its tail tend to be larger and possess longer pectoral fins which enable it to swim gracefully with majestic style.

It will exhibit more intense in colourant an earlier age than other Red arowana.

Super Grade Electric Blue Crossback Gold Arowana



Super Grade Electric Blue Crossback Gold Arowana has a deep and prominent blue shine on the core of it's scales with a gold rim on the outer edge of it's scales.

Generally it has a thinner rim of gold as compared to gold based arowana.

For some older fishes, the gold frames might extend into the blue core hence appearing more golden in colour.

Super Grade Electric Blue Crossback Golden arowana will have a blue appearance when view from far.

The arowana will appear gold in colour and then suddenly reflect blue when it make a turn.

An arowana with thin gold rims and intense blue core are highly sought after by hobbyists.



Super Grade Red Splendour Cross Back Arowana

Red Splendour Crossback arowana is a new variant produced by cross breeding of Crossback Golden arowana and Red arowana.

Due to it's Hybrid origin, it is a rather exotic variant as it will exhibit the colour characteristics of both the Red arowana and Crossback Golden arowana.

Super Grade Splendour possess even better colour, scale and splendid body.



Premium High Gold Crossback Arowana

Crossback arowana is a natural colourant variant that originated from the Bukit Merah Lake in Perak, Malaysia. The Crossback arowana, is the most beautiful golden colour variants of the Asian arowana, and in the Lake, different populations in the smaller tributaries has its own subtle difference compared to other populations.

Like all Crossback arowana the gold rims on the scales reach only the 4th rows of scales when young but will spread towards the back until it reach the 6th level upon maturity, thus, its name "Crossback", meaning "golden colouration crossing over the back".

The Full Gold arowana has gold based core and a gold rim on the outer edge. When fully matured good specimen will appear as a solid piece of gold.

Traits of a Full Gold arowana are lighter colourfins and eyes as compared to the other varieties of Cross Back arowana. All Crossback Gold arowana are graded according to how fast the gold rims of the scales reach the 6th rows of scales.



Green Arowana

Green Arowana is one of the most common asian arowana, which can be found in many parts of South-east Asia and is relatively more fecund than the rest of its variant. As such, it's of lower value among other asian arowana.

It has a grayish-green body with a dark striped grayish green tail. It has a larger, rounder head and mouth as compared to the other varieties.

The best quality Green Arowana has a dark purplish tinge at the core of it's scale.



Grade 2 Red Arowana (Banjar Red)

The grade 2 Red Arowana is a natural colour variant found in the Banjarmasin river system in Kalimantan.

The young fish has red fins set on a silver body with a greenish hue. It highly resembles the juveniles of the Red Arowana and therefore always used by unscrupulous traders to forged the higher value Super red arowana. However the adult fish looks totally different. The body turns grayish green in adults and the fins fades to a lighter red or even yellow when fully grown.



Red Tail Gold Arowana

The Red Tail Gold Arowana is a natural colour strain that originated from the Pekanbaru river system in Sumatra. It has scale base colour ranging from blue, green or gold with a gold rim on the outer edge of each scale. The gold rims on the scales reaches only up to it's 4th row of scales. The 6th rows of scales which is the back when view from the top is usually dark colour with no glittering.



High Back Golden Arowana

High Back Arowana is similar to Red Tail Gold Arowana except that it has the gold rims at 5th level which is enough to render it , a higher grade than Red Tail Gold.

The 6th rows of scales which is the back when view from the top is usually dark colour with no glittering.



Qian Hu Crop, was incorporated in December 1998 and is the first company in the industry in Singapore to achieve ISO 9002 accreditation for conditioning and exporting ornamental fish and arowana.

Qian Hu Crop, is one of the few local farms licensed under CITES to breed and distribute the endangered species, arowana, under another division called Wan Hu Fish Farm Trading. Singapore is party to CITES and in February 1987, Qian Hu Crops, has obtained the licenses to trade arowana by demonstrating the ability to successfully breed second-generation arowana. Qian Hu arowana are sold locally or exported worldwide to countries in Europe, Asia, North America and South America etc.

Over the last 10 years, Qian Hu arowana has established a track record and name for the quality of our breed by winning awards and prizes in Aquarama and other international competitions.

Qian Hu is always engaged intensively in Research and Development. In collaboration with Temasek Life Science laboratory, Qian Hu aims to expand our knowledge on the biology and the breeding behaviour of the Asian arowana using molecular methodology. These include: Identification of individual animals in broodstock populations using DNA markers, Determination of genetic diversity between the broodstock, Production of pedigree Arowanas and Identification of a sex-linked DNA marker for arowana.

Qian Hu pursue relentlessly in breeding more prefect, higher quality and popular purebreed strains of arowana for worldwide arowana hobbyists.

