

# HOP SPOP

英國錦鯉愛好會東南俱樂

## The E-Mag of the South East Section BKKS

- twinned with the :-



Issue 35 August 2009



Inside this issue: 2 & 3 **BKKS** National Welsh National & **Shrimp Shows** AKCA Project KHV & Nishikigoi Mondo **Internal Organs** 6 & 7 8 & 9 Ammonia Nordic Koi Show 10 - 12 14 Becoming an NVN judge 14 - 15 South East propaganda

Lots & lots of South East propaganda! Oregon Koi & Watergarden Society.

The Nishikigoi Vereniging Nederland.

The South African Koi Keepers Society.

Partners in goodwill.

# Koi Clubs participating in this exchange scheme are:-

- Nishikigoi Vereniging Nederland.
- Oregon Koi & Watergarden Soc.
- South African Koi Keepers Soc.
- NorCal Chapter ZNA (USA)
- Australian Koi Association AKA
- Mid Atlantic Koi Club
- Cambridge Koi Club
- ZNA Potomac Chapter
- Essex Section BKKS
- Texas Koi & Fancy Goldfish Soc.
- Cayman Island Koi Keepers
- Belgian Koi Society
- Banana Bar Koi Society.
- East Midlands Koi Club.
- North East Koi Club BKKS
- ZNA Guangdong Chapter.
- Southern Colorado Koi Club.
- KLAN (Germany)
- Koi-Galen (Sweden)

## HOP SPOP

is the

on-line version of the South East Section BKKS' newsletter called "Spotlight", suitably sanitised and denuded of in-house content to make it interesting for other Koi Clubs. However, it will also contain some occasional South East publicity.

"Hot Spot" will be a periodic publication i.e. it will get published when we have enough articles to fill it's 8 pages.

Copies of it will reside on the South East's website and will be distributed to other Koi Clubs who indulge us with an exchange of magazines or newslet-

Articles taken from "Spotlight" are the copyright of the South East Section but may be used by clubs who participate in this exchange.

The original text and photos can be obtained via the editors whose details can be found on the back page.

17 Pages!

## **BKKS National**

Koi shows are first and foremost about the fish. I'd much rather see a picture of the Grand Champion than see one of its' owner.

However, on some occasions the fish does comes second e.g. when you know the owner and know his contribution to the hobby.

That was the case for this year's BKKS National and it's Baby Champion. I was there when it was selected and it was an easy choice to make. But it wasn't until the following day that I found out who owned it - a man called Robert Robson.

I first met Robert, or Bob as he was known then when I turned up for work at the 1993 BKKS National. My job was the computer work for the benching admin and the first thing I needed was electricity. "See Bob" I was told, and shortly after finding him and telling him what I needed I was set up and running. Over the course of the week I had other requirements and so did others and we were generally pointed in Bob's direction. It came as no surprise to me that his nickname was "Bob a job" (and that's what he puts on his Christmas cards). I stayed on the National Show Committee until 1997 and returned to it again in 2003. In all that time Bob hadn't missed a show, and he's only missed one since then. This is in addition to working at his own clubs show (The North East).

So when I learned that his Koi had won the Baby Champion I was pleased for him. In my book this year's show will be known as

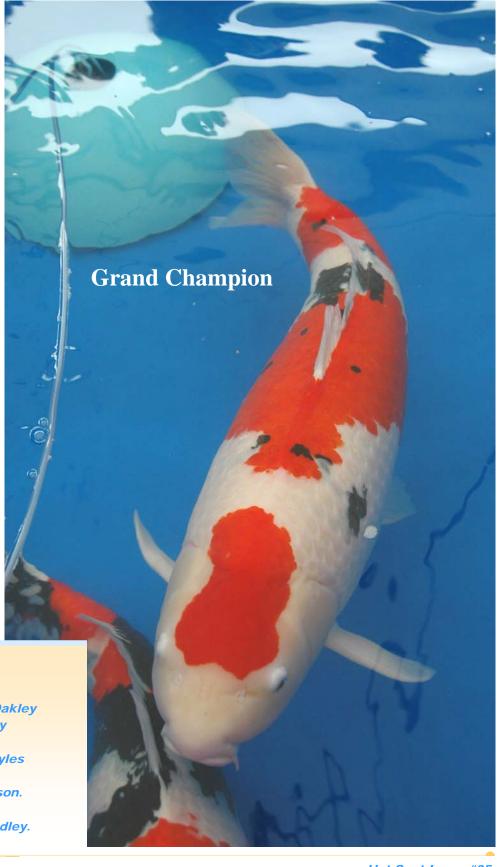
"The Bob a job National "

## Role of honour.

Grand Champion - Sanke - Bill Oakley Mature CH - Kohaku - Bill Oakley Adult CH - Kohaku - Bill Oakley Young CH - Kohaku - David & Myles Dallinson

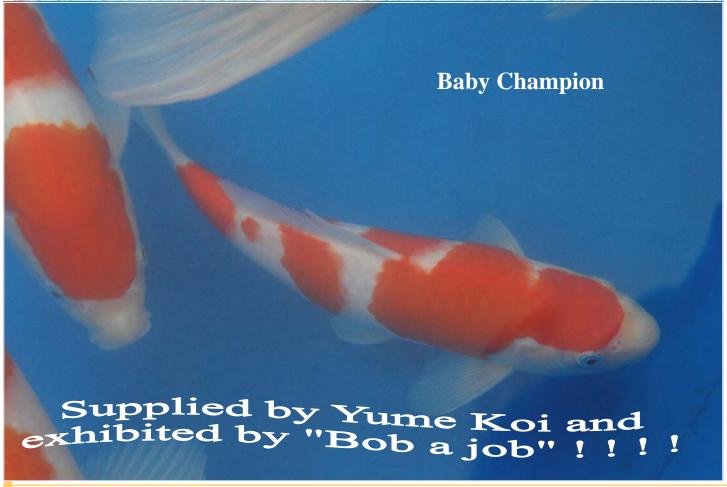
Baby CH - Kohaku - Robert Robson.

Show Chairman - Paul (Oz) Headley.



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Wales will hold it's first open koi show in Cardiff on the 19th & 20th September 2009.

The show hopes to be innovative with a different format for judging and also being the first show to have all vat's filtered using the latest technology, each vat will also have bio-security screens fitted and purpose made nets attached when the koi are not being viewed by the public.

There are six sizes to enter and these are as follows:

Size one 20cm to 30cm Size two 31cm to 40cm Size three 41cm to 50cm Size four 51cm to 60cm Size five 61cm to 70cm Size six 71cm +

The Koi will be judged in two categories best in size Go-Sanke and best in size Non-Go-Sanke up to size Five. Size six will have Jumbo, Best tategoi in show, Reserve champion and Grand champion.

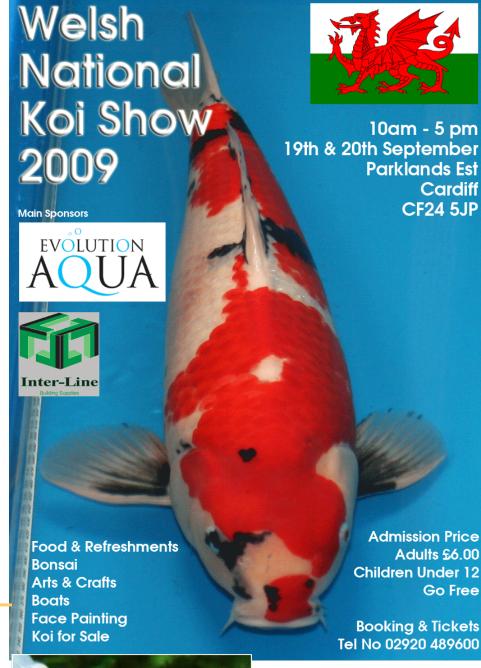
The Welsh Open will also be awarding prizes as well as trophies for all winners and there is a £1,000 cheque for the Grand Champion . We hope this format makes the show a proper competition and enjoyable for all those taking part. Standing alongside the show will be other vendors selling an array of goods both arts and crafts etc. There will also be food and refreshments available. Why not bring the whole family along for a great day out.

For anyone wishing to compete contact Tony Yellen on Cardiff 02920489600 Also tickets can be pre-booked on Cardiff 02920489600 Adults £6.00 Children under 12 go free

## **Shrimps anyone?**

At this years 17th European National Koi Show (aka the NVN Show at Arcen) a unique event will be taking place. The 1st NVN Shrimp Show.

But not just any old shrimp but line-bred Crystal Red Shrimps (Caridina sp) variants of the freshwater bee shrimp. This shrimp found throughout Southern China and Asia is normally a murky black and white. But in 1991 a Mr Hisayasu Suzuki found a single red shrimp amongst a brood and by careful cross breeding a strain of red shrimps has been



established. From these; red & white and black & white strains have been produced and it is these with their Kohaku and Utsuri like patterns that have attracted the Dutch Koi Keepers and brought about this addition to the show. There's even rumours of a Tancho! At 2.5cms maximum a show ring of a hundred show-shrimp containers could occupy an average coffee table, but I am assured the shrimp show is more spacious.

See you there.

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# **AKCA Project KHV (OSU Grant)**

We are excited to announce that AKCA - Project KHV has entered into an agreement with Oregon State University for a KHV Reseach Project under the direction and supervision of Dr. Ling Jin, Ph.D., DVM. as Principal Investigator. Dr. Jin is an Assistant Professor in Virology and Section Head of VDL-virology at the Department of Biomedical Sciences, College of Veterinary Medicine, Oregon State University.

### **AKCA - Project KHV commitment**

= \$79,940.00 with an initial grant payment of \$30,000.00

#### Time line:

Research Project will begin in the next few weeks and is expected to continue for twenty-six (26) months.

#### Reports:

Each quarter AKCA will receive a report in laymans language suitable for publishing in KOI USA to include high resolution photos submitted by the Princiipal Invesigator. Additionally a detailed project budget/spending report will be submitted to AKCA for payment of

actual expenses as the project progresses.

Project description and overview of intended outcomes:

- 1) Discover in which tissue(s) does KHV become latent
- 2) Discover which viral genes remain active during latency
- 3) Study spontaneous reactivation from latency in KHV infected koi
- 4) Investigate spontaneous reactivation of latent KHV
- 5) Design a strategy to screen for and detect KHV latency

### **Additional comments:**

- Every effort was made to select a research project and principal investigator that would give us the most research and best outcomes for our limited funding dollars
- The initial \$30,000 grant payment will be made from the AKCA matching funds account
- If the project is discontinued or not completed for any reason any unspent portion of our donation will be refunded to AKCA
- -If the current principal investigator cannot complete the project for any reason the replacement investigator must have similar KHV re-

search experience and credentials

- -Additional grant payments will be based on a quarterly expense report listing actual research expenses by budget category
- -No facility or administrative costs are permitted to be paid with our grant

We will be releasing additional information about this research as it becomes available over the next twenty six months. Special thanks to our generous AKCA Project KHV donors. Without your donations we would not be able to fund such an ambitious research project. It has taken longer than anticipated for us to discover a KHV research project that meets our limited funding criteria. We also want to thank the AKCA - Project KHV Interim committee and the AKCA board of Directors for their assistance with this time consuming research selection process.

Best Regards,

Ray Jordan & James Reilly

# Nishikigoi Mondo

Nishikigoi Mondo was originally published in 2007 in Japanese language only. It has now been republished in an expanded hardback edition translated into English. Nishikigoi Mondo which loosely translates into Ni-

shikigoi Questions and Answers was written by Shuji Fujita who is the editor of Rinko and has been involved in Nishikigoi since 1964. An example of a Japanese Buddhist mondō is the *Sokuratesu-no-mondo*, the Japanese translation of the "Socratic method", whereby **Socrates** asked his students questions in order to elicit the innate truth from assumed facts. In fact the style of Q & A utilized I found to be very informative, readable, and well documented.

The eighteen Japanese breeders and dealers that contributed to Nishikigoi Mondo wrote different sections of the book and read like the who's who of the professional Nishikigoi

world. Mano, Konishi, Sakai, Isa, Kamihata, Iwahashi, Kodama, Watanabe, Hiroi, Narita, Ogata, Nakayama, Hoshino are well known breeder and dealer names to koi kichi all around the world. This book is beautifully hardbound

All about Nishikigoi

in the form

of Q& A

A remarkable piece of work in which 18 leading experts answer more than 2,000 questions about Nishikigoi, the national fish of Japan and printed with 392 pages of excellent information, informative charts, helpful diagrams, and spectacular photographs. In fact the several thousand photos, charts and diagrams in the book are exceptional and many are original to this book. Nishikigoi Mondo is organized into twelve chapters of which my favorite chapters were History of Nishikigoi, Varieties of Nishikigoi, Keeping Nishikigoi, Appreciating Nishikigoi, and Seeking Nishikigoi. The rest of the

chapters were also excellent but just not as exciting to me. The chapter on koi diseases and diagnosis is good but refers to medications found in Japan and not readily available in the west.

Nishikigoi Mondo is written in a Q & A format

## Ray Jordon

with over 2,000 questions and answers discussed. I strongly recommend this extraordinary book to koi kichi's and soon to be koi kichi's. It is easily one of the very best books written about Nishikigoi to date. Nishikgoi Mondo is written by koi professionals and you will find it has a marketing bias tbut, it is not heavy handed or out of bounds in my opinion. If it had included a few advanced Japanese Nishikigoi hobbyist as contributors it likely would have been almost perfect but also bigger and more expensive.

Mark Gardner whom some of you know is an Englishman living in Yamakoshi, Japan since December 2007 writes a daily blog and is the English editor for the book. The book's English translation is superb and maintains a certain quant "Japanese" translation appeal that I find adds authenticity. In addition, Bernie Woollands an English hobbyist and BKKS judge and myself were asked to give the English translation a final review.

Disclaimer: I was given a personal copy of Nishikigoi Mondo in appreciation for my review of the English translation. I have not been given or promised any other compensation.

## I.N.P.C.

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Mondo stockists.

Harry's Koi

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Attention: Donata Laux
URL: http://www.harryskoi.de/

[Malaysia, Singapore & Brunei] INPC Malaysia Liaison Office

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[Netherlands & Belgium]

NVN(Nishikigoi Vereniging Nederland)

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## [Romania & Moldova]

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**LWS (Living Water Solutions)** 

Email: info@livingwatersolutions.com

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## **HOT NEWS**

Nishikigoi Mondo will be on sale at :-

17th Holland Koi Show 21 - 23 August Kasteltuin, Arcen The Netherlands

And

23rd South East Koi Show 30 &31st August Parkwood Hall School Beechenlea Lane, Swanley,

Kent. UK

# Internal organs.

Whilst admiring the outer beauty of your Koi, have you ever wondered what's going on inside their bodies? In many ways, the unseen internal workings of a Koi are just as fascinating and impressive as its external colours and patterns. Throughout this series we have looked at different aspects of Koi biology, and in this article we take a brief look at what four of the most important internal organs do.

#### Heart

Koi, like other fish, have a single circulatory system. The heart pumps blood through the gills, where it is re-oxygenated, on to the rest of the body and back to the heart again. This is in contrast to humans and other mammals, where the circulatory system is split into two parts – one being dedicated to pumping blood to the lungs and back for re-oxygenation. Because of this, the heart of a Koi is also different, having only two main chambers as opposed to four.

The heart is located behind and below the gills, in the pericardial cavity. It has four main regions: The sinus venosus receives blood returning from the body, and empties into the first chamber – the atrium. From here blood is transferred to the second chamber, the muscular ventricle, which provides the pumping power to push blood out of the heart. To prevent pulsing of the blood flow, before exiting the heart the blood is passed through the bulbus arteriosis. This can expand by some 700% in carp, helping to maintain a smooth flow of blood to the gills. Various valves between the chambers prevent blood flowing in the wrong direction, and help to sustain pressure. The heart of fish is relatively small compared to our hearts, accounting for between 0.1 - 0.2% of the fish's bodyweight.

## **Rupert Bridges.**

#### Kidney

The kidney of a Koi is divided into two parts – the anterior or 'head' kidney, and the posterior kidney. In Koi these are separate, with the posterior kidney located just below the spine and above the swimbladder, and the anterior kidney found just above the heart.

The posterior kidney is responsible for filtering the blood, and removing excess water and waste products from the body. It is composed of microscopic nephrons, each containing a special filter, made up of a bundle of blood capillaries (called the glomerulus) sitting in a cup-shaped structure called the Bowman's capsule. Blood is pushed through the glomerulus under high pressure, which causes all of its constituents except for blood cells and proteins to pass through into the Bowman's capsule. From here the resultant fluid goes through a long tubule, from which essential substances can be reabsorbed. This results in the production of dilute urine, which can then be stored in the bladder and excreted.

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This is extremely important, as water is constantly diffusing into the body, and must be removed. To avoid water accumulating in the body, freshwater fish such as Koi must urinate regularly – up to 150ml per kg bodyweight every day. If the kidneys become damaged for any reason, water may accumulate and cause the fish to swell. We call this 'dropsy'.

The anterior kidney has different functions to the posterior one. It produces various hormones, including catecholamines (e.g. adrenalin) and corticosteroids (e.g. cortisol). These are involved in the stress response, helping initiate and sustain the 'fight or flight' response. If fish are stressed for long periods, these hormones can have detrimental effects on the body, such as reduced immunity and poor growth. In addition to hormone production, the kidney is also an important lymphoid organ, acting as a source of the white blood cells that make up the immune system. In addition to white blood cells, the kidney also contains haematopoietic tissue where oxygen-carrying red blood cells are produced.

#### Gas bladder

The gas bladder's main function in Koi is to maintain neutral buoyancy - i.e. stop them from sinking or floating. This is important as the overall specific gravity of a fish is around 1.06 -1.09, whereas fresh water is 1.0, so naturally they tend to sink. Having a gas filled chamber in the body counters this, enabling fish to retain their position in the water column without expending considerable amounts of energy. Although not all fish have a well-developed gas bladder, Koi do. Theirs is split into two chambers, connected by a sphincter. Koi have physostomous gas bladders, meaning that it is connected to the oesophagus (upper section of the intestine) by the pneumatic duct, through which air can be taken in or expelled.

As a fish swims up or down in the water column, the pressure on the gas bladder changes. For every 10m of water, the pressure increases by 1 atmosphere (atm). At sea level, atmospheric pressure is equivalent to 1atm, so diving down 10m would double this to 2atm. The higher pressure causes the gas bladder to shrink, and neutral buoyancy is lost. As a fish dives down, it therefore needs to fill the bladder with gas to maintain its volume. The reverse happens when it rises to the surface, as it needs to remove gas as pressure reduces and the gas bladder expands. In a Koi pond 2m deep, fish will experience a 20% change is pressure as they rise and dive down. If the gas bladder cannot be filled or emptied properly, the fish may lie on its side and be unable to keep its position in the water.

In addition to buoyancy, the gas bladder is also used by Koi for sound detection. As sound passes through the gas bladder as pressure waves, it causes it to change shape. Through a series of bones called the Weberian ossicles, the gas bladder is connected to the inner ear, allowing these sound waves to be detected. Hence Koi have very good hearing compared to fish that lack these structures.

#### Live

The liver carries out hundreds of important functions, and is vital to a fish's well-being. It takes up a large part of a Koi's body cavity, and has two main lobes – one enfolding the gall bladder, the other enfolding the spleen.

One of the liver's main roles is to do with the digestion and metabolism of nutrients. For example, it is the main site of amino acid metabolism (amino acids are the building blocks of protein), and is therefore responsible for much of a Koi's ammonia production. The process begins with the removal of the amino group (NH2) from an amino acid, and its transferral to a-ketoglutarate to form another amino acid - glutamic acid. This is then transported into structures called mitochondria within the cells, where the amino group is

removed leaving behind a carbon 'skeleton'. This carbon skeleton that can then be used for energy production. The amino group meanwhile picks up hydrogen ions and forms ammonium (NH4+). The process of transferring and then removing the amino group is known as transdeamination. The ammonium ion may be further processed within the cells to form ammonia (NH3) before being carried to the gills and excreted (Halver & Hardy, 2002).

The cells of the liver (hepatocytes) also contain variable amounts of lipid (fat) and glycogen. Glycogen is the main storage form of glucose, ready to be released into the blood for energy if needed. The liver therefore has a central role in controlling circulating levels of lipids, amino acids, and glucose, and therefore the health of the fish. The amount of lipid and glycogen in the liver can reflect the health and energy status of the fish, and will be affected by diet,

stress, environmental conditions etc. In addition to nutrient metabolism, the liver also produces bile which assists in the digestion of fats & oils (lipids). This is stored in the gall bladder, and released into the intestine when food is present.

There's far more to the internal workings of our Koi than can be covered here, however perhaps next time you're relaxing by your pond you'll give some thought to the clever biology that keeps our fish going!

#### References:

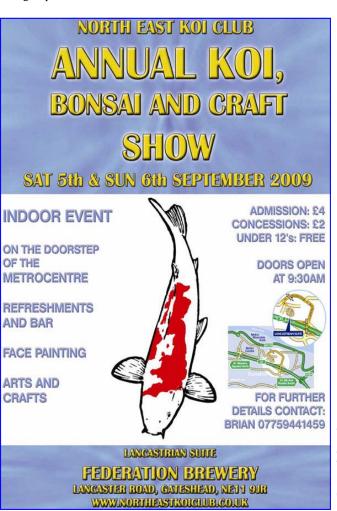
Bond (1996), Biology of Fishes, 2nd edition Halver, Hardy (2002), Fish Nutrition

Roberts, Reiss, Monger (1993), Biology: Principles and Processes

Helfman, Collette, Facey (1997), The Diversity of Fishes

For more information on koi & koi keeping:

www.koiexcellence.co.uk



Ammonia Syd Mitchell

Ask the average Koi keeper what level of Ammonia there would be in a well-managed Koi pond and the usual answer is: "Zero, of course". But is that true? I cannot imagine a pond in which it is actually possible to achieve this value.

Koi are Ammonotelic. This is a fancy name for a living creature that eats protein and produces Nitrogen as a waste product which is then excreted in the form of Ammonia.

OK, it's no secret that Koi excrete Ammonia into their pond water, but do you know how much? A guide to the quantity of Ammonia that is excreted by an active Koi is 33 mg per hour per kilo of body weight. To put that a little more simply, a 1 kilogram Koi will excrete almost 800 mg of Ammonia into it's pond each day. This is obviously only an approximation because it is dependent on diet and water temperature etc. but it is a surprising amount nonetheless.

Few Koi keepers will have any experience of pure Ammonia. We also tend to think more in terms of body length than body mass. So it might make the Ammonia output of Koi easier to understand if we could stretch this example a little further by approximating body mass to length and if we also take into account that standard strength Household Ammonia is around 7.5%.

Looking at it in this perspective, we could say that a 20-inch (50 cm) Koi can easily excrete into it's pond, the equivalent a teaspoonful of standard strength household Ammonia every 8 hours. And that's just one fish! Now think about your own pond and ask yourself the original question: What is the Ammonia level in your pond?

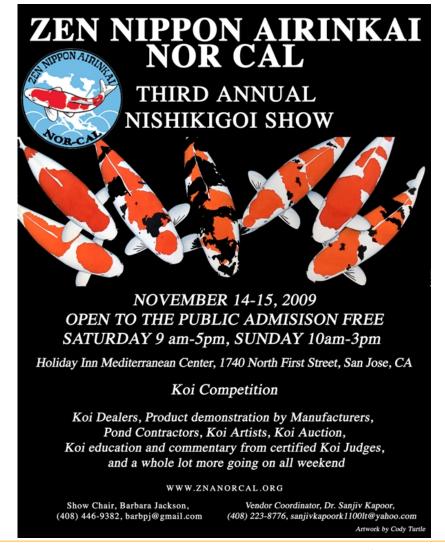
Clearly, as long as there are fish in it, the answer cannot be zero. There will always be some Ammonia in the water because, no matter how fast is the turnover rate, it is impossible to instantaneously remove all that Ammonia as quickly as it is being produced. The reason why many Koi keepers believe they have a zero Ammonia level in their pond is that a common method of testing for it is by adding a few drops of reagent to a sample of the water and then comparing the colour of that sample to a colour chart. Test kits based on this method are simply not sensitive enough to show very low levels and so it is natural to assume that no noticeable colour change means no Ammonia.

So, if we have to accept that there will always be a background level of Ammonia in our ponds, how high can this level be before it becomes harmful? There is no direct answer to this question.

When Koi excrete ammonia into their pond, it breaks into two forms, Free Ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>) and Ionised Ammonia (NH<sub>4</sub>). The proportions of each of these being dependent on pH and temperature, but it is only the Free Ammonia that is harmful. You will often hear that Ammonia is more toxic at higher levels of pH and temperature. This is a simplification. At lower pH and temperatures, very little of the Ammonia in the pond is in the Free Ammonia form, and therefore there is less of it to be toxic. As pH and temperatures increase, much more of the Ammonia becomes Free Ammonia and so the toxic effects are greater. Free Ammonia is just as nasty at low pH and temperatures. It's just that there is far less of it.

Scientists in the field of aquaculture have researched the effects of Ammonia on fish and found that Free Ammonia levels below 0.02 p.p.m. were safe. Unfortunately, standard test kits and electronic meters cannot distinguish

between Free and Ionised Ammonia, they only measure Total Ammonia. As a result of this research, tables were produced where, by looking up your particular values of pH and temperature, the maximum safe value of Total Ammonia can be found. These tables are commonly reproduced, but they cover the full range of pH and temperatures that are found in ponds and aquaria of all types, not just Koi ponds. This wider range means that there is less room for detail in the area needed by Koi keepers. So, with due respect to the authors of these tables, I have gone back to the original scientific research and re-calculated a new table that gives the maximum safe value for Total Ammonia in Koi ponds and quarantine tanks. By confining the table to the range that is found in Koi ponds and quarantine tanks, it is possible to give greater detail in this range. As with other tables, look up the pond pH on the left, and temperature at the top. The maximum allowable Total Ammonia is shown where they intersect.



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	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	28	30
7.0	10.5	9.52	8.00	6.90	5.88	5.00	4.44	3.85	3.45	2.94	2.50
7.1	8.70	7.40	6.25	5.41	4.76	4.00	3.51	3.03	2.70	2.38	2.00
7.2	6.90	5.88	5.00	4.35	3.77	3.17	2.82	2.41	2.17	1.89	1.59
7.3	5.41	4.65	3.92	3.45	2.99	2.53	2.22	1.92	1.72	1.49	1.27
7.4	4.26	3.70	3.13	2.74	2.38	2.02	1.77	1.54	1.37	1.19	1.01
7.5	3.39	2.94	2.50	2.17	1.89	1.61	1.41	1.23	1.09	0.94	0.81
7.6	2.70	2.35	2.00	1.72	1.50	1.28	1.12	0.98	0.86	0.75	0.64
7.7	2.17	1.87	1.59	1.38	1.20	1.02	0.90	0.78	0.69	0.60	0.51
7.8	1.72	1.48	1.27	1.10	0.96	0.82	0.72	0.59	0.55	0.48	0.41
7.9	1.37	1.18	1.01	0.87	0.76	0.65	0.57	0.50	0.44	0.38	0.33
8.0	1.09	0.94	0.81	0.70	0.61	0.52	0.46	0.40	0.35	0.30	0.26
8.1	0.87	0.75	0.64	0.56	0.49	0.42	0.37	0.32	0.28	0.24	0.21
8.2	0.70	0.60	0.52	0.45	0.39	0.34	0.30	0.26	0.22	0.20	0.17
8.3	0.56	0.48	0.41	0.36	0.32	0.27	0.24	0.21	0.18	0.16	0.14
8.4	0.45	0.39	0.33	0.29	0.26	0.22	0.20	0.17	0.15	0.13	0.11
8.5	0.36	0.31	0.27	0.23	0.20	0.18	0.16	0.14	0.12	0.10	0.09

In the table above, pick your pH on the left and your pond temperature at the top. The value where they intersect is the maximum safe value of Total Ammonia that can be allowed.

Examples

Pond pH 7.4 Temperature 16 oC Maximum value 2.74 p.p.m.

Pond pH 8.0 Temperature 22 oC Maximum value 0.46 p.p.m.

Note the large difference in allowable value that is due to the increase in pH and temperature. The maximum allowable value at the higher pH and temperature is about one sixth the first value. This is because, for any particular value of Total Ammonia, (as indicated by a test kit), six times as much of it will be in the toxic Free Ammonia form in the second example, so we have to reduce that maximum Total Ammonia proportionately. Now look up the maximum allowable value if a quarantine tank at it's top temperature of 30 oC also has a high pH of 8.5. In this case, the maximum value of Total Ammonia is 0.09 p.p.m. This is very difficult to achieve in practice. It should be borne in mind that, at this temperature, the Koi's metabolic rate will also be very high and so it's Ammonia output will be high as well. Resist any temptation to over-feed at high temperatures when cycling a quarantine tank temperature up and down in order to trigger a latent disease such as KHV.

That's almost enough for one day, but before I let you go, one final point, and it is the most important one. The values in the table above are maximum values. They are not targets. Whilst it is not possible to achieve a true zero value, it should be the aim of the Koi keeper to achieve the lowest value that is possible, and to test regularly to ensure that this value is maintained.

#### Acknowledgments

Liao, Spotte, Timmons and Wheaton did the original research in the field of Recirculating Aquacultural Systems. It was from the graphs and data they produced that I was able to calculate the values in my table.



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## The 1st Nordic 'virtual' Koi Show.

Throughout Scandinavia an on-line virtual Koi show took place of the 1st weekend in August called the 1st Nordic Koi Show.

The idea originated on the Koi Galen internet forum of Sweden, Moderator Stefan Malm wanted to get Swedish hobbyists interested in Koi Shows and started a feasibility study. Having gained a favourable response on the domestic front he then extended the offer to other neighbouring clubs & forums and eventually gained commitment from 62 contestants shifting the demographic from just Sweden to the whole of Scandinavia. Then began the hard part of investigating the mechanics of Koi shows and solving the problems of an on-line show.

Having shown Koi himself at the NVN show in Arcen where he had made friends with members of the International Koi Community he was able to gain some advice there. Lacking any precedents for a Koi show in Scandinavia it was decided to follow the format of the NVN Show where other Scandinavian Koi keepers had already shown and therefore it would be familiar and consistent with their experience.

Having decided on a format it was just a matter of getting people to measure their Koi and send in a photo. Being a www show it was fitting that the judges were www too and so - Welch, Woolger and Woollands were recruited. Brian Welsh of South Africa and Christine Woolger and Bernie Woollands from the UK. Now that the show is over we can reveal that Brian Welsh had something else in mind when asked about being involved in something "virtual" and "Swedish"!

Stefan, his wife Mona and friend Jan Peiler set about benching the 326 photographs into their 17 Show classes and seven sizes before loading them onto the php website designed by Frederik Lundberg, The website was simplicity itself to operate and made the judging process very easy.

There was a degree of openness to the judging as partial results were displayed throughout the weekend to keep up the suspense and interest.

Stefan reports that the whole exercise has been deemed a success and there is interest in repeating the exercise in the future as well as progressing towards a real show.

Well done Koi- Galen.



Grand Champion – Klaus and Charlotte Hermanssen - Denmark Supreme Champion – Synnøve and Øystein Eide – Norway Mature Champion – Lars Lyngkilde – Denmark Adult Champion – Klaus and Charlotte Hermanssen – Denmark Baby Champion – Henrik Carlström – Sweden Senior Tategoi - Synnøve and Øystein Eide – Norway Junior Tategoi - Finn Bundgaard – Denmark Jumbo Champion – Mette Lyngkilde - Denmark Judges Choice – Anne Nickels – Sweden South East Friendship - Synnøve and Øystein Eide – Norway Users Favourite - Stefan and Mona Malm - Sweden.

Show Chairman - Stefan Malm. Benching Admin - Jan Peiler & Mona Malm

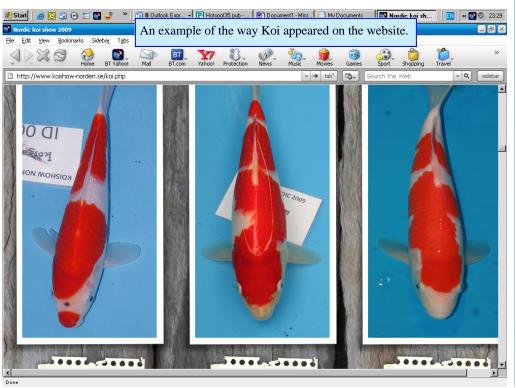
Website - Frederik Lundberg

Show Sponsors - Koi Consult DK, Dammästaren. House Of Kata, Edo Koi, Nordkoi, Koi.No & Vestkoi

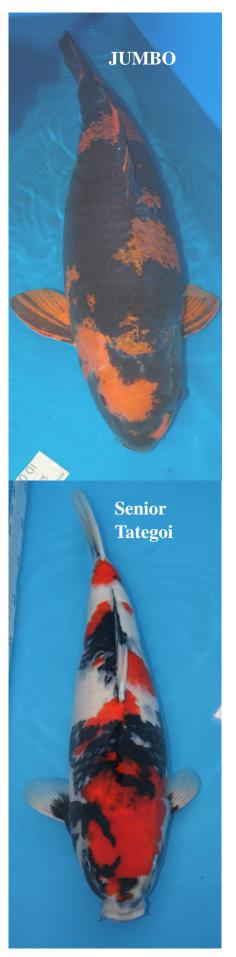
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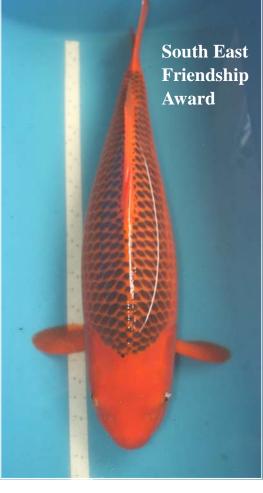












## **Koi Show dates**

for the next 3 months



Send us your Koi show adverts and time and space permitting we will endeavour to run them for at least a couple of months before the show date.

We have two examples on the previous page, but the more the merrier.

Equally, we would like to see a show report after the event, be it just a pictorial review or a full blown article.

Let the International Koi Community know what awaits them somewhere else in the world.

## August.

17th NVN Koi Dagen (Holland Koi Show), 21-23rd August at Kasteltuin, Arcen nr Venlo. The Netherlands.

**South East 23rd Open Show, 30** & 31st August at Parkwood Hall School, Beechenlea Lane, Swanley, Kent. UK

## September

**9th North East BKKS Open Show, 5&6th September**, at the Federation Brewery, Dunston, Gateshead, NE11 9JR

16th ZNA Potomac Chapter Koi Show, 11-13th September, at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, Vienna, Virginia, USA.



Kennet Valley BKKS Closed Show, 6th September, at Harehatch Sheeplands, London road, Hare Hatch, Berks, RG10 9HW

## **October**

21st MAKC/Koi America Show, 2-4th October, at Carroll County Ag Center, Westiminster, Maryland, USA **38th ZNA Osaka Chapter Show, 18th October,** Haya Senshu-nosato, Izumi Sano City, Osaka Prefecture.

**49th Ojiya Nogyosai Koi Show, 31st October - 1st November,** at the Ojiya Gymnasium, Ojiya City.

Tip for international travellers. Only travel to civilised countries.

If they don't have a Koi Show - then don't go.

# Becoming an NVN Judge.

In issue 33 the SAKKS and BKKS Judges Training Programmes were highlighted. Here we follow up with the NVN's .....

The NVN's annual Koi show has become a landmark in the international Koi community playing hosts to some of the most famous judges in the Koi world. For many years our judging teams have boasted participants from Asia, Africa, Europe, and the USA.

Several NVN members took it upon themselves to apply for ZNA Local Certified Judges status which allowed them to judge at other shows. With only the one ZNA show in the Netherlands this meant travel and that put us into contact with other judges and it was here that they found their experience lacking. The ZNA criteria works in Japan where the hobbyist can obtain and attain experience, but it doesn't transpose to Holland. This situation was not new, indeed several other countries had realised this e.g. South Africa and Great Britain and implemented their own Judges Training Programmes to overcome this and create judges worthy of the name. In 2006 the NVN decided to follow suit and implemented the Opleiding, a rigorous training programme to create judges capable of working alongside the best from the rest of the world.

Our programme consists of 5 stages from Trainee to Grade A judge (via grades B & C) whereupon after Grade A one can apply for ZNA Local status. Movement from one grade to another is via successful examination results, satisfactory reports and conclusion of compulsory tasks e.g. supply articles to our magazine and running seminars for members. All members of the Opleiding must work at the NVN show and go abroad (at their own expense) for on-the-job training at overseas Koi shows (Outside of Europe). As an overseas observer has already said "Only the committed need apply".

The objective was, and still is, to ensure that when an NVN Judge wears a ZNA Local badge it means that they have completed an exhaustive apprenticeship and have the tested ability to honour the title – judge.

# It's what others say that counts!

This article was the editorial comment in the September Issue (on sale in August) of Koi Carp Magazine.

The South East International Show is now widely believed to be the best koi show that Great Britain has to offer. But what is it that makes this show the most popular?

Why is it that it attracts more koi into the centre ring, attracts more koi businesses to show off their we and dry goods and boasts the largest number of visitors from home and abroad.

Is it the venue? Well the location just off the M25 before the Dartford tunnel makes it easy for many to get to it and it is surrounded by a high density of koi keepers. Held in the grounds of a local school there is no passing trade - you go there cos you are interested in koi, so the quality of visitors is good.

The food? The South East team have obviously looked at koi shows, stolen all the good bits and repacked them into the South East. Special attention is paid to feeding their

guests. In the past we have munched on the noodle man, and hot roasts, this year we can expect the culinary delights of real Japanese food. Kushi - a Japanese caterer experienced in outdoor events, will be serving a selection of Tempura, Yakitori and Yakisoba dishes plus Gyozas, Domburi and Bentou boxes.

Or is it the credibility of the competition? This year the judging panel comes from around the world. All the judges are eminently experienced. Mike Harvey (South Africa), Dirk de Witte (Belgium, Lloyd Bartley (UK), Toen Feyen (Netherlands), Louis Vanreusel (Germany), Brian Welch (South Africa), Hongman Leung (China) and Larry Gill (USA). Think about collective experience for a moment and the impartiality.

Personally I don't think its any of the above. The reason why the South East International Koi Show is the best koi event in the British calendar is because the South East Show team have real passion and enthusiasm, all visitors are welcomed as if they were long lost friends and that makes the difference.

Mark Nuttal MD Freestyle Publishing/Koi Carp Magazine

## 10 good reasons for attending the South East Show.

## 1. Free Koi Carp Magazine.

Be one of the lucky 1,000 to walk away with the latest issue of *Koi Carp Magazine* for free. Just turn up at the *Koi Carp* stand and if you are one of the first 1,000 then a magazine is yours for the taking. There's also a chance to win a free subscription via the competition in the South East's Show programme and a special subscription deal for the duration of the show.

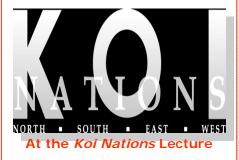
## 2. Free Koi Nations magazine.

If one free magazine isn't enough, there's a chance for another at the *Koi Nations* Stand where they will be giving away free backissues and like *Koi Carp* they will be having a special introductory subscription offer for show goers.

## 3. The lecture theatre.

Visit the *Koi Nations* Lecture tent, where during the course of the show such notables as **Bernice Brewster**, **Mike Harvey**, **Mike Snaden & Peter Waddington** will be sharing their knowledge with you

## Featuring our main sponsor



一帛里具:

#### 4. The Koi.

The South East has always attracted some of the best fish from the south of the country with exhibitors prepared to travel over 400 miles there and back. In more recent times our sphere of influence has grown, e.g. last year the GC had a 660 mile round trip and it will be the same this year with some of the best Koi in the country from some of the top exhibitors.

### 5.The Dealers.

Where else have you been able to see 32 Koi related Dealers at a Koi show this year? Several are only doing one show this year and it's this one. Instead of driving all over the country to visit them they are queuing up here waiting for your business, and all for a £5 entrance fee (Accompanied kids under 12 are free). There's even a dealer all the way from the USA with American bred Koi. They carefully chose the show where they wanted to make an impact, and guess what? – it was this one.

## 6. The Dealers Challenge Cup.

There are terms and conditions within the rules of hobbyist shows for a Dealer Section but when was the last time you saw one? Several have tried in recent years but the South East have succeeded. Their inaugural "Dealers Challenge Cup" will take place between A4 Koi, Nippon Nishikigoi, Koi UK and Yume Koi. However, this is to be more than just another section of the competition. This feature is also about education and the dealers exhibits will be surrounded by information about the breeders and the traits of the Koi on display.

## 7. Hobbyists.

The show is not called 'International' for nothing. The Koi kichi of Europe clamour to attend this show. Two coach loads of hobbyists from Holland making their 7<sup>th</sup> organised trip, plus another from the newly formed Belgian Koi Society making their 1<sup>st</sup> form the basis of the foreign contingent along with hobbyists from China, South Africa and the USA. They want to meet up with British hobbyists and they won't be disappointed as they come from the length and breadth of the UK. Don't be shy, mingle and share the joy of Koi.

## 8. Entertainment.

Our Koi show is about Koi, that's our first priority and nothing will change that. However, we do know that a lot of our visitors bring their families and they need entertaining too, especially the children. Over the years we've brought in bouncy castles, crazy bikes, assault courses, rodeo bulls and various other devices aimed at keeping the kids entertained quietly. We emphasise the word quietly as some attractions have been known to interfere with important PA announcements and even judging. This year's brought-in feature remains a secret, but we know from experience that whatever it is it will play second fiddle to the famous 'Hill Slide' invented by the kids themselves. Overseeing the entertainment will be Balloonatic, the clown who will entertain kids young and old with his creative balloon twisting antics.

# 9. Arts, Crafts, Bonsai, Reptiles and books.

If Bonsais are your thing there will be two vendors selling trees and the essential accoutrements to this art form. There will also be a free exhibition of them by the North West Kent Bonsai Society.

### And then there's BRAS.

If you want to see BRAS then head for the South Marquee where The British Reptile and Amphibian Society (BRAS) stage another free exhibition popular with the kids. For one day only, the owl from the Harry Potter films will be making an appearance too.

A limited array of arts, crafts and gardening stands will be found in the Craft tent and around the central display area and last but not least some of the latest Koi books to grace the hobby. Peter Waddington's "Koi Crazy" and "Yamakoshi" will be available via several dealers and Peter himself will be signing a few on the Koi Collection stand. "Nishikigoi Mondo" by the INPC will be available too on the Shop 4 Koi stand. Did you know that one of the South East members had a hand in its production?

# 10. The international outdoor conference centre.

Situated near the licensed "Baby Champion Bar", the lecture theatre and the catering stands is a large array of chairs and tables where our visitors chill out and put the world to rights. It's where the international panel of judges go to mingle on their day off and where Koi keepers can meet old friends and make new ones. Our catering facilities have received praise over the years for their variety and good value. Remember! the Baby Champion Bar is run by the section, so buying a drink supports the hobby!.

But if socialising isn't your thing, you can always find somewhere quiet and read your free magazines.

## THANK YOU ALL.

To offset some of our increased costs we introduced a voluntary "Vat (Show Tank) sponsorship scheme" and made the 40 exhibition vats available for sponsorship at a cost of £25 per vat.

The response was overwhelming as clubs, businesses, and individuals rallied to the cause. Shortly after the publication of last month's Hotspot all vats were taken.

The South East Section would like to take this opportunity of thanking those that responded to the call.

Oregon Koi & Watergarden Soc Koikeepers.co.uk Southern Cape Chapter SAKKS Koi Carp UK Ltd KwaZuluNatal Chapter SAKKS

KoiGalen (Sweden) **Mr Gary Pritchard** Koi UK (4 vats) Mr Robert Robson **Pinpoint Badges & Promotions Mr Paul Williams** Yorkshire Koi Society. (2 vats) **Mr Allan Tait** Migoto Koi **Mrs Christine Woolger GRP Lining Services** Isle of Ely Koi (2 vats) **Mr Peter Waddington Empress Litho Ltd N.V.N.** (4 vats) Koi Trek 2009

Japanese Koi Company (9 vats)

Tetra (2 vats)

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# Partners in goodwill.

This sentiment and it's logo were the product of Norman Call's (our representative in the Oregon Koi & Watergarden Society) imagination. It came about in an organic sort of way that has a lot to do with the relationship between our two clubs, our two countries and our hobby.

Our Spotlight newsletter had USA/UK logo that was getting a bit faded & jaded after years of photocopying etc. Knowing that Norm was a graphic designer I asked him to give it a makeover which he did. It has adorned our newsletter ever since. It was delivered in October 2001 at a time when the atrocities and the aftermath of 9/11 were still current news and fresh in peoples minds.

That month, we were invited to attend a fund raising 'Barn Dance' by the governors of the school where we hold our Koi shows. The school was at one time in its history (WWII) a training school for fire-fighters of the London Fire Brigade who still support the school, as we do now. I forget the details now, but the heroics of the New York City Fire Department were mentioned in relation to the dance.

As a gesture of support Teresa Lambert one of our members printed off Norm's logo, laminated them and produced brooches which we wore to the dance. I sent one to Norm, who is an avid pin collector, who in turn turned the concept into a pin. The logo next appeared on the OKWS' own newsletter "The Tall Fish Story" underlined with the sentiment - "Partners in goodwill" an ethic we have since adopted and spread. Our partners are now the OKWS, The NVN (Dutch Koi Society and the KwaZulu Natal chapter of the South African Koi Society SAKKS.



# **About the South East Section.**

The South East Section was founded in 1981 by a break away group from the London Section. It obtained Section status from the BKKS in 1982 and serves the counties of Kent, East Sussex, Surrey and Berkshire and the southern boroughs of London.

It's neighbouring Sections are the South Kent to the south, Essex to the North, Worthing to the west and the MSB (Middlesex & Surrey Borders) to the northwest.

The South East has a pretty stable membership generally numbering about 85 families.

Almost since it's founding the SouthEast has participated in information exchange with overseas Koi clubs and continues to do so today.

Our 'Open' show is both an attraction to the UK Koi scene as well as Koi keepers Every year the show attracts an increasing number of overseas visitors and through them a number of useful connections have been made which enhances our appreciation and understanding of the hobby.



The show is always held on the August Public Holiday which generally falls on the last weekend of that month. Details can always be found on our web-site -

www.koi-clubs.com/SouthEast

The South East meets on every 4th Sunday of the month with the exception of December. Our meetings start at 2pm and we endeavour to have a speaker for 2 out of every 3 meetings. Those speakers generally cover Koi related subjects but occasionally we have one that diversifies a little e.g. Bonsai.

Our current membership fees are £15 per family and details as well as a schedule of speakers can be found on our web-site.

South East contacts in regard to this E-Magazine are:-

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