

# HOT SPOT

英國錦鯉愛好會東南俱樂部



The E-Mag of the South East Section BKKS

- twinned with the :-

Issue 28  
January 2009



Oregon Koi & Watergarden Society.

The Nishikigoi Vereniging Nederland.

The South African Koi Keepers Society.

**Partners in goodwill.**

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**Koi Clubs participating in this exchange scheme are:-**

- **Nishikigoi Vereniging Nederland.**
- **Oregon Koi & Watergarden Soc.**
- **South African Koi Keepers Soc.**
- **Chiltern Section BKKS.**
- **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**
- **Koi@Home (Belgium)**
- **Banana Bar Koi Society.**
- **East Midlands Koi Club.**
- **North East Koi Club BKKS**
- **ZNA Guangdong Chapter.**

**HOT SPOT** 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 newsletters.

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.

Happy New Year!

Now in its  
3rd Year!

## Let's start the new year with a couple of GC's



This example is the Grand Champion of the 4th ZNA Guangdong Chapter Show held on the 12 & 13th of December 2008. An 80+bu Kohaku photographed by SAKKS Judge Mike Harvey. Mike will be giving us an article covering his experiences at the show in a later edition.

This 17 month old, 55cms Sanke was the Grand Champion at the Kansai Young Koi show held on the 12th December 2008.

A stunning example of the 'New Hybrid' Koi developed by the Koi No Yohei farm.

Photograph and data supplied by Deron Simons M.D. of Select Nishikigoi.

It may not seem like the most obvious topic for an article, but the blood of fish plays a pivotal role in many processes that are vital for health and condition. These include oxygen transport, maintenance of the salt/water balance, nutrient transport, the immune system, and removal of waste products. In this article we will look at some of the components of fish blood and what their significance is.

### Circulatory system

Unlike mammals (& humans), fish have a single circulatory system. In other words, blood is pumped from the heart to the gills, and then straight on to the rest of the body. Oxygenated blood leaving the gills is delivered to the various parts of the body, where its oxygen is removed for respiration. The resultant deoxygenated blood is then returned to the heart to be pumped to the gills and reoxygenated again.

### Blood

On average, fish contain around 2-4ml of blood per 100g of bodyweight (compared to around 6ml in humans), although this can vary depending on the species in question. The blood itself is made up of red and white blood cells, platelets (or thrombocytes), along with plasma that carries proteins, waste products, and various other dissolved substances. By acting as a carrier for many important substances, the blood plays a key role in maintaining health.

### Red blood cells

Red blood cells, or 'erythrocytes', are responsible for transporting oxygen around the body. They contain a pigment called haemoglobin which binds the oxygen that diffuses into the blood across the gills. Although a small amount of oxygen can be carried dissolved in the blood, the presence of haemoglobin increases oxygen carrying capacity significantly (from around 0.5-0.9ml/100ml blood to 5-16ml/100ml blood). The number of red blood cells in the blood is related to the physiology of the species in question, and its environment. Under normal conditions a healthy carp (koi) will have

around 1.2 – 1.75 million red blood cells per mm<sup>3</sup> of blood.

The ability of haemoglobin to carry oxygen depends on the concentration of hydrogen ions (H<sup>+</sup>) in the blood; in other words the pH level. The lower the pH, the less oxygen they can carry. Because tissues in the body are constantly respiring, they are releasing carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) into the blood which decreases its pH. When the red blood cells arrive at the tissues, the lower pH causes haemoglobin to offload its oxygen. This can then diffuse into the tissues that need it. The blood pH remains low as it carries CO<sub>2</sub> back to the gills. Here it diffuses back out into the water, facilitated by an enzyme called carbonic anhydrase. The pH rises once more and oxygen can again be picked up and taken back to the body's tissues. The effect of the blood's pH on its ability to carry oxygen is known as the Bohr effect, and it is essential for supplying oxygen and removing carbon dioxide.

### White blood cells

White blood cells, or 'leukocytes', constitute an important part of the immune system. There are four main types of white blood cell – thrombocytes (or 'platelets', which are involved in blood clotting), granulocytes, lymphocytes, and monocytes. The granulocytes and monocytes are an important part of the non-specific immune system; a koi's primary means of destroying any pathogens (disease-causing organisms) that enter the body. For example, monocytes are carried in the blood to the site of an infection and turned into macrophages – white blood cells capable of engulfing and destroying bacteria. Lymphocytes are important for the specific immune response, and as such are involved in producing antibodies against pathogens and developing immunity against certain diseases. A healthy koi will have a white blood cell count of around 20 – 50,000 per mm<sup>3</sup> of blood.

### Ions

The blood contains a number of ions

(charged atoms) which are important for a variety of physiological processes, as well as maintaining a stable blood pH. The most significant of these are sodium (Na<sup>+</sup>) and (Cl<sup>-</sup>), with smaller quantities of other ions such as calcium, potassium and magnesium. It is common to express the concentration of the blood in milliosmoles (mOsm) per litre of blood (termed 'osmolarity'). It is beyond the scope of the article to explain these units in depth. However, the total osmolarity of carp blood is around 274mOsm, of which Na<sup>+</sup> contributes 130mOsm, and Cl<sup>-</sup> 125mOsm.

The important point is that the osmolarity of soft freshwater is around 1mOsm; considerably lower than the fish's blood. This means that ions are continually trying to diffuse out of the blood and into the surrounding water, whilst water is trying to diffuse in. Koi, like all fish, have mechanisms for preventing ion loss and actively taking them up from the environment, as well as getting rid of excess water. These processes are linked to pH regulation, in that Na<sup>+</sup> ions are exchanged for H<sup>+</sup> (hydrogen ions), and HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> (bicarbonate) is exchanged for Cl<sup>-</sup> ions. A decrease in blood pH (caused by an increase in H<sup>+</sup> ions) can therefore be corrected by increasing the intake of Na<sup>+</sup> ions in exchange for getting rid of H<sup>+</sup> ions, and decreasing the intake of Cl<sup>-</sup> ions to retain more HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>. Although the relationship between ion regulation and pH balance is not clear in all species, koi certainly seem to be able to link Cl<sup>-</sup> influx with HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> release. Ultimately, the ion content and pH of the blood is essential to the health and condition of koi. Gill damage, stress, or inappropriate water quality can all disturb this process and lead to suboptimal blood chemistry.

### Glucose

Blood glucose provides a readily available source of energy for koi, and its levels can indicate general condition. Blood glucose levels tend to rise if fish are stressed, in order to provide extra

energy. On the other hand, liver damage or prolonged starvation will decrease levels. For example, according to one study a normal value for carp (koi) may be in the region of 40mg/100ml blood, whereas long-term starvation (at 20°C) will see levels fall to 23mg/100ml. On the other hand, a stressful event will cause levels to rise; e.g. in carp exposed to a sudden temperature increase (12 to 22°C) levels rose to 83mg/100ml.

### Proteins

The plasma carries two main types of protein; albumin and globulins. These proteins are involved in the immune response, preventing pH changes, and maintaining the blood's osmolarity. The level of blood proteins can indicate the condition of the fish. This is because under normal conditions blood proteins are manufactured at roughly the same rate at which they are decomposed. If the blood protein level falls, a deficiency in dietary protein supply may be to blame. This in turn will leave the fish more vulnerable to infection. A koi in good condition will have a total blood protein level of over 3.5g/100ml blood, whereas one in poor condition will have less than 2.8g/100ml. Feeding a good quality koi food and avoiding long periods of starvation is important for maintaining blood protein levels.

### Bilirubin

Bilirubin is a by-product of the breakdown of haemoglobin (from old red blood cells). The liver normally removes it from the blood and sends it to the gall bladder to be secreted into the intestine as bile (which aids fat digestion). If the liver is damaged

for any reason, bile levels may increase. Therefore, elevated bile in the blood can indicate poor nutrition or other causes of liver problems.

### Using blood chemistry information

It is clear that the blood has a wide range of important functions, but what is the relevance of this to us? Unlike human and animal medicine, blood parameters are not routinely used to diagnose fish condition or disease. It's therefore unlikely that you will ever need to apply these measures to your own fish. However, scientists and some manufacturers use knowledge of blood chemistry to improve the quality of the products and advice available to us. For example, certain ingredients in fish foods can stimulate white blood cells to work more effectively. It's therefore possible to evaluate these 'immunostimulants' by studying their effect on white blood cell activity. In addition, measurements of certain blood parameters can give valuable information as to the quality of nutrition supplied by a fish food. When coupled with more traditional measures of performance (growth, waste production etc), a much more complete idea of the quality of a diet can be gained. So although it may not be something we have to directly worry about, a good understanding of blood chemistry will influence the development of some of the products we use to care for our koi.

### References

- Biology of Fishes; Bond (1996)
- The Diversity of Fishes; Helfman, Collette & Facey (1997)
- Environmental Biology of Fishes; Jobling (1996)
- Biology of Fishes; Bone, Marshall & Blaxter (1996)
- Fish Medicine; Stoskopf (1993)
- Fish Diseases; Schaperclaus (1991)



This article was provided by  
**Rupert Bridges B.Sc(Hons), M.Sc,  
 DipM, ACIM**

**Product Manager for Tetra UK**

Blood parameters for assessing the condition of common carp (one and two summers old), from Schaperclaus (1991)\*

Parameter	Level in healthy carp blood
Total serum protein (g/100ml)	>3.5
Albumin (% of total protein)	>20
Glucose (mg/100ml)	30-47
Leukocyte (white blood cell) count (number/mm <sup>3</sup> )	20,000 – 50,000
Erythrocyte (red blood cell) count (number/mm <sup>3</sup> )	1.2 – 1.75 million
Haemoglobin content (g/100ml)	9.7

\*recommended values may vary between different references due to the effect of environmental influences and the age of the fish

# Recognizing the five false element gods in Nishikigoi.

Man has been fascinated by gold since the beginning of time. Yet other objects of the same colour and shine are not valued as much? Certainly the appreciation of pyrite ( fool's gold) is considered a foolish appreciation of a mineral that 'appears' to be like gold, but is not gold. Gold is hard to find and rare in general. Fool's gold is common. Key elements in koi are also much appreciated for they are 'special and rare'. And like gold, there are great pretenders in elements of nishikigoi appreciation.

So if Nishikigoi prospectors wish to mine 'gold' they need to be armed so as not to waste their time worshipping those 'pyrite' elements in tateshita. And perhaps most tricky of all is the ability to differentiate the many 'hints' of quality from a total package found in true high class tategoi.

For prospecting we first need to find where the goal is found in nishikigoi. That's not hard!- the koi's skin is the gold mine! And like a good mine, it has certain characteristics. Good skin in gosanke completely depends on two things; 1) the nature of the hypo, or lower dermis and dermis and 2) the texture ( collagen type) and composition ( organization of fibres) of the dermis.

The dermis of a good koi should be made of clear transparent protein dermal fibres. They should be organized in such a way as to allow light to travel into the skin effortlessly. The skin should show other signs of 'gold' in the way the colour is developing. There should be appointments such as high guanine ( lustre) content in the upper dermis in the form of 'loose guanine crystals' as well as formal cells filled with the same material. The colour should be dense and show potential to add more to create three dimensional layers of colour within the translucent skin. And finally, the fish should have a generous lower dermis or hypro dermis which will suggest a potential for girth and volume as the fish ages.

Simple right? 😊

Well, the answer to that is, " yes, simple— eventually"! But first we need to avoid the false leads that suggest our mine is filled with golden potential when in truth it is stuffed

with pyrite!  
Among these false leads are;

1) hard white bright skin- hard white skin in very young fish looks like the real thing. But later in life, hard white will lose lustre ( which was what was making the white look like the real thing in youth) and will transform as it expands, to a different texture that is more cotton or burlap like than porcelain or silk like. This is often orientated in male fish and very common in goromo, goshiki. This comes from the white spreading gene and is more about the color gene for white than transparency of skin. And it is the skin's transparency that show cases the right colours to create three dimensional colour effects. In hard white, the colour is merely vivid ( in prime) and one dimensional.

2) thin dermis and bright beni. Again very lovely in young/small fish. The thin dermis with a single coat of bright youthful beni is stunning in perky fingerlings. Unfortunately, the colour tends not to be stable and is typically hard and non-elastic. This is a 'now' fish and should be successful in young shows and in the smaller sizes in koi shows. But these are fish with no futures.

3) metallic shine- in other varieties other than gosanke, metallic shine will eventually decline to one degree or another so they MUST be of the highest lustre and good breeding for the metallic effect to remain. IF a metallic fish does not have lustre in the 'Five points' ( head, fins, shoulder, tail tube, tail) then a 'bright baby koi' is doomed to be an adult pond fish.

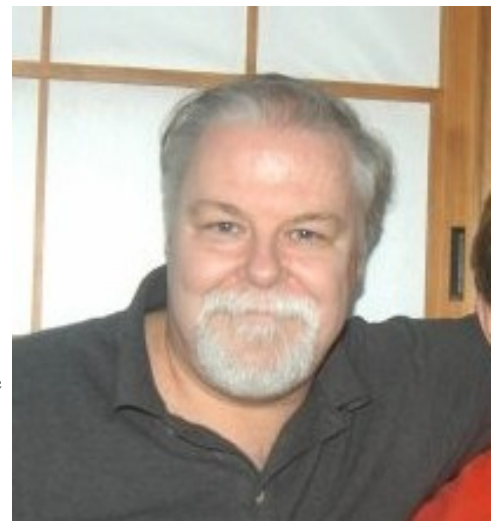
4) lack of pattern- there are many collector fish being offered today. They can not be show fish as without pattern, even the loveliest skin and densest colour loses the impression of a balanced or artistic fish. In the old days these were breeder fish. But now there are so many, that a strained 'one eye closed and squinting' vision of living art has created the 'emperor with no clothes' type jumbo collector fish. Trust me, these fish will also be pyrite when placed against a well balance equally blessed 'Gold standard' show fish.

5) Perhaps the most difficult of all is the pres-

ence of ONE excellent element of skin, with all others being absent. It is so tempting to buy one exceptional element ( such as soft skin) and then 'hope' that the other elements develop from somewhere, some how. This is a learning curve and the poster child image for the broken down elderly prospector that still works an old mine in hopes that all others who mined it before him will be proven wrong and somehow the gold will be there. Not a good bet! Old time statements like "buying the black and betting on the red" or "buying the white and betting on the beni" are simply marketing comments that attempt to create some hope around elements of hopelessness.

All lines tend to mature along a known path. If an individual from a known line is missing a key element, it will not spontaneously develop it along the way if the prototype is known not to.

In practical terms, one can be broke paying for ALL the elements of high genetics in one individual koi! Often the answer is to skimp on pattern or perfect balance. Or to accept that some very wonderful fish lines just don't get jumbo. This is a personal choice and each must choose how deep to go into the gold mine. But if a quality koi is purchased over fool's goal, you will have a fish that you can appreciate on a daily basis for a long, long time.



## Chips 4 fish - our November Speaker.

Thankfully Koi theft is something we haven't experienced within our membership for some time but I can recall times when this wasn't the case and remember the heartbreak and the trouble those members went through at the time.

One of the problems faced was proving ownership, which was a bitter pill to swallow after locating their lost Koi and getting the police to prosecute. Some of them had photographs but as we know Koi can change over the years. I can remember one couple brought in Bernice Brewster as an expert witness to make their case - All in all a lot of palaver that took up a lot of time.

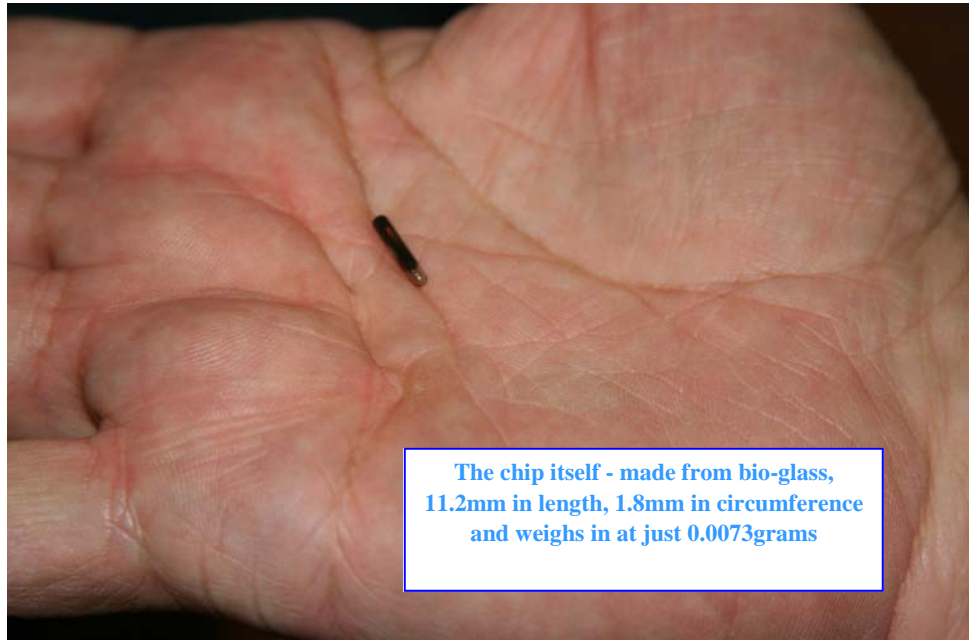
Similar problems amongst other pet owners brought in the use of microchips as a means of identification and gradually, innovations in the technology has made the same solution viable for fishkeepers.

Our speaker for our November meeting was Tony Loveless of The Pet Chip Company, a company that specialises in the use of microchips as a means of identification and not just for animals. Tony mentioned that a new project involves the chipping of tack in the horse riding world which is apparently another target for sneak thieves. They have also been chipping fishing tackle for some time too. But whether it's a saddle or Sanke the method of micro chipping is pretty much the same.

The microchip is contained within a single-use sterilized needle that is inserted into place via a small implant gun. Each chip contains a unique 15 digit number that is then registered onto a database held by Petlog. This chip can be read by a hand held scanner but only up to 10cms away. To facilitate the optimum use of chipping every animal has an assigned site where the chip must be inserted which has been decreed by the Veterinary Society for most mammals and reptiles. Where fish were concerned Pet Chip Company consulted Sparshalt College and the site for most fish is in the dorsal area. However, as the removal of the needle can occasionally remove a scale a new site was decided for Koi which is just behind the anal fin. As a result, this site makes it impossible to chip Koi below 8 inches in length.

The chip itself is made from bio-glass and is 11.2mm in length, 1.8mm in circumference and weighs 0.0073grams.

Tony went on to explain that apart from



The chip itself - made from bio-glass, 11.2mm in length, 1.8mm in circumference and weighs in at just 0.0073grams

identification of stolen fish, it is also being used by one fish farm (not Koi) to identify parent stock for breeding purposes. In this instance they use a special long reach probe-scanner which can be used in the water without having to capture the fish.

As well as using chips at fisheries and for pets the company is also involved in a project called ZooCheck which involves all sorts of zoo animals for both identification in cases of theft and in breeding programmes.

Although when I heard about this speaker and his subject I wasn't particularly enamoured with it, I came away from the meeting knowing all I needed to know about the subject, which in my book is the sign of a good speaker. So any Koi club looking for the ins and outs of chips for fish, Tony is your man.

His contact details can be found via [www.chips4fish.com](http://www.chips4fish.com)



Tony's static display—which told you all you needed to know at a glance.

## “Final surprise from 2008.”



I received an e-mail from the Editor of Koi Magazine (the UK one) informing me that the South East Section had been awarded “Runner up” in the Best Koi Show category in their readers poll. (1st place went to the BKKS National). It came as an equal surprise to our members too as none had been aware of the poll. Our 2009 new years resolution is to keep our eyes open and vote ourselves number one. As our Show Chair (Alan Archer) wasn’t at our December meeting, Club Chairman David Brown accepted the award.

Our December meeting is always an informal get-together, a refuge from Christmas shopping. But thanks to a generous donation from Isle of Ely Koi of Dai Suke and House of Kata Koi food to augment our raffle several of our members obtained a very welcome additional Xmas present.

## “The future of Koi Show Trophies?”

**Arthur Dent**



Mrs Ichimatsu takes failure in the “Design a new Koi Show Trophy” competition in good heart.

Isn’t it about time Koi Show Trophies had a makeover? I think so.

Searching the internet I found that there are other people of a similar mind. It needs something that will stand up and be noticed.

I think we are nearly there.

What do you say?

**Arthur.**



Best in size awards !

英國東南地區錦鯉俱樂部

## THANK YOU.

## Ojiya Street Art.

Mark Gardner

Anyone that's visited Ojiya will be well aware that there are numerous Nishikigoi symbols which adorn the streets, for example the manhole covers depict Nishikigoi, as do the road side bollards. At Ojiya Station there are the pedestrian underpass entrances shaped and decorated like Nishikigoi. It all leaves the uninitiated visitor in no doubt that those 'big expensive colourful fish' must have some connection with the town! These examples are garage doors. I want one!



We've just realized that HOTSPOT has entered its third year and nobody could be more surprised than us. When we launched the project we gave it six months grace to see if it would fly. To our surprise we find that it is still going strong and would therefore like to thank all of those that have contributed so far.

Ian Andrews  
Alan Archer  
Lee Aronfeld  
Simon Austin  
Lloyd Bartley  
Dick Benbow  
Vannesa de Boer  
Ronald Bonestroo  
Rupert Bridges  
Norman Call  
Alan Coogan  
Paula Combrink  
Spike Cover  
Patrick van Dael  
Denise Denbow  
Jeroen Dregmans  
Kevin Ellis  
Fred Ernsting  
Anton Evatt  
Christina Evatt  
Toen Feyen  
Mark Gardner  
Rene Gerittzen  
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Kevin Harrison  
Mike Harvey  
Hayamasa Ikeda  
Keith Jackson  
Ray Jordan  
Hongman Leung  
Johan Leurs  
David Lugar  
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Yuko Shirako  
James Sharp  
Deron Simons  
Dian Sunney  
Chai Taevanitcharoen  
Allan Tait  
Joop van Tol  
Dale Torok  
Lynne Wells  
Bob Winkler  
Christine Woolger  
Heinz Zimmerman

Bernie Woollands & Brian Edwards.



# Nishikigoi Mondo - Update.

Mark Gardner

Ladies and Gents

Thanks for your interest in Nishikigoi Mondo.

It was just under a year ago I started working on the Mondo translation with Aika Watanabe, since then it's become a bit of a labour of love. Never had I anticipated the work that would be involved accurately translating the content from Japanese to English, so many things simply don't translate directly.

Many, many hours of meetings and discussions have taken place with the between myself, Aika and the publisher to deal with a number of the more technical areas of the book.

Given the work and time that's already been expended just getting the words translated into meaningful information we have decided to undertake a further review process to ensure everything we've translated is 100% correct and faithful to the original. It must be said that some errors in the original have also been corrected in the English version.

The result of the extra review process is 2 fold:

- 1) it means the buyers get a better product.
- 2) unfortunately it adds another delay to publishing, but one we think is worthwhile before committing 100's of pages of paper and ink.

The anticipated publication date has now been put back until the end of March.

For anyone that's seen the Japanese version of the book there will be some noticeable differences. Firstly the English version will be hardback. It will also be a larger A4 format. There will be a greater emphasis placed on certain images.

So, on behalf of the INPC, apologies for the delay, and thank you for your patience, in the long run we are sure it will be worthwhile.

*Mark*

PS. Our priority at the moment is getting book finished, and to a high standard, once everything is signed off and we know it's committed to print then we'll be confirming distribution details etc.

Unfortunately the published prices were 'estimates' when the Yen was somewhat lower against other currencies than it is today. These will be updated at the appropriate time.

PRE-ANNOUNCEMENT

## NISHIKIGOI MONDO

ALL ABOUT NISHIKIGOI IN THE FORM OF Q & A



The long awaited book that will answer all questions koi lovers have about Japan's national fish, Nishikigoi.  
By Shuji Fujita

A colorful, comprehensive record of Q&A based information and advice on Nishikigoi, reflecting Mr. Fujita's 44 years work as publisher and reporter of "Rinko" magazine.

You can't miss this remarkable piece of work in which 18 leading Nishikigoi experts answer more than 2000 questions on covering :

- KEEPING NISHIKIGOI
- THE ROOTS OF NISHIKIGOI
- MORPHOLOGY AND PHYSIOLOGY OF NISHIKIGOI
- ECOLOGY AND LIFE CYCLE IN A YEAR OF NISHIKIGOI
- VARIETIES OF NISHIKIGOI
- NISHIKIGOI KEEPING AND HEALTHCARE
- NISHIKIGOI EVALUATION AND APPRECIATION
- BUILDING AND MANAGEMENT OF A NISHIKIGOI POND
- PROTECTION AND TREATMENT ON FISH DISEASES
- NISHIKIGOI SPawning AND CULLING
- SEEKING NISHIKIGOI
- NISHIKIGOI SHOW



The English language version of Nishikigoi Mondo will be available from November 24th, 2008.

Price: 63.00 EUR  
(98.00 USD / 50.00 GBP)

Editorial Supervisors  
Shoichi Iizuka, Yoshimichi Sakai, Yokio Isa, Satoru Hoshino, Masamoto Kataoka, Toshihisa Oguma, Masao Iwahashi, Ryuzo Narita, Toshikatsu Konishi, Juzo Kamihata, Toshio Sakai, Mamoru Kodama, Tadashi Watanabe, Yasuyoshi Murakami, Sadao Hiroi, Masayoshi Nakayama, Manabu Ogata, Hajime Isa

The Best Christmas Gift for KoiKichi

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International Nishikigoi Promotion Center  
If you have any questions regarding Nishikigoi Mondo, please contact your local INPC liaison office or email us at [mondoin@japan-nishikigoi.org](mailto:mondoin@japan-nishikigoi.org) or visit our website at <http://www.japan-nishikigoi.org/mondo.html>

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(98.00 USD / 50.00 GBP)

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英國東南地區錦鯉俱樂部

## 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.

### Dates for your 2009 Diary.....

- The KwaZulu Natal Chapter, hosting the SAKKS National **25th & 26th July** at the Gateway Theatre of Shopping, Umhlanga Rocks near Durban, South Africa.
- The 17th NVN Koi Show (The European National) **21st to 23rd August** at Kasteltuun, Arceen near Venlo, The Netherlands.
- The 23rd South East Open Show, **30th & 31st August** at Parkwood Hall School, Beachenlea Lane, Swanley, Kent, UK.
- Oregon Koi & Watergarden Society Koi Show. at Roseburg, Oregon, USA. Currently waiting for the date of this one.

### Working for an International Koi Community



## 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 north-west.

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](http://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.

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