

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 :-

Oregon Koi & Watergarden Society.

The Nishikigoi Vereniging Nederland.

The South African Koi Keepers Society.

Partners in goodwill.

Issue 36
September 2009



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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**
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- **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)**
-

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.

South Africa &
Scotland - This
month's shows

The 36th
Issue !

The Tetra Koi Excellence

South African National Koi Show 2009

Having hosted the South African National Show in 2007, the KwaZulu Natal Chapter once again held the National Koi show at the same venue as last year – the Gateway Theatre of Shopping in Umhlanga Rocks over the weekend of 25-26 July 2009.

We were delighted when Marltons, the South African distributor of Tetra products, and their overseas principal, Tetra, agreed once again to be the main sponsor, hence the name of the show- “The Tetra Koi Excellence South African National Koi Show”. This was the third year that Tetra and Marltons had sponsored the shows in KwaZulu Natal, seeing this as an ideal opportunity to associate their quality koi food, KOI EXCELLENCE, with a Koi Show which attracts the serious koi hobbyists and many members of the public. Thanks go to them for this sponsorship.

But with an entry of 510 koi it was also vital to secure some of the top judges in the world and to offer them a chance to also see some of our country. Edeni Koi Farm, situated in a Big Five private game reserve, and breeding some excellent quality koi, again agreed to be sponsors of a 4 day stay for our international judges at their Edeni Private Game Reserve. Thanks to Allen and Zanthé Roets for this privilege.

Some of the dedicated members of the KwaZulu Natal Chapter generously came forward with additional sponsorship for this years show. Thanks go to Lee Scribante and Paul Coetzee, who each donated significant sums to assist in the financing of what we planned. Roy Pillay assisted greatly as well, contributing himself and raising some R10000 towards the costs of running the show. Vaughn Lawrence installed all our electrical work – and there was a lot of it- at no cost to us which is a huge saving to our Chapter. Toyota South Africa and McCarthy Toyota, Durban, generously loaned us two 10 seater Toyota Quantum vehicles, both here in Durban and then in Johannesburg after the show, to enable us to transport our overseas guests around. These great vehicles proved to be a huge help to us and if anyone is thinking of buying one we can highly recommend them. With such great support from all these sponsors we again had a solid financial foundation to plan and organise the show.

The Kwa Zulu-Natal Chapter of the South

African Koi Keepers Society has in recent years held its annual koi shows at the Gateway Theatre of Shopping, Umhlanga Rocks. This is a superb venue for our show, and we enjoy fantastic support from their management - a huge thanks to Janine Payne, Adrian Raw and Mark Powell as well as all the other management at Gateway for your tremendous support and allowing us to hold our show at the premier shopping centre in South Africa.

Once again we were able to have access to the site 7 days before benching began, which enabled us to erect the vats and fill them well in advance and to check and prepare the water in the vats long before the entries arrived. The marquees were erected on the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday before the weekend of the show and the dealers had access to prepare their stands from the Thursday. Many thanks to all the members who came along to assist in the show set up.

Undoubtedly however, the biggest thanks must go to Rod Boaden, Alan Ferreira and Vaughn Lawrence who spent every day at the show site from the Saturday we started set up until the following Monday after the show- 10 days of hard graft ensuring the set up and show ran smoothly. That is commitment beyond the call of duty and without them there simply would be no show at all. It was great to see the turnout of members on the Saturday before the show weekend to assist in erecting the vats- something which was completed in record time this year- thanks to all who came along to get this done in such a speedy fashion.

The overseas judges and wives arrived during the days before the show and we were very fortunate to have Dirk De Witte, a ZNA Assistant Certified Judge from Belgium, as Head Judge, Kate McGill, also a ZNA Assistant Certified Judge from Australia, Louis Vanreusel from Belgium and representing the German Chapter, Gerard and Kazuyo McDonald from Australia, Jeroen Dregmans, Anya and Richard Albertsboer from Holland. Terry McNeil joined the judges as a Trainee Judge from Australia. We were also honoured to have Brian Welch, Rene Schoenmaker, Kevin Harrison and Jim Phillips to judge at our show and Raj Laloo, who came down to do the benching of the entries.

Benching of the entries on the Friday went smoothly and efficiently, although some entrants again arrived late – resulting in the hard working and dedicated benching teams work-

ing until the light faded. At the end of the day we were pleased that 510 koi had been entered this year. To Harry Beckx, Kim Harvey, Yvonne Beckx, Alan and Les Ferreira, Cheryl Gwillam, and all those who helped with the benching administration and during the judging- our sincere thanks.

Once again our members showed their tremendous commitment by assisting in one or other ways during the weekend. A special word of thanks go to Chris Jankovich our Show Chairman, Karl Stott, Mary Anne Harrison, Garth and Cheryl Gwillam, Kevin Till, Kobus Cronje, Byron and Kathy Bishop, Anthony Penton, Roger Maingard, Dries Venter, Ronnie Botha and Hannes Uys for assisting in the judging processes. Thanks too to Reggie Phillips, Karun Nair and Bruce White, with many assisting them, who were responsible for ensuring the water was tested and treated when required and vats cleaned and water changed whenever necessary. George Bothma and Jeremy Davies did a sterling job during the auctions and thanks to you too. To our National Administration Secretary, Maria Anna Botha a huge thanks for your support and assistance in the SAKKS Tent as well as the great work that you do throughout the year for SAKKS. Our Show Chairman, Chris Jankovich, did a superb job and much credit goes to him for this.

What truly amazes me each year is the full support we get from the wives of the committee members. They are simply the best! Cynthia Lawrence and Thilo Nair ran our SAKKS VIP Tent- catering for 3 days- with 180 lunches and dinners etc being done at times. Even their own family members were there to lend a hand. And along with Rod and Vaughn, they really did us proud keeping us well nourished. Les Ferreira spent the weekend running the Entrance- (a terrible job), ably assisted by Mary Anne Harrison. Kim Harvey and Yvonne Beckx spent the entire Friday benching, and then Saturday and Sunday manning the SAKKS stand with Maria Anna Botha. To every one of you, I cannot tell you how much your support is appreciated – it is really hard and demanding spending all these hours at the show and yet you do it with a smile on your faces- and what is more, you are back each year to do the same.

Every year there are a number of other members who give up their weekend to help in one way or another, - our most sincere thanks to each and every one of you. The people who assisted in set up, manned the gate, assisted in the SAKKS Hospitality tent and catering, the judging teams, the SAKKS tent, the debenching teams – each one of you did a great job and we hope that you will all be back again next year. Space does not permit me to mention you all by name but rest assured your contribution and your effort have not been forgotten. To our many other sponsors, also too numerous to thank all by name, our sincere thanks to you all for your contribution and support. [A list of our Sponsors and Contributors accompanies this article.](#)

The judging started at 08h30 and went smoothly thanks to the efficiency of the judging teams and the judges. With the English style of judging and 510 koi entered, the four teams really worked hard and finished at around 16h30.

The Grand Champion this year went to the Sanke entered by Paul Coetzee. The Reserve Grand Champion went to a Kohaku owned by Roy Pillay. Karl Engelbrecht's Kohaku took the Jumbo A Grand Champions award. Between Roy, Paul, Karl Engelbrecht, Gerard Loumeau, Karl Stott and Chris Jankovich the bar each year has been raised even higher as they competed for the top honours. The Most Successful Entrant in Sizes 1-4, Lee Scribante walked away with many of the top awards in the smaller sizes. Thanks guys for entering your koi and thereby making this show a truly memorable one. A listing of the major awards appears on the Winners Board later in this publication. Congratulations to each and everyone who entered their koi- your support ensured that this year was yet again a huge success.

It was great to see the spread of members who took the top awards, Thanks to everyone who entered their koi and congratulations on the awards you received. To those who entered koi for the first time we hope to see you again next year.

The traditional barbeque on the Saturday night was well attended and the night was enjoyed by all. Thanks to all who donated products and items for our auction- your generosity ensured that the auction raised a significant amount towards our expenses of running the show and providing the type of hospitality KwaZulu Natal Chapter has become renown for. It was also good to see Bobby Mathee, Drikus and Christie who flew up especially from the Western Cape Chapter.



Grand Champion

A special word of thanks to Ian Andrews and Jeroen Dregmans who spent hours photographing the winners, evidence of which can be seen in the photographs with this report. To Chris Jankovich and his team who assisted in lifting the winners to be photographed and to Alan Beits of Rand Video who filmed the show and produces a DVD for us, many thanks for your hard work too.

If I have left out anyone my apologies but rest assured your support is much appreciated.

I hope to see you all back in Durban again next year.

ROLE OF HONOUR

*Grand Champion - Paul Coetzee
Reserve GC - Roy Pillay
Mature Champion - Paul Coetzee
Junior Champion - Mike Harvey
Baby Champion - Petmasters*

*Jumbo A - Karl Engelbrecht
Jumbo B - Roy Vickers.*

510 Exhibits 28 Exhibitors.

List of Sponsors.

- TETRAPOND KOI EXCELLENCE
- MARLTONS
- EDENI KOI FARM
- GATEWAY THEATRE OF SHOPPING
- TOYOTA SA and McCARTHY TOYOTA
- LEE SCRIBANTE
- LAWRENCE AND CO
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- ROY PILAY
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- DIRK BENADE
- DISTELL
- SPECK PUMPS
- BLUFF MEAT SUPPLY
- ULTRA ZAP
- COUNTRY GARDENS AND SHIRLEY DOO
- DRIEFONTEIN NURSERY
- KOI & WATERWAYS
- NATAL PLASTICS
- PENRITH KOI FARM
- KOI @ JUNGLE
- SAKURA KOI FARM
- HAPPY KOI
- PARADISE KOI
- NORMANDENE KOI
- PETMASTERS
- KOI 4 U
- WILD COAST KOI
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- PARK LANE CELLARS AND ANTHONY PENTON
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- SHOGUN
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- SANLAM
- OSCARS RESTAURANT
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- BP CHATSWORTH CIRCLE
- ASSEGAI SPORTS
- TRANSPORT.COM
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- UMHLALI BMW

Reserve GC.



Jumbo A



Jumbo B



KOI SHOW



Judges: - L to R. Jeroen Dregmans, Brian Welch, Kazuo McDonald, Rene Shoenmaker, Louis Vanreusel, Kevin Harison, Anja Albertsboer, Richard Albertsboer, Kate McGill, Terry McNeil, Dirk de Witte, Jim Phillips, Gerard McDonald.

Mature Champion



Junior Champion



Baby Champion



英國東南地區錦鯉俱樂部



Do you plan to visit the 45th ZNA All Japan Nishikigoi Show?

Now we have a big present for show visitors.

ZNA Chairman Nobuo Takigawa presents

free IZUMO SIGHTSEEING by Bus

DATE: 9AM to 4PM on Friday 13 November 2009

Bus Tour starts at Izumo Station at 9:00 am.

PLACES to visit:

• **ADACHI MUSEUM**

The best Japanese gardens in the world ranked by the Journal of Japanese Gardening magazine
→ADACHI MUSEUM web site: www.adachi-museum.or.jp

• **Izumo Taisha, The Grand Shrine of Izumo**

• **Chairman Takigawa's Koi Pond**

• **All Japan Koi Show Site at Izumo Dome (fish entry day)**

<Hotels near Japan Rail Izumo Station>

Twin Leaves Hotel Izumo tel 0853-30-8000 fax 0853-30-8100

Izumo Green Hotel Morris E-mail: info-izumo@hotel-morris.co.jp

Toyoko Inn Izumo Ekimae English web site: www.toyoko-inn.com/eng/

Izumo Station Hotel E-mail: info@ish.co.jp

Super Hotel Izumo Ekimae English web site: www.superhotel.co.jp/en/

<Flight Information to/from Izumo Airport>

JAL Tokyo Haneda - Izumo: 08:15, 11:00, 14:00, 16:55, 18:30

JAL Izumo - Tokyo Haneda: 07:35, 10:40, 13:35, 16:35, 19:35

JAC Osaka Itami - Izumo: 07:35, 10:00, 10:55, 13:20, 14:05, 16:10, 17:35, 19:00

JAC Izumo - Osaka Itami: 07:40, 08:55, 11:25, 12:25, 14:45, 15:30, 17:25, 19:00

JAC Fukuoka - Izumo: 07:50, 15:55

JAC Izumo - Fukuoka: 11:15, 17:35

*Above time schedules are found in May 2009. Check the latest flight information

<Airport Bus Service>

Bus Services are available from Izumo Airport to Izumo Station departing in 10 minutes after each flight landing. (ticket 700JPY)

* This tour is free for ZNA members, Nichirin subscribers and their families .

* Name registration required in advance.

TOUR ATTENDANCE sends NAME and Nationality, contact e-mail address or fax number to ZNA head office: fax +81-977-214529 e-mail zna@ctb.ne.jp



Adachi Museum



Adachi Museum



Izumo Taisha



ZEN NIPPON AIRINKAI NOR CAL



THIRD ANNUAL NISHIKIGOI SHOW



NOVEMBER 14-15, 2009

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ADMISISON FREE
SATURDAY 9 am-5pm, SUNDAY 10am-3pm

Holiday Inn Mediterranean Center, 1740 North First Street, San Jose, CA

Koi Competition

Koi Dealers, Product demonstration by Manufacturers,
Pond Contractors, Koi Artists, Koi Auction,
Koi education and commentary from certified Koi Judges,
and a whole lot more going on all weekend

WWW.ZNANORCAL.ORG

Show Chair, Barbara Jackson,
(408) 446-9382, barbj@gmail.com

Vendor Coordinator, Dr. Sanjiv Kapoor,
(408) 223-8776, sanjivkapoor1100lt@yahoo.com

Artwork by Cody Turtle

Festival of Fishkeeping & Water Gardening Weekend

PLUS
SPECIAL
OPEN BOWLS
COMPETITION!

JOINTLY
SPONSORED BY
HAGEN
RO-MAN
Star Fisheries



October 9 - 11, 2009 at Mill Rythe Holiday
Village, Hayling Island, Hampshire



This year's events:

- Festival Aquarist Society Masters' Open Show (on Sunday - sponsored by Hagen)
- The Tetra Southern Hot Festival (jointly sponsored by Tetra and RO-MAN)
- Goldfish Society of Great (sponsored by Star Fisheries)
- British Open Final (on Saturday - sponsored by Tetra)
- The FBAS Supreme Championships' Final (on Sunday - sponsored by Tetra)
- "Catch Display Saturday"
- "Jinchi Koi" - UK Fanchu Specialist Goldfish (sponsored by Star Fisheries)
- UK Open Show (jointly sponsored by Tetra and RO-MAN)
- Society members a quiz (sponsored by Tetra)
- Hagen Eco Tetra reptiles
- Speakers from the aquatic and water gardening world
- Hands-on aquarists, pond and water garden displays, reptiles, trade displays.

- A host of exciting attractions for both residents and day visitors, including:
- Freshwater tropicals
 - Discus
 - Marine fish
 - Koi and goldfish
 - Native freshwater fishes
 - Filtration and lighting
 - Water gardening
 - Reptiles

Prices

Half-board
Two-night weekend £95
Three-night weekend £115
Lunch available both days
Cabaret entertainment, fancy dress competition and dancing on all three nights.
Hotline bookings: Contact Grace Nathwell, 8 Acacia Avenue, Brentford, Middlesex TW8 0NR. Tel: 0208 847 3585.

Day visitors
Day visitors welcome on Saturday, October 10, and Sunday, October 11, 10am-5pm.

Day Visitors
GET IN FREE!

With Compliments
HAGEN
Supporting the hobby of fishkeeping

New This Year
Craft Marquee

Coming next month.....



Reproduction

Introduction

Whether it's planned or unplanned, seeing your koi spawning is one of the joys of pond ownership, and a good indicator that your fish are happy. In this article we will look at some aspects of carp reproduction, and shed light on why they spawn when they do.

Strategy

It might not seem like it when they are chasing each-other around the pond, but koi have a carefully evolved strategy for the process of reproducing. Unlike fish that exhibit parental care, such as mouth-brooding cichlids, koi have succeeded with the numbers approach. In other words, they produce as many eggs as possible in the knowledge that some are likely to survive, albeit a low percentage. Female koi can produce around 90,000 - 300,000 eggs per kg bodyweight, with their relative fecundity (number of eggs produced per kg) peaking when they are around 5kg. The eggs are not surprisingly small (1.5 - 2.5mm), and no parental care is exercised after spawning - all of the fish's energy is invested in producing lots of eggs, and then recovering for the next spawning. Spawning is however regulated by environmental conditions, to ensure the eggs are laid at a time when they are most likely to survive. In the UK, female koi will mature at around 3-4yrs of age, with males maturing a year earlier. In warmer climates it may only take a year.

Egg development

In order to spawn, female koi obviously need to develop a batch of healthy eggs ('oocytes'). In the UK this process begins soon after spawning in the late spring / summer, and goes through a number of stages:

- Initially, the cells that will eventually develop into eggs multiply inside the ovaries. These cells are called oogonia.
- The oogonia stop dividing and are connected by a membrane (the follicle) to the female's blood supply. At this stage they are called 'oocytes', and they grow in size from 30 to 300µm (0.03 - 0.3mm).
- The next stage involves the production of the yolk, and a consequent increase in the size of the eggs from 300 to 1000µm. It is called vitellogenesis and begins around June / July in the UK,

soon after spawning. It is completed by mid to late autumn (October / November).

- In the UK, the eggs will now go into a dormant phase due to the low temperature. Below 16°C they will be okay for around 9 months in this dormant state.
- In late spring / early summer when the temperature rises to 18-20°C, final maturation of the eggs commences. This involves the egg increasing in size & its nucleus moving closer to the micropyle - the hole through which sperm eventually enters and fertilises it.
- Finally, spawning behaviour commences and the follicle breaks down, freeing the eggs. Egg release and fertilisation can now occur.

The process is governed by temperature, needing around 1,000 degree days per cycle (e.g. 50 days at 20°C). It ensures that spawning takes place at a time of year when the fry will have plentiful food, along with lots of aquatic plant cover to hide in. In warmer climates it is possible to have more than one spawning in a year, as egg development occurs more rapidly and is not delayed by a dormant phase.

Sperm development follows a broadly similar pattern, commencing with future sperm cells (spermatogonia) multiplying and increasing in number. This is followed by their development into functional sperm cells. At temperatures over 5-8°C it is possible to extract sperm from males at most times of the year, although the quantity may vary.

Control of the reproductive cycle

Koi must time their reproductive cycle to allow spawning to occur at the optimum time. The mechanisms responsible for this involve a variety of hormones, the production of which is influenced by environmental factors. It revolves around the hypothalamus-pituitary-gonadal axis, so called because of the central role that these three organs have in hormone production and regulation.

Changes in temperature (and to a lesser extent light levels) are detected by the fish's senses. These send nervous signals to the hypothalamus (part of the brain), triggering the release of gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH). GnRH in turn stimulates an-

Rupert Bridges

other part of the brain - the pituitary gland. It releases gonadotropin hormones into the blood which are carried to the ovaries or testes.

Having been activated by the gonadotropins, the ovaries or testes will release steroid hormones into the blood. The steroids released by the ovaries include oestrogens, one of which (17-β oestradiol) is responsible for telling the liver to make vitellogenin. Vitellogenin is then transported into the developing eggs to increase their yolk content (during vitellogenesis).

As the temperature warms in late spring / summer, there is a surge in production of another hormone, commonly called 'maturation-inducing steroid' (MIS). This stimulates the final stages of egg development prior to ovulation and spawning.

The system regulates itself with a feedback mechanism in which the steroids produced by the ovaries are measured by the pituitary gland. During the early stages of egg development, oestrogens encourage the pituitary to produce dopamine, a hormone that prevents the final stages of maturation and ovulation by limiting gonadotropin production. This of course prevents the eggs being released too early. Later on, when the eggs are more fully developed and the ovaries are larger, higher levels of oestrogen tell the pituitary gland that the eggs are ready. As soon as conditions are favourable it then releases increased amounts of gonadotropins to stimulate final maturation.

In the UK, temperature is the main environmental variable that affects hormone production and egg development. In addition, spawning is dependent on a suitable substrate being present on which to lay the eggs. Aquatic weed or artificial spawning media is ideal.

Egg quality

The quality of the eggs that a female produces is governed by her condition, and in particular the nutrition she is receiving. The ovaries can account for a large percentage of the fish's overall weight, and therefore demand a considerable investment in terms of energy and proteins. Vitellogenin consists of around 80% protein and 20% lipid,

and is key to healthy yolk formation, and therefore the condition of eggs and fry. A deficiency of energy will lead to fewer or smaller eggs, with less chance of survival. A key source of energy for koi is lipid (fats and oils), and so broodstock females should be fed a high quality diet containing good levels of protein and lipid. A summer growth food would be ideal for this.

Lipid quality is also important, with unsaturated fatty acids being important for healthy embryo development. Specific types of highly unsaturated fatty acids can improve egg quality and the health of resultant fry, being essential for the proper development of cell membranes. Of the fatty acids, docosahexaenoic acid (22:6n-3) seems to be especially crucial to egg quality. These fatty acids are taken from the female's fat reserves, transported to the liver and used to produce vitellogenin. Consequently, the quality of lipid in the female's diet directly influences the quality and size of eggs produced. When getting females into breeding condition it is therefore important not to compromise on the quality of food they receive.

End

In the UK, provided your pond is unheated, you can expect your koi to exhibit a reproductive cycle similar to that described above. With sufficient numbers of mature males and females, suitable substrate, and a good diet, there is no reason why your fish should not spawn. If you want you can even remove the substrate containing the sticky eggs and try to rear them – most good koi books will tell you how to do this.

Further reading

Biology of Farmed Fish, Edited by Black & Pickering (2000)

Carp: Biology and Culture, Edited by Ross Billard (1999)

Broodstock Management and Egg and Larval Quality, Edited by Bromage and Roberts (1995)

Tetra Information Centre

www.tetra-fish.co.uk

Definitions

Fecundity – the number of eggs produced. Relative fecundity is the number of eggs produced per unit of body mass (e.g. per kg).

Oogonia – cells that will eventually develop into eggs.

Oocyte - unfertilised eggs.

Spermatogonia – cells that will eventually develop into sperm.

Follicle – membrane that connects the oocytes to the mother's blood supply.

Micropyle – hole through which sperm enters the egg and fertilises it.

Vitellogenesis – yolk formation.

Lipids – fats and oils.

Fatty Acid – molecule constructed around a chain of carbon atoms. Forms part of a lipid molecule.



Coming in the next
Month's issue.

The 17th Nishikigoi
Vereniging Nederland
NVN
Show

The 23rd South East/
3rd International
Koi Show

The inaugural Dealers
Cup Show

The North East
Koi Show

Plus any other reports
we get in between now
and 25th October.

英國東南地區錦鯉俱樂部

Scottish Section BKKS Closed Show

Christine Woolger

Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th August 2009

It was an early start on Saturday as I was on the 7.00 am flight from Gatwick to Edinburgh to Judge the Scottish Koi Show.

I was met by Kate at the airport and we drove about ½ hour to the Klondyke Garden Centre just outside Falkirk, this is a new venue for the Show, and absolutely ideal. It's a large outside circular area with a very high purpose built "Big Top" style canopy, so no direct sunlight or rain but still out in the open.

When I arrived there was all the normal busy, busy, busy of a Koi Show and Koi would be arriving till 10 am for benching. Not a problem as I sat chatting and drinking coffee waiting for Allan Tait (trainee Judge) to arrive as he was driving up – only 2 hours for him. During this time John Anderson (also a trainee Judge) was benching all the Koi as they arrived, and Andrew Frew was busy taking and printing the photos' and collating all the paperwork.

We all had an early lunch in the Garden Centre Restaurant which was very nice, now let's start Judging.

As this was a Closed Show the sizes and prizes were slightly different. See bottom right.

First was to choose the Grand Champion as in most Koi Shows the Koi that takes this Award is not eligible for any other prize. This came down to a choice of 2 Sankes. And after a few minutes the final decision was made – Sanke in Vat 4.

Now to the rest of the Judging, there were 14 Vats and 62 Koi at the show, and all of the Koi were of a good standard, but as expected at a small show there are no large Koi. There was a good mixture of varieties in all sizes, and in some classes some good competition and challenging Judging.

The Admin team were well organised and as we finished Judging each Size the results were being put up for the visitors to see.

At the end the day we all went out for a Show Dinner and everyone could relax and chat about the day.

The Scottish Club have a very enthusiastic band of helpers headed up by Show Chairman Willie Morland, and my thanks goes to all of them for making my job of Judging an easy one with no paperwork or benching problems.

I know the Show was a success for them, as on Saturday I believe they had already taken subscriptions from about 15 new members and more gate money than last year, and they still had Sunday to go.

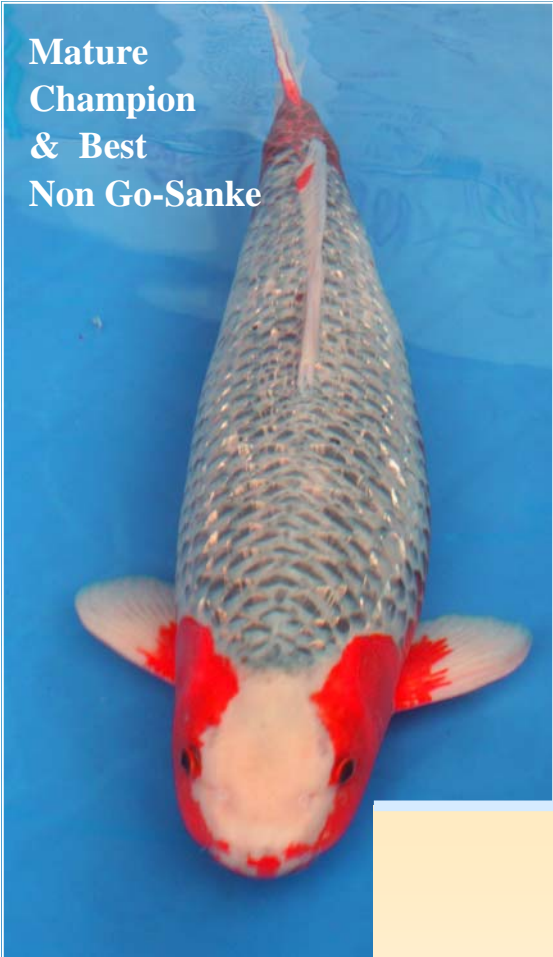
Christine



SHOW "SIZES & PRIZES"

Size 1 - 15-30 cms
Size 2 - 30-40 cms
Size 3 - 40-50 cms
Size 4 - 50-60 cms
Size 5 - 60 + cms

Best Size 1 = Baby Champion
Best Size 2 = Juvenile Champion
Best Size 3 = Young Adult Champion
Best Size 4 = Adult Champion
Best Size 5 = Mature Champion
Grand Champion
Best Non GoSanke



Mature
Champion
& Best
Non Go-Sanke



Young
Champion



Adult
Champion

The Final Results

<i>Baby Champion -</i>	<i>Yvonne Kerr</i>
<i>Juvenile Champion -</i>	<i>Donald Stewart</i>
<i>Young Adult Champion -</i>	<i>Donald Stewart</i>
<i>Adult Champion -</i>	<i>Andrew Frew</i>
<i>Mature Champion -</i>	<i>Willie Morland</i>
<i>Grand Champion -</i>	<i>John Anderson</i>
<i>2003 Best No Go Sanke -</i>	<i>Willie Morland</i>



Juvenile
Champion



Baby
Champion

Koi Show dates
for the next 2 months



September

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

October

21st MAKC/Koi America Show, 2-4th October, at Carroll County Ag Center, Westminster, Maryland, USA

Festival of Fishkeeping, 9 - 11th October, Mill Rythe Holiday Village, Hayling Island, Hampshire, UK

38th ZNA Osaka Chapter Show, 18th October, Haya Senshu-no-sato, 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.

Contender for the 2010 Koi Trek transport franchise #1.



WWW.BESSELS.ORG

The latest feature from Niigata-Nishikigoi.com

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First issue now available!

East meets West a comparison of understanding.

The Japanese are the creators of koi. And it is very hard, if not impossible, to separate out the Japanese view point if one really wants to understand koi appreciation on a deeper level.

The Japanese experts in the breeding world and the amateur world talk about koi pattern as being primitive or refined. This is a very deep idea as most of us in the west simply see the pattern on a koi as 'another color' when we first see a good show specimen of nishikigoi. But there really is a complete backdrop of understanding involved in looking at koi patterns.

Primitive patterns always have the aura of the wild carp associated with them. These patterns are just a degree away from the informal 'top and bottom' color variations we see on wild carp. Only in the case of koi, like kohaku, the colors mask the similarities. But similar they are, with the red groupings of color being long and flowing over the back of the koi. In some cases this pattern will run onto the eye and face of the koi as if to remind us that this is a wild carp cousin and the red simply replaces the darker grey of the wild carps top camouflage. In other atavistic cases, the long continuous pattern might become wavy and look like a long wide 'lightening bolt' of red over an otherwise white fish. This is the slightly advanced, albeit still, primitive pattern. Other examples would be aka sanke, aka showa, where the pattern is reverting back to a full upper body coloring and a white belly (same as most wild type carp).

The refined pattern is, of course, the stepped pattern. If you look at the fish exhibited in the 1914 expo show you will see 'spotted fish' and not truly patterned fish.

The 'West' can help in the understanding of this. As mutation traits for color were worked to perfection by the early Japanese farmers, the emergence of a second most powerful refinement was becoming evident. And that was the pattern mutation. I'm sure the early farmers do not have an explanation of it but it certainly did not escape their intense and powerful powers of observation. The mutation pattern in koi is not unique to the animal world. It is in fact a common mutation in many animals.

Perhaps the most amazing thing is that the farmer saw and captured it in a way to appreciate the viewing of koi from above. This mutation trait I'm speaking of is the piebald gene which creates 'patches' on the animal of one color gene expression over the other dominate body gene color.

The most interesting part of this is the fact that both breeder selection (man's contribution of goal and vision) and the three forms of 'hard wired' piebald types (a genetic imperative) came together to form patterns that are 98% above the lateral line (in one piebald pattern) that depart the wild pattern in all but general orientation. These 'refined' patterns then represent the truly rare, organized steps in predictable counts. The counts being now standard piebald patterns and variations. It was during this time that the 'ultimate' three step and four step was established, refined and made permanent within the overall gene pool. In a sense, this is the point where mutation genetics and man's manipulation through selective breeding became one .

Jim Reilly.

Devil fish?

This little snippet was published in the UK's Daily Telegraph.

At Hampton Court Flower Show Kingston Maurward College/Amphibian & Reptile Conservation Trust's Dragon Garden I spoke to lecturer Dr Rachel Parker, who said fish were partly to blame for many unsuccessful ponds. Yes, fish wreck ponds. Koi, for example, are status fish - the pitbulls of the pond - but while pitbulls chew trees to death to train their jaws, koi chew water lily roots, leaving a plant void in which algae can establish. To make matters worse, koi waste raises nitrate levels in the water, adding to the green soup effect. And watch out for koi carp herpes.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/gardening/5851646/Are-koi-carp-the-devils-fish.html>

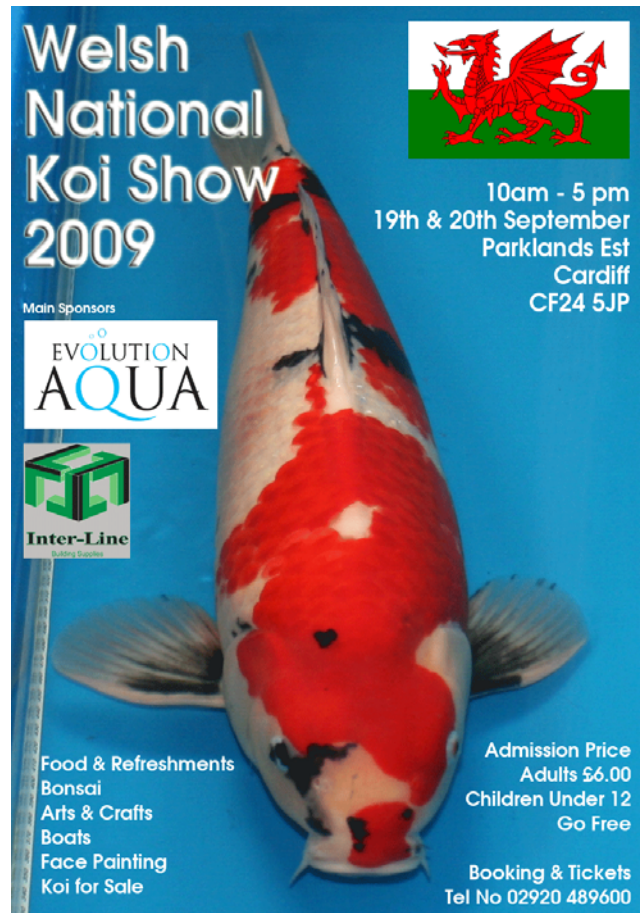
Partners in goodwill.

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.



Welsh National Koi Show 2009

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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

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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And

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