



COOPERATION BETWEEN SCIENCE AND HOBBYISTS IN THE WORK FOR CONSERVATION OF VIVIPAROUS FISHES

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ABSTRACT

Why do I keep and breed livebearing fishes for a hobby? Quite a good question and the question is even better because it is mainly goodeids I keep and breed. Grey fishes – only a few of them really have colors. The answer is fascination. Fascination of the life under water, but also fascination of the fact, that some fishes are livebearing – some even in a very advanced way like the goodeids. It all starts with the fascination. Later, on you realize the necessity of working for conservation, not only for the fishes, but also for the habitats in which they live. That demands a little bit more than a normal hobby and some kind of cooperation between scientists, professionals of Zoological Gardens and hobbyists. But still: I am a hobbyist and proud of it.