

CIFE Publication Series No. Monograph/101/2026



PREMIUM EXOTIC ORNAMENTAL FISH VARIANTS AVAILABLE IN INDIA (A Monograph)



Dr. Debajit Sarma

Dr. Paramita B. Sawant

Ms. Vatsalya Bhatt

ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Education , Mumbai





PREMIUM EXOTIC ORNAMENTAL FISH VARIANTS AVAILABLE IN INDIA (A Monograph)



Dr. Debajit Sarma
Dr. Paramita B. Sawant
Ms. Vatsalya Bhatt



भा.कृ.अनु.प.- केन्द्रीय मात्सिकी शिक्षा संस्थान ICAR-CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF FISHERIES EDUCATION

(A University Established Under Sec. 3 of UGC Act 1956)
Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare,
Govt. of India.



Foreword



It gives me immense pleasure to write few lines on this Monograph entitled “**Premium Exotic Ornamental Fish Variants Available in India**”, brought out in memory of the “**Ornamental Fish Fair and Aquarium Science Workshop**” held on 31st January and 1st February, 2026 at ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Mumbai.

The ornamental fish sector has emerged as one of the most vibrant and economically promising components of aquaculture worldwide. With increasing global demand, advancements in selective breeding, and innovations in aquarium science, the industry today represents a fusion of science, entrepreneurship, aesthetics, and conservation. India, with its rich aquatic biodiversity and growing technical expertise, has immense potential to become a global hub for quality ornamental fish production.

This monograph is a commendable effort meticulously documenting premium exotic variants of Discus, Goldfish, Flowerhorn, and Fighter fish with original photographs based on the display during the Ornamental Fish Fair, 2026. It not only highlights their ornamental characteristics and origin, but also provides indicative market values, thereby serving as a practical reference for breeders, researchers, students, entrepreneurs, and hobbyists.

The Ornamental Fish Fair and Aquarium Science Workshop served as an excellent platform for knowledge exchange, industry academia interaction, and promotion of scientific aquarium management practices. The publication of this monograph as a commemorative volume adds lasting value to the event and will remain a useful technical resource for years to come.

I congratulate Dr. Debajit Sarma, Dr. Paramita B. Sawant, Ms. Vatsalya Bhatt, and all associates for their dedicated efforts in compiling this comprehensive document. I am confident that this monograph will significantly contribute to strengthening sustainable ornamental aquaculture and advancing aquarium science in the country.

With best wishes for continued excellence in ornamental fisheries research and development.

Dr. N.P.Sahu
Director (Acting)



**This Monograph is prepared under All India Network Project
on Ornamental Fish Breeding and Culture (AINPOFBC)**



Premium Exotic Ornamental Fish Variants (A Monograph)

Associates

Dr. Munilkumar Sukham
Dr. A. K. Verma
Dr. Babitha Rani A. M.
Dr. Thongam I. Chanu
Dr. Madhuri Pathak
Dr. Upasana Sahoo
Dr. Kapil S. Sukhdhane
Mr. Yogesh Manohar Bhavsar
Mr. Kurpesh
Sams Discus
Mr. Himanshu Shelke
Mr. Rudra Discus
Sam Parker
Mr. Niranjana Chaban
Mr. Bhavesh Suresh Mhatre
Mr. Milind Sarang
Mr. Dama Ram

Authors

Dr. Debajit Sarma
Dr. Paramita B. Sawant
Ms. Vatsalya Bhatt

A group of colorful discus fish swimming in an aquarium. The fish display various patterns and colors, including stripes, spots, and solid colors. The background is filled with lush green artificial plants. The text "VARIANTS OF DISCUS" is overlaid in the center in a bold, white, serif font with a blue outline.

VARIANTS OF DISCUS

Scientific name:

Symphysodon spp.

Majestic Blue Discus

Variant:

Majestic Blue Discus
(Solid white selective strain with
red eye)

International price:

USD \$80–200
high grade \$250–400+

Indian price:

₹6,000–12,000 (juvenile)
₹12,000–25,000+ (adult)



Breeding status:

Captive bred, substrate spawner,
biparental care with mucus feeding

Origin:

Line-bred from wild lineage from Amazon Basin, South America.

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous with carnivorous tendency

Ornamental characters:

Solid milky white body, bright red eye, round symmetrical disc shape
with minimal coral brown patterns on dorsal fins and face , long
pelvic fins.

Turquoise Maze Leopard

Scientific name:

Symphysodon spp.

Variant:

Turquoise Maze Leopard

International price:

USD \$ 110–330 (contrast and size dependent)

Indian price:

₹9,000–25,000

Breeding status:

Captive-bred (selectively stabilized ornamental strain)

Origin:

Developed by intensifying turquoise/blue base genetics within maze-leopard breeding lines to produce strong metallic blue expression beneath dense red maze striping

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous; accepts high-protein pellets, frozen bloodworms, Artemia, and beef heart mix.

Ornamental characters:

Metallic turquoise or blue base with dense red labyrinth-like maze striping. Pattern is more maze-dominant with strong contrast and extends onto fins. Reduced visible stress bars, symmetrical dorsal and anal fins and elongated pelvic filaments.



Cobalt Blue Discus

Scientific name:

Symphysodon spp.

Variant:

Solid metallic cobalt-blue strain with minimal pattern

International price:

USD \$80–220

Indian price:

₹6,000–12,000 (juvenile)

₹12,000–25,000+ (adult)

Breeding status:

Captive bred, substrate spawner, biparental care with mucus feeding

Origin:

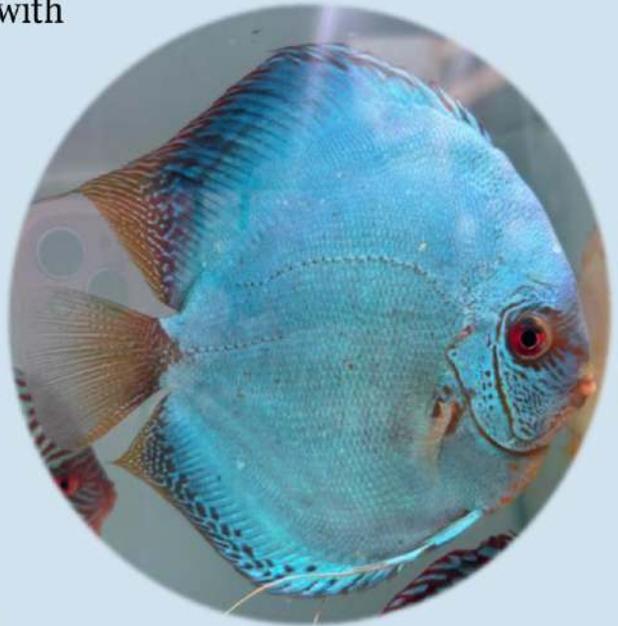
Amazon River Basin ornamental strain developed through selective breeding in Asia/Europe

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous with carnivorous tendency

Ornamental characters:

Uniform metallic blue body with brown maize pattern on extended dorsal and anal fins, bright red eye, peaceful temperament.



Scientific name:
Symphysodon spp.

Golden Carnation Discus

Variant:
Golden- Carnation Discus

International price:
USD \$ 80–200

Indian price:
₹ 6,000–18,000

Breeding status:
Captive bred, lays eggs on vertical surface , biparental care with fry feeding on mucus.

Origin:
Developed through selective breeding in Southeast Asia (Thailand, Malaysia); ancestral lineage from the Amazon River Basin, South America

Feeding behaviour:
Omnivorous with carnivorous tendency

Ornamental characters:
Bright golden-yellow base colour , distinct white to cream “carnation-like” spotting and maze pattern , red edging on dorsal and anal fins in high-grade specimens.



Scientific name:

Symphysodon spp.

Red Melon Discus

Variant:

Red Melon / Super Red Discus

International price:

USD \$90–250

Indian price:

₹7,000–15,000 (juvenile)

₹15,000–30,000+ (adult)



Breeding status:

Captive bred, substrate spawner,
biparental care with mucus feeding

Origin:

Selectively bred ornamental strain; wild lineage from Amazon River Basin (Brazil, Peru, Colombia).

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous with carnivorous tendency

Ornamental characters:

Uniform bright red body, minimal pattern, pale face, red eye, round symmetrical disc shape, extended dorsal and anal fins.

Scientific name:

Symphysodon spp.

Red Scarlet Discus

Variant:

Red Scarlet Discus

International price:

USD \$50–150

Indian price:

₹7,000–15,000 (juvenile)

₹ 3,000– 12,000+ (adult)



Breeding status:

Captive bred, substrate spawner,
biparental care with mucus feeding

Origin:

Developed primarily in Southeast Asia (Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore) by selectively breeding red-based discus lines

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous with carnivorous tendency

Ornamental characters:

Bright scarlet to deep red base , slight white streaking on head and fin edges, minimal visible stress bars ,Tail slightly translucent with light patterning

Blue Rim Red Discus

Scientific name:

Symphysodon spp.

Variant:

Blue rim red discus with dark bar near eye

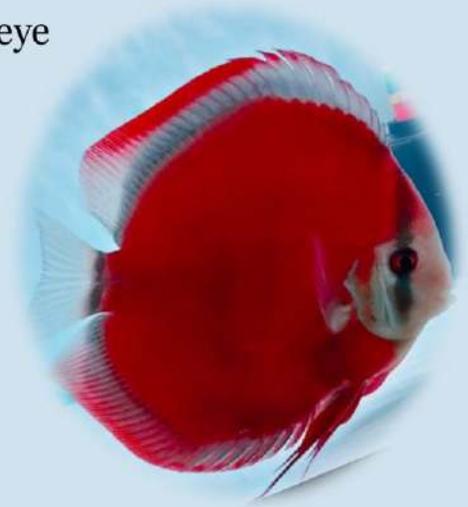
International price:

USD \$350–500

Indian price:

₹8,000–18,000 (juvenile)

₹18,000–35,000+ (adult)



Breeding status:

Captive bred, substrate spawner,
biparental care with mucus feeding

Origin:

Selectively bred ornamental strain; wild ancestry from Amazon River Basin.

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous with carnivorous tendency

Ornamental characters:

Deep solid red body, cream face, characteristic vertical dark bar near eye, distinct blue/whitish rim on dorsal and anal fins.

Scientific name:

Symphysodon spp.

Red Leopard Discus

Variant:

Red Leopard Discus (Leopard Skin /
Leopard Snakeskin type)

International price:

USD \$120–300

High pattern density show grade
\$350–600+

Indian price:

₹10,000–20,000 (juvenile)

₹20,000–40,000+ (adult)

**Breeding status:**

Captive bred, substrate spawner,
biparental care with mucus feeding

Origin:

Amazon River Basin ornamental strain developed through line breeding
in Asia/Europe

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous with carnivorous tendency

Ornamental characters:

Cream/white base densely covered with fine red spotting (“leopard”
pattern), pattern extends into dorsal and anal fins, red eye with
symmetrical round disc body.

Scientific name:
Symphysodon spp.

Checkerboard Pigeon

Variant:
Checkerboard Pigeon

International price:
USD \$ 70–200

Indian price:
₹6,000–18,000



Breeding status:
Captive bred, lays eggs on vertical surface , biparental care with fry feeding on mucus.

Origin:
Developed through selective line breeding of the Pigeon Blood strain by crossing red pigeon lines with patterned snakeskin/checker strains to intensify the white net-like pattern and stabilize the orange-red base.

Feeding behaviour:
Omnivorous with carnivorous tendency

Ornamental characters:
bright orange to red base colour overlaid with a dense white checkerboard or reticulated pattern across the body and fins. Vertical stress bars are typically absent due to the pigeon blood genetic trait. .

Scientific name:

Symphysodon spp.

Yellow Crystal Discus

Variant:

Yellow crystal discus with light reticulated patterns

International price:

USD \$120–300

Indian price:

₹10,000–22,000 (juvenile)

₹22,000–40,000+ (adult)

**Breeding status:**

Captive bred, substrate spawner, biparental care with mucus feeding.

Origin:

Line-bred from wild lineage from Amazon Basin, South America.

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous with carnivorous tendency; insects, larvae.

Ornamental characters:

Brilliant solid yellow colour, often with maize like markings and red albino eye.

Scientific name:

Symphysodon discus

Heckel Discus

Variant:

Heckel Discus (Heckel Cross)

International price:

USD \$180–400 (wild caught pure heckel \$500–1000+)

Indian price:

₹15,000–30,000 (juvenile)

₹40,000–80,000+ (adult)

**Breeding status:**

Rarely bred in captivity , substrate spawner, biparental care with mucus feeding

Origin:

Rio Negro Basin, Amazon (Brazil, Venezuela)

Feeding behaviour:

Carnivorous- omnivorous tendency; insects, larvae

Ornamental characters:

Distinct thick central vertical bar (third body bar), additional vertical stress bars on orange-brown base colour with red spotting on upper body and blue facial striping.

Scientific name:

Symphysodon spp.

Red Turquoise Discus

Variant:

Red Turquoise Discus

International price:

USD \$80–200

Indian price:

₹6,000–14,000 (juvenile)

₹15,000–25,000+ (adult)



Breeding status:

Captive bred, substrate spawner,
biparental care with mucus feeding

Origin:

Selectively bred ornamental strain with wild lineage from Amazon
Basin, South America.

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous with carnivorous tendency; insects, larvae,
crustaceans

Ornamental characters:

Bright turquoise-blue base with thick red maze-like vermiculation
across body and fins, red eye, elongated dorsal and anal fins.

White Pigeon Blood Discus

Scientific name:

Symphysodon spp.

Variant:

Red crystal discus with light reticulated patterns

International price:

USD \$ 90–220

Indian price:

₹7,000–15,000 (juvenile)

₹15,000–30,000+ (adult)

Breeding status:

Captive bred, lays eggs on vertical surface , biparental care with fry feeding on mucus.

Origin:

Ornamental strain derived from Amazon Basin lineage.

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous with carnivorous tendency

Ornamental characters:

White to cream base colour with scattered red spotting and short vermiculation , red eye , minimal vertical body barring , round symmetrical disc-shaped body.



Nigro Checkerboard Discus

Scientific name:

Symphysodon spp.

Variant:

Nigro Checkerboard Discus (black base with high-contrast checker/spot pattern)

International price:

USD \$ 120–330

Indian price:

₹10,000–20,000 (juvenile)

₹20,000–40,000+ (adult)

**Breeding status:**

Captive bred, lays eggs on vertical surface , biparental care with fry feeding on mucus.

Origin:

Ornamental strain developed through selective breeding

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous with carnivorous tendency

Ornamental characters:

Deep black base colour with bold bluish white checkerboard spotting across body and fins , bright red eye , round symmetrical disc shape.

Scientific name:

Symphysodon spp.

Ica Red Discus

Variant:

Ica Red Discus

International price:

USD \$ 170–180

Indian price:

₹ 5,000–15,000

Breeding status:

Captive bred, lays eggs on vertical surface , biparental care with fry feeding on mucus.

Origin:

Developed by ICA (International Center for Aquarium) breeding lines in Southeast Asia; ancestral origin from the Amazon River Basin, South America

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous with carnivorous tendency ; accepts frozen bloodworms, Artemia, beef heart mix; mid-water feeder.

Ornamental characters:

Deep red to brick-red body base ,prominent dark vertical stress bars, blue/black dorsal band with contrasting upper margin ,red eye with strong pigmentation .



Scientific name:
Symphysodon spp.

Snow White Discus

Variant:

Platinum White / Snow –White Discus

International price:

USD \$ 120–350

Indian price:

₹10,000–30,000



Breeding status:

Captive bred, lays eggs on vertical surface ,
biparental care with fry feeding on mucus.

Origin:

Developed through intensive selective breeding to eliminate body
pattern and pigmentation, stabilizing a solid white phenotype.

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous with carnivorous tendency

Ornamental characters:

Solid, uniform white to pearly white body with no visible striping
or spotting. Stress bars are absent or extremely faint. The eye is
typically red to orange, providing contrast against the white body.

Scientific name:

Symphysodon spp.

Royal Flora Turquoise Discus

Variant:

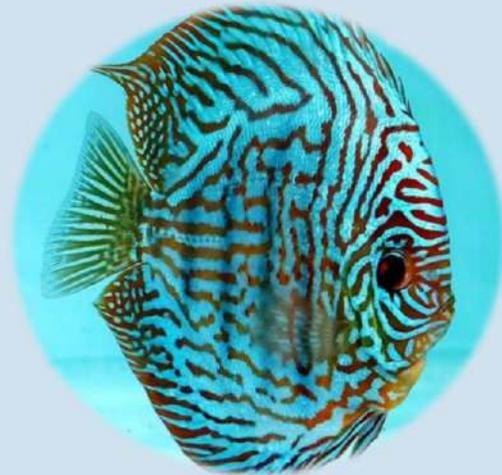
Royal Flora Turquoise

International price:

USD \$ 90–250

Indian price:

₹7,000–20,000



Breeding status:

Captive bred, lays eggs on vertical surface , biparental care with fry feeding on mucus.

Origin:

Developed through selective breeding of Royal Blue/Turquoise discus lines to intensify metallic turquoise base colour combined with dense red floral or maze-like striping. .

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous with carnivorous tendency

Ornamental characters:

Bright metallic turquoise base overlaid with dense red maze or floral striping across the body and fins. extending onto dorsal, anal, and caudal fins , eye is typically red, enhancing contrast.

Scientific name:

Symphysodon spp.

Blue Tiger Snakeskin Discus

Variant:

Blue Tiger Snakeskin Discus

International price:

USD \$ 90–250

Indian price:

₹7,000–20,000



Breeding status:

Captive bred, lays eggs on vertical surface , biparental care with fry feeding on mucus.

Origin:

Ornamental strain developed through selective breeding

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous with carnivorous tendency

Ornamental characters:

Dense snakeskin pattern covering entire body , labyrinth – like red stripes over blue base with red eye

Sparkling Maze Leopard

Scientific name:

Symphysodon spp.

Variant:

Sparkling Maze Leopard

International price:

USD \$ 100–328 (pattern density and size dependent)

Indian price:

₹8,000–22,000

Breeding status:

Captive-bred (selectively stabilized ornamental strain)

Origin:

Developed through selective crossing of maze-pattern discus with leopard-spot strains to enhance dense red reticulation over a light cream/white base.

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous; accepts high-protein pellets, frozen bloodworms, Artemia, and beef heart mix.

Ornamental characters:

Cream to pale white base with dense red maze striping combined with fine leopard-style spotting. Pattern covers body and extends onto dorsal and anal fins. Stress bars are reduced or fragmented. .



Scientific name:

Symphysodon spp.

Fire and Ice Discus

Variant:

Fire and Ice Discus

International price:

USD \$ 120–300(size, colour contrast, and grade dependent)

Indian price:

₹10,000–28,000

Breeding status:

Captive-bred (selectively stabilized ornamental strain)

Origin:

Developed through selective breeding by combining intense red-based discus lines (“Fire” trait) with turquoise/blue patterned lines (“Ice” trait) to produce strong red body colour with contrasting icy blue-white markings

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous; accepts high-protein pellets, frozen bloodworms, Artemia, and beef heart mix.

Ornamental characters:

Deep red to orange body (“fire” base) contrasted with icy blue to white markings on the head, dorsal, and anal fins. Blue-white streaks along the fin margins and facial region create strong colour contrast.



Scientific name:

Symphysodon spp.

White Face Yellow Discus

Variant:

White Face Yellow Discus

International price:

USD \$ 100–260

Indian price:

₹8,000–22,000

Breeding status:

Captive-bred (selectively stabilized ornamental strain)

Origin:

Developed through selective breeding of solid yellow discus lines combined with white-face (mask-reduction) genetics to create a bright yellow body with a pale or white facial region.

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous; accepts high-protein pellets, frozen bloodworms, Artemia, and beef heart mix.

Ornamental characters:

Vibrant lemon-yellow to golden-yellow body with a distinct pale white or light cream face. The body is smooth and patternless with reduced or absent stress bars



A group of various goldfish swimming in an aquarium. The fish are of different colors and breeds, including orange, white with orange spots, and black. The background is dark blue with some green foliage visible on the left side.

VARIANTS OF GOLDFISH

Scientific name:

Carassius auratus

Red Cap Oranda

Variant:

Redcap Oranda
(crown-type Oranda goldfish)

International price:

USD \$25–100

Indian price:

₹1800–5,000 (juvenile)
₹6,000–12,000+ (premium)

**Breeding status:**

Fully Captive bred, egg layer with external fertilization , easy to breed in tanks

Origin:

Domesticated strain developed in China and Japan; species originally native to East Asia.

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous ; eats algae , plant matter, small invertebrates

Ornamental characters:

Short, egg-shaped body; metallic white/cream base color with distinct bright red wen restricted to top of head, flowing translucent fins; no dorsal deformity.

Scientific name:

Carassius auratus

Common Goldfish

Variant:

Common Goldfish (single tail type)

International price:

USD \$3–10

Indian price:

₹80–300

**Breeding status:**

Fully captive bred, egg layer with external fertilization

Origin:

Domesticated in China; species originally native to East Asia

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous ; eats algae , plant matter, small invertebrates

Ornamental characters:

Streamlined elongated body , bright orange-red colour with metallic golden scales; single tail fin (shorter and less forked than Comet); upright dorsal fin.

Scientific name:

Carassius auratus

Black Oranda Goldfish

Variant:

Black Oranda Goldfish (Black morph with wen/head growth)

International price:

USD \$20–150

Indian price:

₹15,00–8,000

**Breeding status:**

Captive bred , egg layer with external fertilization

Origin:

Domesticated in China and selectively bred from ancestor from East Asian freshwater bodies

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous; slow swimmer; prefers sinking pellets, greens, worms

Ornamental characters:

Prominent head growth (wen), deep round body, double tail , velvety black coloration.

Scientific name:

Carassius auratus

Variant:

Fantail Goldfish (Sarasa colouration)

International price:

USD \$5-30

Indian price:

₹100-800

Breeding status:

Egg layer with external fertilization and bred easily in tanks

Origin:

Selectively bred ornamental strain in China

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous , accepts pellets, flakes, vegetables and worms.

Ornamental characters:

Rounded, egg-shaped body with a double flowing tail and an upright dorsal fin and red-white (Sarasa) coloration.

Fantail Sarasa Goldfish



Scientific name:

Carassius auratus

Tricolor Oranda Goldfish

Variant:

Tricolor Oranda Goldfish

International price:

USD \$25–150

Indian price:

₹15,00–10,000



Breeding status:

Captive bred, substrate spawner,
biparental care with mucus feeding

Origin:

Developed through selective breeding in China and derived from wild Prussian carp

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous , bottom to column feeder , accepts sinking feed

Ornamental characters:

Prominent fleshy head growth (wen), deep and rounded egg-shaped body, double flowing caudal fin , upright dorsal fin , tricolor pattern (white base with red cap and black/orange patches) , metallic scales.

Panda Oranda Goldfish

Scientific name:

Carassius auratus

Variant:

Panda Oranda Goldfish

International price:

USD \$30-200

Indian price:

₹2000–15,000

Breeding status:

Fully domesticated , captive bred , egg layer; external fertilization , spawning induced by temperature rise

Origin:

Developed by selective breeding in China and descended from wild Prussian carp (*Carassius gibelio*)

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous , bottom to column feeder , accepts sinking feed

Ornamental characters:

Prominent fleshy head growth (wen) , deep rounded egg-shaped body with double flowing caudal fin , distinct black-and-white “panda” coloration (often with red head marking) .



Scientific name:

Carassius auratus

Calico Oranda Goldfish

Variant:

Calico Oranda Goldfish

International price:

USD \$50–300+

Indian price:

₹7,000–15,000 (juvenile)

₹5,000–10,000+ (adult)

**Breeding status:**

Captive bred, egg layer ,external fertilization , high fecundity

Origin:

Selectively developed in China and Japan

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous , bottom to column feeder , accepts sinking feed

Ornamental characters:

Massive symmetrical wen covering head , high back and compact body, wide tail spread, red head with orange, black, and white mottled body , nacreous scales

Scientific name:

Carassius auratus

Metallic Red Black Oranda

Variant:

Metallic Red Black Oranda

International price:

USD \$30–120+

Indian price:

₹2,000–8000



Breeding status:

Captive bred, egg layer ,external fertilization , high fecundity

Origin:

Selectively developed in China and Japan

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous , bottom to column feeder , accepts sinking feed

Ornamental characters:

Moderate, symmetrical wen with strong red coloration with contrasting black and minor white areas, clean metallic sheen.

Scientific name:

Carassius auratus

Red- White Ryukin Goldfish

Variant:

Metallic Red Black Oranda

International price:

USD \$20–120+

Indian price:

₹1500–8000



Breeding status:

Captive bred, egg layer ,external fertilization , high fecundity.

Origin: Developed in Japan from Chinese goldfish stock

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous , bottom to column feeder , accepts sinking feed.

Ornamental characters:

Distinct high back/arched profile , white body with red patches near fin base , symmetrical double tail , thick metallic scales.

Scientific name:

Carassius auratus

Bubble eye Goldfish

Variant:

Bubble eye Goldfish

International price:

USD \$50–120+

Indian price:

₹600–2500

**Breeding status:**

Captive bred, egg layer ,external fertilization , high fecundity

Origin:

Selectively developed in China

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous , bottom to column feeder , accepts sinking feed

Ornamental characters:

Large fluid-filled sacs under both eyes ,no dorsal fin, rounded, egg-shaped body , metallic orange/red coloration.

Scientific name:

Carassius auratus

Lionhead Apache Oranda

Variant:

Lionhead Apache Oranda

International price:

USD \$80–300+

Indian price:

₹6000–25,000

**Breeding status:**

Captive bred, egg layer ,external fertilization ,
high fecundity

Origin:

Developed through selective breeding of Oranda goldfish lines emphasizing heavy wen (head growth) combined with Apache colour pattern genetics (red, black, and dark patches).

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous; accepts high-quality goldfish pellets, gel food, blanched vegetables, and occasional live/frozen foods.

Ornamental characters:

Prominent fleshy wen covering the forehead and cheeks, apache pattern shows a striking combination of deep red/orange, black, and darker body patches ,egg-shaped with a double tail (caudal fin) and symmetrical dorsal fin

Scientific name:

Carassius auratus

Shogun Goldfish

Variant:

Shogun Goldfish

International price:

USD \$150–500

Indian price:

₹12,000–40,000



Breeding status:

Captive bred, egg layer ,external fertilization ,
high fecundity

Origin:

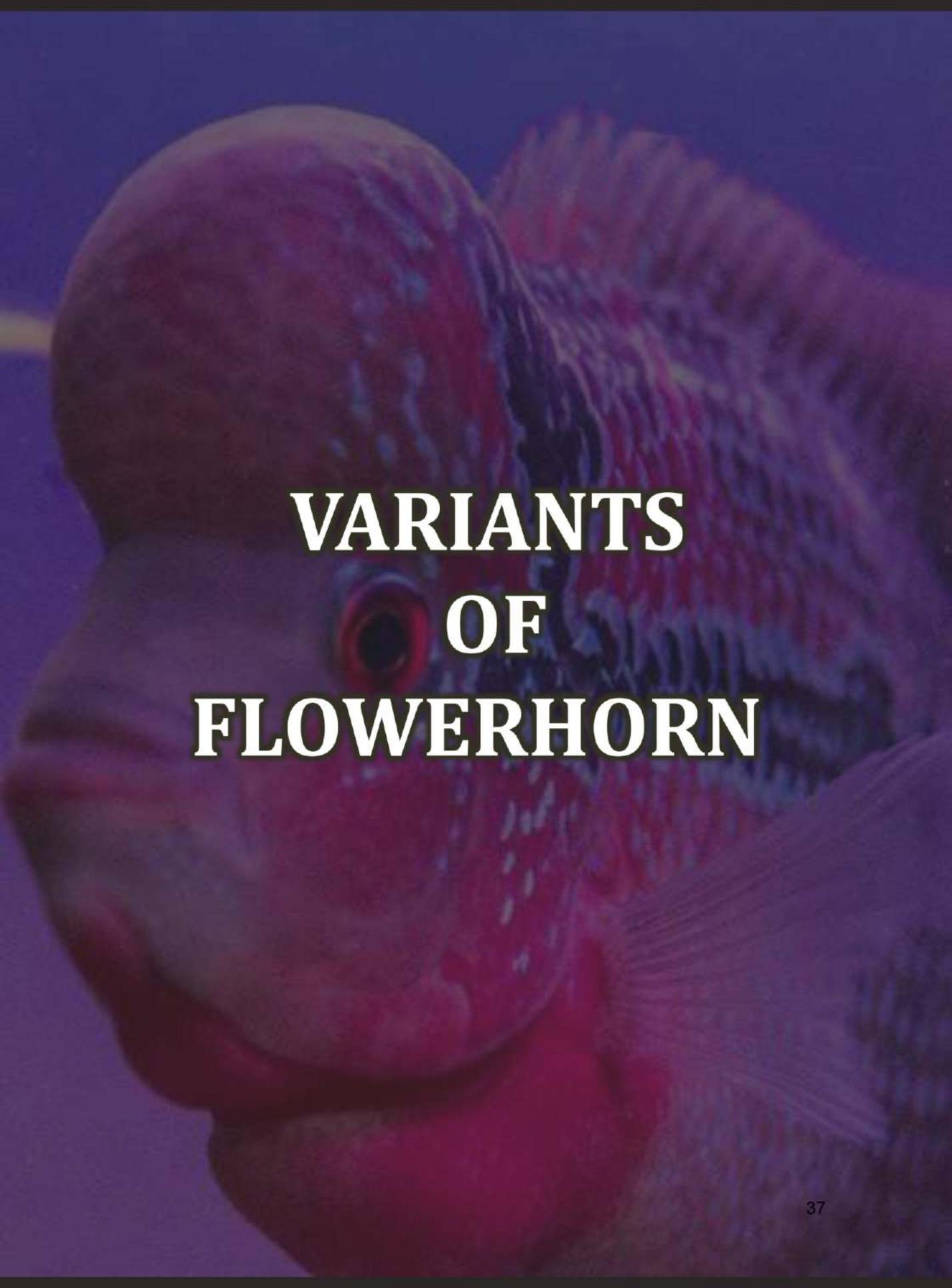
Developed through advanced selective breeding of high-grade
Oranda lines, strong red-white colour contrast.

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous , bottom to column feeder , accepts sinking feed

Ornamental characters:

Rounded wen covering the head and cheeks, giving a bold
“helmet-like” appearance , body is thick, deep, and egg-shaped
with a broad peduncle and well-spread double tail. red with
white patterning, showing strong contrast

A close-up photograph of a Flowerhorn fish's head, showing its characteristic large, rounded forehead bump (nuchal organ) and the intricate patterns on its scales. The fish is positioned against a dark, blue background. The text "VARIANTS OF FLOWERHORN" is overlaid in white, bold, serif font across the center of the image.

**VARIANTS
OF
FLOWERHORN**

Scientific name:

Amphilophus spp.
(Man-made hybrid cichlid)

Zhen Zhu Flowerhorn

Variant:

Zhen Zhu Flowerhorn

International price:

USD \$900–1700+

Indian price:

Good quality : ₹20,000–60,000

**Breeding status:**

Artificially bred , egg layer , males usually fertile in ZZ line , aggressive during pairing .

Origin:

Selectively developed in Malaysia , Thailand, Taiwan in 1990s , parent fish originally from Central America

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous , feeds on shrimp, earthworm, blood worms , artificial pellets.

Ornamental characters:

Large nuchal hump (kok) , bright red coloration with yellow and green body with white and blue pearling , strong black flower line , red eyes , thick muscular body, long pointed dorsal and anal fins.

Super Red Dragon Flowerhorn

Scientific name:

Amphilophus spp.
(Man-made hybrid cichlid)

Variant:

Super Red Dragon Flowerhorn

International price:

USD \$500–1500+

Indian price:

Premium quality : ₹30,000–90,000
Depends on kok size, color intensity and body shape

**Breeding status:**

Artificially bred , egg layer , males usually fertile
in ZZ line , aggressive during pairing .

Origin:

Developed in Malaysia in the late 1990s by selectively breeding high-red
Zhen Zhu (ZZ) Flowerhorns derived from Central American cichlids.

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous , feeds on shrimp, earthworm, blood worms , artificial
pellets.

Ornamental characters:

Large nuchal hump (kok) , bright red coloration with white pearling ,
faded or broken black flower line , red eyes , thick muscular body, long
pointed dorsal and anal fins.

Scientific name:

Amphilophus spp.

(Man-made hybrid cichlid)

Pearl Kamfa Flowerhorn

Variant:

Pearl Kamfa Flowerhorn

International price:

High Quality (7–9 inch):

\$1,000 – \$2,000 USD

Champion Bloodline:

\$2,500 – \$5,000+ USD

**Indian price:**

Premium quality : ₹50,000–1,00,000

Depends on kok size, color intensity and
body shape

Breeding status:

Artificially bred , egg layer , males usually
fertile in ZZ line , aggressive during pairing .

Origin:

Developed in Malaysia by crossing Zhen Zhu Flowerhorn with
Vieja/Parrot-type cichlids.

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous , feeds on shrimp, earthworm, blood worms , artificial
pellets.

Ornamental characters:

Large rounded kok ,Short thick compact body with round fan- shaped tail
strong black flower line with heavy metallic blue and white pearling, short
dorsal and anal fins.

Scientific name:

Amphilophus spp.

(Man-made hybrid cichlid)

Golden base Fader Flowerhorn

Variant:

Golden Base Fader Flowerhorn

International price:

High Grade: \$1,000 + USD

Indian price:

Premium quality : ₹60,000–1,00,000

Depends on kok size, color intensity
and body shape

**Breeding status:**

Artificially bred , egg layer , males
usually fertile in ZZ line , aggressive
during pairing .

Origin:

Developed from Zhen Zhu (ZZ) Flowerhorn through selective breeding
of fader-type genetics in Malaysia.

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous , feeds on shrimp, earthworm, blood worms , artificial
pellets.

Ornamental characters:

Golden Base coloration with metallic pearling , strong flower line , long
pointed dorsal and anal fins , moderate kok size , red eyes

Golden Monkey Flowerhorn

Scientific name:

Amphilophus spp.
(Man-made hybrid cichlid)

Variant:

Golden Monkey Flowerhorn

International price:

High Grade: \$2,000 -5,000 USD

Indian price:

Premium quality : ₹80,000–1,50,000
Depends on kok size, color intensity
and body shape

**Breeding status:**

Artificially bred , egg layer , males
usually fertile in ZZ line , aggressive
during pairing .

Origin:

Developed from high-quality Golden Base (Fader) Zhen Zhu lines
through further selective breeding.

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous , feeds on shrimp, earthworm, blood worms , artificial
pellets.

Ornamental characters:

Intense Golden coloration with metallic pearling , minimal flower line ,
short and strong dorsal and anal fins , Light red shade on kok , red eyes

Scientific name:

Amphilophus spp.

(Man-made hybrid cichlid)

King Kamfa Flowerhorn

Variant:

King Kamfa Flowerhorn

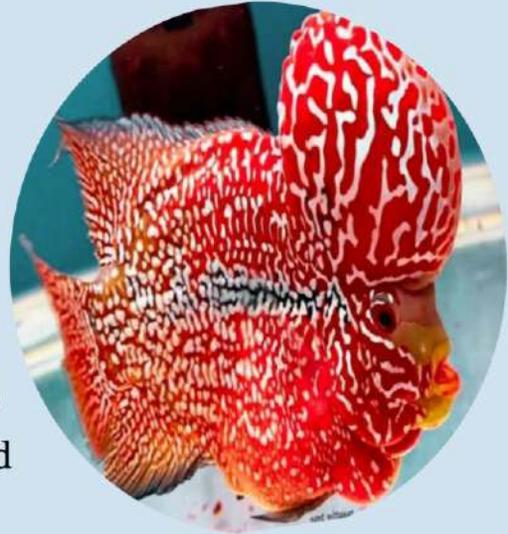
International price:

High Grade: \$3,000 -6,000 USD

Indian price:

Premium quality : ₹10,0,000–1,50,000

Depends on kok size, color intensity and pearl density.

**Breeding status:**

Artificially bred , egg layer , aggressive during pairing .

Origin:

Developed in Malaysia and Thailand through selective breeding of Kamfa strains.

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous , feeds on shrimp, earthworm, blood worms , artificial pellets.

Ornamental characters:

Intense red coloration with high metallic pearling pattern , bold flower line , short and strong dorsal and anal fins,extremely large rounded kok , red eyes

Scientific name:

Amphilophus spp.

(Man-made hybrid cichlid)

Thai Silk Flowerhorn

Variant:

Thai Silk Flowerhorn

International price:

High Grade: \$2,000 -4,000 USD

Indian price:

Premium quality : ₹1,20,000–1,50,000

Depends on kok size, color intensity and pearl density.

**Breeding status:**

Artificially bred , egg layer , aggressive during pairing .

Origin:

Developed in Thailand by selectively breeding Zhen Zhu Flowerhorn lines.

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous , feeds on shrimp, earthworm, blood worms , artificial pellets.

Ornamental characters:

Metallic platinum body colouration, large prominent kok , minimal or no black flower line , long flowing dorsal and anal fins.

Scientific name:

Amphilophus spp.

(Man-made hybrid cichlid)

Albino Flowerhorn

Variant:

Pink / Albino Flowerhorn

International price:

High Grade: \$2,00 -1,000 USD

Indian price:

Premium quality : ₹ 20,000–50,000

Depends on kok size, color intensity and pearl density.

**Breeding status:**

Artificially bred , egg layer , aggressive during pairing .

Origin:

Developed in Thailand by selectively breeding Zhen Zhu Flowerhorn lines.

Feeding behaviour:

Omnivorous , feeds on shrimp, earthworm, blood worms , artificial pellets.

Ornamental characters:

Soft pink base colour with white metallic dots all over the body , no flower line , fan shaped dorsal and anal fins



VARIANTS

OF

FIGHTER FISH



Scientific name:

Betta splendens

Black Samurai Plakat

Variant:

Black Samurai Plakat

International price:

\$20 – \$50 USD per specimen

Indian price:

₹1,200 – ₹5,000 (quality-dependent;
₹200–600 is typical for lower-grade
plakats)



Breeding status:

Captive-bred ornamental strain;
selectively line-bred for thick metallic
“dragon-scale” armor pattern

Origin:

Species native to Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam (Chao Phraya basin) Samurai line developed through selective breeding programs in Thailand and Indonesia.

Feeding behaviour:

Carnivorous insectivore; obligate surface and mid-water feeder
Diet in captivity: high-protein pellets, bloodworms, brine shrimp, daphnia

Ornamental characters:

Short-finned with a deep black base and thick metallic white “dragon-scale” armor plating. Compact, muscular body with strong contrast makes it highly attractive and valued.

Black Orchid Halfmoon Betta

Scientific name:

Betta splendens

Variant:

Black Orchid Halfmoon Betta

International price:

USD 20 – 40

Indian price:

₹1,000 – ₹3,000



Breeding status:

Captive-bred; selectively line-bred ornamental strain

Origin:

Species native to Thailand (Chao Phraya basin, Southeast Asia); Black Orchid strain developed through selective breeding in Thailand, Indonesia, and other ornamental fish breeding centers.

Feeding behaviour:

Carnivorous insectivore; surface and mid-water feeder consuming insect larvae, small crustaceans, and high-protein pellets in captivity.

Ornamental characters:

Long-finned Halfmoon with caudal spread approaching 180°, deep black base with subtle iridescent blue sheen, heavy flowing finnage, and strong dorsal-anal symmetry giving a dramatic circular “full moon” display.

Scientific name:

Betta mahachaiensis (closely resembling high-grade *Betta smaragdina* or *Betta imbellis* hybrids)

Alien Betta

Variant:

Alien Betta

International price:

\$25.00 – \$60.00 USD

Indian price:

₹400 – ₹1,200 INR

**Breeding status:**

Hybrid (complex interspecific hybrid line primarily involving *B. mahachaiensis*, *B. smaragdina*, and *B. imbellis*)

Origin:

Developed from wild-type species native to Thailand (specifically the Mahachai region for the *B. mahachaiensis* lineage).

Feeding behaviour:

Carnivore / Surface feeder (requires a protein-rich diet including micro-pellets, daphnia, or bloodworms).

Ornamental characters:

Metallic steel blue or emerald green iridescent body, thick armor-like dragon scaling, strong wild-type compact build, short plakate fins, dark solid head mask, symmetrical finnage, high sheen intensity, uniform scale coverage, and sharp body–fin color contrast.

Scientific name:

Betta splendens

Variant:

Halfmoon “Mustard Gas” Betta

International price:

USD 15–40

Indian price:

₹800–₹3,500

Breeding status:

Captive-bred (selectively line-bred ornamental strain)

Origin:

Originally native to Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam (Chao Phraya and Mekong basins). The Halfmoon Mustard Gas variant is a selectively bred aquarium strain developed in captivity.

Feeding behaviour:

Carnivore; primarily an insectivore and surface feeder (feeds on insect larvae, small crustaceans, zooplankton; in aquaria accepts pellets, live and frozen foods).

Ornamental characters:

It has a deep, laterally compressed dark navy-to-black body with a fully extended 180° Halfmoon caudal fin that is large and symmetrical, bright yellow to orange fins with distinct black edging characteristic of the “Mustard Gas” pattern, a broad well-developed dorsal fin, a long flowing anal fin matching the caudal coloration, and pronounced finnage extension typical of male *Betta splendens*.

Halfmoon Mustard Gas Betta



Scientific name:

Betta splendens

Variant:

Halfmoon “Copper/Metallic
Turquoise” Betta

International price:

USD 20–50

Indian price:

₹1,000–₹4,000

Breeding status:

Captive-bred (selectively
line-bred ornamental strain)

Origin:

Native species to Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam (Chao Phraya and Mekong basins); this metallic Halfmoon strain is developed in captivity through selective breeding.

Feeding behaviour:

Carnivore; primarily insectivorous and surface feeder, consuming insect larvae, small crustaceans, and zooplankton; readily accepts prepared ornamental betta diets.

Ornamental characters:

Deep, laterally compressed body with heavy metallic turquoise-copper iridescent scaling forming an armored appearance; broad symmetrical Halfmoon caudal fin approaching 180° spread with radial striping; long flowing anal fin with reddish-maroon tones; well-developed dorsal fin; strong metallic sheen and high finnage extension typical of premium ornamental male bettas.

Halfmoon “Copper Turquoise” Betta



Double Ray Crowntail Betta

Scientific name:

Betta splendens

Variant:

Double Ray Crowntail

International price:

USD 15–60

Indian price:

₹500–2,500

Breeding status:

Captive-bred ornamental strain
(selectively line-bred mutation of *Betta splendens*)

**Origin:**

Derived from domesticated lines originally native to the Chao Phraya basin in Thailand, also Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam. The Double Ray Crowntail form was developed through selective breeding in Southeast Asia (notably Thailand and Indonesia).

Feeding behaviour:

Carnivore; predominantly surface feeder. In captivity accepts high-protein pellets, live/frozen foods (*Artemia*, *Daphnia*, bloodworms).

Ornamental characters:

Exhibits double-ray fin branching with reduced webbing forming a pronounced spiky “crown” appearance, typically a 180° caudal spread, laterally compressed body with superior mouth and labyrinth organ, vivid color variations, strong sexual dimorphism, and moderate rarity due to precise ray-doubling symmetry.

Scientific name:

Betta splendens

Red Veiltail Fighter fish

Variant:

Red Veiltail

International price:

USD 5–20

Indian price:

₹150–600



Breeding status:

Captive-bred ornamental strain
(selectively line-bred)

Origin:

Domesticated form derived from wild populations native to the Chao Phraya basin of Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam.

Feeding behaviour:

Carnivore; primarily surface feeder

Ornamental characters:

Uniform red body coloration with long, downward-flowing asymmetrical caudal fin (veil-shaped), elongated anal fin, modest dorsal fin, laterally compressed body, superior mouth, large eyes, and pronounced sexual dimorphism with males bearing extended finnage.

Scientific name:

Betta splendens

White Halfmoon Betta

Variant:

Single Color White Halfmoon

International price:

USD 20–80

Indian price:

₹800–3,000

**Breeding status:**

Captive-bred ornamental strain
(selectively line-bred mutation)

Origin:

Domesticated form originating from wild *B. splendens* native to the Chao Phraya basin (Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam); Halfmoon trait developed through selective breeding in Southeast Asia.

Feeding behaviour:

Carnivore; primarily surface feeder

Ornamental characters:

Solid opaque/platinum white body, symmetrical 180° halfmoon caudal spread, long balanced dorsal and anal fins, laterally compressed body with superior mouth, and strong sexual dimorphism; prized for clean coloration and finnage symmetry.

Scientific name:

Betta splendens

Blue and White Butterfly Halfmoon

Variant:

Blue and White Butterfly Halfmoon

International price:

USD 25–100

Indian price:

₹1,000–3,500

Breeding status:

Captive-bred ornamental strain
(selectively line-bred)

**Origin:**

Domesticated strain derived from wild populations native to the Chao Phraya basin (Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam); Halfmoon and Butterfly patterns developed through selective breeding in Southeast Asia.

Feeding behaviour:

Carnivore; primarily surface feeder

Ornamental characters:

Royal/metallic blue body with distinct white outer fin bands (butterfly pattern), symmetrical 180° halfmoon caudal spread, long flowing fins, laterally compressed body, and pronounced sexual dimorphism.

Scientific name:

Betta splendens

Yellow Halfmoon Betta

Variant:

Yellow Halfmoon Betta

International price:

\$20.00 – \$60.00 USD

Indian price:

₹150 – ₹500



Breeding status:

Captive-bred (highly selected ornamental lineage)

Origin:

Native to Thailand (Southeast Asia), though this ornamental form is selectively bred in specialized farms worldwide.

Feeding behaviour:

Carnivore / Surface feeder (requires a protein-rich diet of specialized pellets, frozen bloodworms, or live brine shrimp)

Ornamental characters:

Solid, vibrant canary yellow or "pineapple" gold coloration throughout; Halfmoon finnage capable of a 180-degree caudal flare; classic *B. splendens* morphology with a labyrinth organ; prized for a uniform, "clean" yellow trait devoid of black or red spotting.





ICAR-CIFE
Cordially invites you for the
Ornamental Fish Fair and Aquarium Science Workshop
31st Jan 2026 & 1st Feb 2026
Time: 10:00 am - 11:00 pm
Venue: ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Panch Marg, Old Vashi Road, Versova, Mumbai - 400061

Catch the Excitement!

- 200 Live fish aquarium display
- Aquarists based Competition
- Entrepreneur Meet-Ups
- Aqua Art Fest
- Kids Playing Zone
- Cultural Showcase
- Food Court

FREE ENTRY JOIN US WITH YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY!





કેન્દ્રીય ઊર્જા અને પાણી સંપત્તિ મંત્રાલયના આયોજિત કોર્સના અધ્યક્ષતામાં સમારોહ

કેન્દ્રીય ઊર્જા અને પાણી સંપત્તિ મંત્રાલયના આયોજિત 'KCM Co2e' કોર્સના અધ્યક્ષતામાં સમારોહ યોજાયો હતો. આ કોર્સમાં ઊર્જા અને પાણી સંપત્તિ મંત્રાલયના અધિકારીઓ અને સંબંધિત ક્ષેત્રના અભ્યાસકર્તાઓએ ભાગ લીધો હતો. આ કોર્સમાં ઊર્જા અને પાણી સંપત્તિ મંત્રાલયના અધિકારીઓએ સંબંધિત ક્ષેત્રના અભ્યાસકર્તાઓને જાણકારી આપી હતી. આ કોર્સમાં ઊર્જા અને પાણી સંપત્તિ મંત્રાલયના અધિકારીઓએ સંબંધિત ક્ષેત્રના અભ્યાસકર્તાઓને જાણકારી આપી હતી.



**This Monograph is prepared in memory of Ornamental Fish Fair and
Aquarium Science Workshop, 31st Jan. and 1st Feb., 2026**

ICAR-CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF FISHERIES EDUCATION

(University under Sec.3 UGC Act, 1956)

Panch Marg, Off Yari Road, Mumbai - 400061

+91 22 263636404 / 26374306