



BROOKLYN AQUARIUM SOCIETY

Educating Aquarists Since 1911

Welcome to the Breeders Award Program of the Brooklyn Aquarium Society

It is through the BAS that we measure our advancement as aquarists as we gain the necessary knowledge and skill to allow the species we keep to reproduce.

Our purposes are to encourage more participation among the members of our club, to recognize outstanding achievements, and to shape knowledge of breeding techniques.

This is a non-competitive program, which recognizes all members equally according to their ability and willingness to experiment without regard to the size of setup or any time limits. All points earned are cumulative, over an indefinite period of time.

Points & Awards

Every time you spawn a fish you earn points according to our point classification list. As you accumulate points you earn:

<u>Title</u>	<u>Amount of Points</u>
Hobbyist	25 points
Breeder At least 20 points must be from the 10, 15 or 20 point category.	50 points
Advanced Breeder At least 40 points must be from the 15, or 20 points category.	100 points
Master Breeder At least 30 points must be from each of the 5, 10, 15 point categories, 40 points must be from a 20 point category. The remaining points could be obtained from any category.	300 points
Grand Master Breeder	500 points
Advanced Grand Master Breeder 60 points must be from 5, 10, 15 point category and 100 points must be from 20 point category.	750 points
Senior Grand Master Breeder 80 points must be 5,10, 15 category and 100 must be from a 20 point category.	1,000 points

Additional points are given

If a breeder elects to write an original article on his spawn or plant propagation, with references, an additional 5 points will be awarded.

1st Times Spawn for a fish species (for B.A.S.) a minimum of 15 points, for any species, and an additional 10 points will be given with an original article (with references) of 300 words or more, about the spawn. The time frame for this article will be three (3) months from the date of the spawn.

Awards

25 – 100 points (Hobbyist, Breeder, Advanced Breeder) – certificates

300 points (Master Breeder) – 5 X 7 plaque

500 points (Grand Master Breeder) – 8 X 10 plaque

750 points (Advanced Master Breeder) – more decorative 8 X 10 plaque

1,000 points (Senior Grand Master Breeder) – large plaque/trophy at winner discretion

Specialty Species Program & Maintaining Species Program

Anabantids	6 species
Brackish Water	3 species
Catfish	5 species (1 species must be from other than Corydoras, Asidorus, Brochis)
Characins	6 species
Cichlids – New World (American)	12 species
Cichlids – Old World (African/Asian)	12 species (no more than 5 month brooders)
Cyprinids	10 species
Killifish	7 species (at least 2 species must be annuals)
Livebearers	8 species
Marine Fish	3 species (only true marine varieties)
Marine Invertebrates& corals	7 species (2 species other than snails)
Native American (egg layers)	3 species

Specialty Program Awards

Specialty Species Award – Certificate for single species group

Senior Specialist Award – 5" X 7" plaque for achieving 4 different species groups

Expert Specialist Award – 8" X 10" plaque for achieving 7 different species groups

Horticultural Award Program

Plants reproduced must conform with the following definition of an aquatic plant:

An aquatic plant is one which, in the wild or natural state, can be found in the submerged form, or floating, as a normal occurrence at some time during the course of any one complete season. The objectives of the Horticultural Award Program are:

- To recognize outstanding achievement in growing and propagating aquatic plants.
- To gather knowledge and information about aquatic plants and their environment.
- To identify new plants.

Every time your plant reproduces you earn points according to our point classification list. As you accumulate points you earn:

<u>Title</u>	<u>Amount of Points</u>
Beginner Aquatic Horticulturist	25 points
Aquatic Horticulturist At least 20 points must be from the 10, 15 or 20 point category.	50 points
Senior Aquatic Horticulturist At least 40 points must be from the 15, or 20 points category.	100 points
Expert Aquatic Horticulturist At least 30 points must be from each of the 5, 10, 15 point categories, a minimum of 40 points must be from a 20 point category. The remaining points could be obtained from any category.	300 points
Master Aquatic Horticulturist	500 points
Grand Master Aquatic Horticulturist 60 points must be from 5, 10, 15 point category and 100 points must be from 20 point category.	750 points
Senior Grand Master Aquatic Horticulturist 80 points must be 5,10, 15 category and 100 must be from a 20 point category.	1,000 points

Additional points are given

- If a breeder elects to write an original article on his plant propagation, with references, an additional 5 points will be awarded. The time frame for this article will be three (3) months from the date of the spawn, retroactive to 1999.
- Extra points will be awarded for plants that flower, equal to the point value of plant.
- Extra points will be awarded for plants reproduced sexually, equal to the point value to which the plant belongs.

Awards

25 – 100 points (Beginner Aquatic, and Senior Aquatic Horticulturist) – certificates

300 points (Expert Aquatic Horticulturist) – 5 X 7 plaque

500 points (Master Aquatic Horticulturist) – 8 X 10 plaque

750 points (Grand Master Aquatic Horticulturist) – more decorative 8 X 10 plaque

1,000 points (Senior Grand Master Aquatic Horticulturist) – large plaque or trophy.

Breeder of the Year Award

An annual award that is presented to the hobbyist who has bred the most fish, plants and/or coral propagation and, in the view of the BAP committee, has demonstrated a devotion to the expanding of the species through generosity, patience and support of the club. Examples are donating fry to other members, help and support other breeders and support the BAS. The BAP chairperson reserves the right **not** to present this award if it is believed that no one person has shown the qualities and characteristics that set them apart from other hobbyists.

Claiming Points

When you have spawned your fish they must be "witnessed" that is, a member of the Breeder Award Program will come to your home to inspect the fry and parents and verify the species within 8 days of the time they become free swimming, A committee member will revisit to verify the fry are alive within 45-60 days after free swimming or fry may be brought to a club meeting within 60 days.

Marine Fish will be 20 point fish if the fry are free swimming for 30 days.

Corals and plants-a committee member must be notified immediately and the committee member must inspect the "cutting" within 7 days, the "cutting" must be revisited to determine reasonable growth within 60 days of original veining. Floating plants by doubling the amount, bunch plants by doubling the number of rooted growing stems, runner or divided plants must have one healthy plant capable of living independently. Sexual reproduction; the flowerings must be identified in full bloom attached to the parent plant. For seeded plants there must be a healthy seedling sufficiently developed to be identified as the offspring of the parent plant.

Plants must have a viable offspring or grow offshoots that develop root systems. Acceptable methods are by cuttings, offshoots, runners, or plantlets that develop their own root systems and can survive on their own. Flowering or seed production, and by flower pollination from the members **own** plant.

All requirements must be completed within 4 months after a BAP committee person witnessed breeding. If not completed, the spawn is not eligible for the BAP.

You must be a member in good standing with BAS.

Points may be obtained **only once per species** of fish/coral invertebrate/plant. Color variations do not count as a separate species. Different Latin name counts as a different species. Examples are Discus [*Symphysodon aequifasciatus* "Pigeon Blood" and *Symphysodon aequifasciatus* "Gold Dragon" only one counts. *Corydoras metae* and *Coridoras melini* are different species (different last names) thus both count.

Point may be awarded to families or couples and to individuals, but **not** to both.

It is the breeders responsibility to complete all necessary forms, verify the forms are submitted, the proper points are recorded and that the spawns are verified.

Breeders Award Committee

The Breeders Award Committee will consist of a chairperson and an even number of other members. The chairperson and the members shall be approved and appointed by the Board of Directors.

The duties of the committee shall be to witness spawning and cuttings, keep official records and point totals, report to the Board when necessary, publicize the activities of the committee and those persons spawning fish in the club journal, order certificates and awards as needed, and make the necessary presentations at meetings.

As soon as your fish spawn, plant or coral reproduce call/email:
Committee Chairperson Tom Miglio (718) 998-1290

Other members are:

Bernard Fleischman	(718) 252-5414	BFLEISC128@AOL.COM
Joseph Graffagnino	(718) 238-1792	JGRAFFAGNINO@FREEWWWEB.COM
Seth Kolker	(718) 234-5857	
Roger Schlizzi	(718) 435-9055	
Richard Spanvill	(718) 996-5715	
Bob Wranovics	(718) 984-7078	STILLEFIXIN@AOL.COM

Assigning & Challenging Points

Species not listed that an aquarist is planning to spawn should be brought to the Chairperson's attention. The Chairperson will present the specifics to the committee for discussion. The committee, by majority vote, will assign points.

It is recognized that new discoveries, new importation's of fish, published documents, etc. can all change the value of breeding a specific species. Points may therefore be reviewed and changed periodically by the committee, by majority vote, and the findings and changes will be publicized in the club journal "Aquatika".

If the number of points is changed on a species, this point value will go into effect immediately. When points are reclassified, the points shall not be applied to previously earned points.

Breeder Award Program year will start in September and end in May. Spawns for June, July and August will be recognized in September.

If a member has a lapse in membership the former club member's points will be reinstated depending on the availability of records. The period of time the person was not a member those breeds will **not** count for points. Points will start again upon the person becoming a member in good standing.

The BAP committee has the right to extend any time and/or date limits.

The assigning of point's rationale is as follows:

1. Fish, coral invertebrate, plant type
2. Water chemistry, lighting, temperature
3. Feeding requirements
4. Difficulty in spawning
5. Difficulty in raising fry

5 points - species that can basically breed over a wide range of conditions, all by themselves. Examples: guppy and platty.

10 points - species that can be breed easily, given specific conditions, which are not too exacting. Examples: barbs which breed easily then conditioned properly, zebras when conditioned and given low water level and a marble bottomed tank or African mbuna which breed easily given alkaline water, good food and some measure of protection against aggression.

15 points - those species which may resent moderate problems in one or more of the following areas: aggressive behavior, water chemistry, specific diet requirements, mate selection or sexing, poor physical stamina or disease resistance, special tank setup requirements, special care for fry. Example: Angelfish - may present a sexing problem have an aggressive nature, and can present a problem providing proper brood care.

20 points - those fish that have not been bred, bred only very rarely, or are very difficult to breed based on the severity of the problems mentioned above. Example: Black Ghost fish, Neon's, and all marine species.