Poecilia reticulata

System: Freshwater

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<tr>
<th>Kingdom</th>
<th>Phylum</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Order</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Animalia</td>
<td>Chordata</td>
<td>Actinopterygii</td>
<td>Cyprinodontiformes</td>
<td>Poeciliidae</td>
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Common name

millions (English), guppii (Japanese), miljoonakala (Finnish), guppie (Afrikaans), Mexicanos (Portuguese), miljoenvis (Afrikaans), guppy (English), million fish (English), lebistes (Portuguese), lareza tripakloshe (Albanian), lepistes (Turkish), ikan seribu (Malay), hung dzoek uc (Cantonese), millionenfisch (German), poisson million (French), zivorodka duhová (Czech), Wilder Riesenguppy (German), queue de voile (French), Sardinita (Spanish), rainbow fish (English), sarapintado (Portuguese)

Synonym

Poecilioides reticulatus, (Peters, 1859)
Acanthophacelus reticulatus, (Peters, 1859)
Girardinus reticulatus, (Peters, 1859)
Haridichthys reticulatus, (Peters, 1859)
Lebistes reticulatus, (Peters, 1859)
Poecilia reticulatus, Peters, 1859
Lebistes poeciloides, De Filippi, 1861
Lebistes poecilioides, De Filippi, 1861
Girardinus guppii, Günther, 1866
Acanthophacelus guppii, (Günther, 1866)
Heterandria guppyi, (Günther, 1866)

Similar species

Poecilia reticulata is a small benthopelagic fish native to Brazil, Guyana, Venezuela and the Caribbean Islands. It is a popular aquarium species and is also commonly used in genetics research. In the past Poecilia reticulata was widely introduced for mosquito control but there have been rare to non-existing measurable effects on mosquito populations. It can occupy a wide range of aquatic habitats and is a threat to native cyprinids and killifishes. It is a carrier of exotic parasites and is believed to play a role in the decline of several threatened and endangered species.

view this species on IUCN Red List
Species Description
Poecilia reticulata is a very small opportunistic benthopelagic (feeding on bottom, midwaters, or near the surface) non-migratory fish that can inhabit both fresh and brackish water. *P. reticulata* males are smaller, reaching an average length of 3.5cm compared 5cm in females. Besides being half the size of females, males have a colourful tail and caudal fin. This species has 7-8 dorsal soft rays and 8-10 anal soft rays (FishBase, 2006).

Uses
*Poecilia reticulata* is a popular aquarium species and is also commonly used in genetics research. In the past *P. reticulata* was widely introduced in hopes of gaining mosquito control, but there have been rare to non-existing measurable effects on mosquitoes populations (FishBase, 2006).

Habitat Description
Occurs in warm springs and their effluents, weedy ditches and canals. Found in various habitats, ranging from highly turbid water in ponds, canals and ditches at low elevations to pristine mountain streams at high elevations. Has a wide salinity range but requires fairly warm temperatures (23-24 °C) and quiet vegetated water for survival (FishBase, 2006).

Reproduction
Male *Poecilia reticulata* anal fins are transformed into a gonopodium for internal fertilization. Males are continuously chasing and mating females. Females can store sperms for later fertilization and may produce young every four weeks. Pregnant females are recognizable by black triangle between anal and pelvic fins. After a gestation period of four to six weeks females give birth to 20-40 live young. No parental care is exercised and parents may even prey on their young (FishBase, 2006).

Nutrition
Feeds on zooplankton, small insects and detritus. Feeds mainly on insects and has been observed consuming: ceratopogonids, chironomids, culicids, dipterans, hemipterans, and hymenopterans (FishBase, 2006).

General Impacts
*Poecilia reticulata* is considered a hazard to native cyprinids and killifishes in the United States. It has been implicated in the decline of native fishes in Nevada and Wyoming, and of native damselflies in Hawaii. It is a known carrier of trematode parasites, which may affect native fish populations (Nico, 2001). It eats the eggs of native fish species and acts as a host for the parasitic nematode *Camallanus cotti*, and the Asian tapeworm *Bothriocephalus acheilognathi* in Hawaii (Eldredge, 2000).

Hybrids between *P. reticulata* and *P. mexicana* and between *P. reticulata* and *Xiphophorus helleri* are shown to threaten species of native fish in the western USA (Courtenay and Meffe, 1989 in Eldredge, 2000).
Pathway

*P. reticulata* is a popular aquarium species (FishBase, 2006). Guppies are also popular ornamental fish in Australia, and introductions may have resulted from escapes or releases from aquaria or outdoor breeding ponds (Linholm *et al.*, 2005)

Principal source: *Poecilia reticulata* - *Guppy* (Fishbase, 2006)

Compiler: National Biological Information Infrastructure (NBII) & IUCN/SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG)

Review: Pam Fuller USGS/BRD Nonindigenous Aquatic Species Program Florida Integrated Science Center Gainesville, Florida USA

Publication date: 2006-10-27

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<td>[17] UNITED STATES</td>
<td>[1] VIET NAM</td>
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### BIBLIOGRAPHY

18 references found for *Poecilia reticulata*

Management information


Summary: FishBase is a global information system with all you ever wanted to know about fishes. FishBase on the web contains practically all fish species known to science. FishBase was developed at the WorldFish Center in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and many other partners, and with support from the European Commission (EC). Since 2001 FishBase is supported by a consortium of seven research institutions. You can search on Search FishBase

This species profile is available from: http://filaman.ifm-geomar.de/Summary/SpeciesSummary.php?id=3228 [Accessed 26 March 2006]


Summary: Consequences to the biodiversity of New Caledonia of the introduction of plant and animal species.

Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF), 2010. Poecilia reticulata Peters, 1859


ITIS (Integrated Taxonomic Information System). 2005. Online Database Poecilia reticulata


Summary: Cet article fait le bilan des introductions d esp?ces d'eau douce en Nouvelle-Cal?donie.


Nico, L. 2006. Poecilia reticulata, USGS Nonindigenous Aquatic Species Database. Gainesville, FL

