

Piedmont Koi and Watergarden Society

May 2008

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Bloodlines are extremely important to the Japanese breeders. In Japan, in order to even compete in the Grand Champion competitions, a Koi must be over 32 inches. For a Koi breeder to be come "a Name" he has to win the Grand Champion in one of the All Japan Nishikigoi Competitions; All Japan Combined Nishikigoi Dealer Competition; All Japan ZNA Competition or All Japan Rinyukai Nishikigoi Competition.

According to Mr. Fujita there are several things important to growing large koi. The body structure or bone structure is most important for their bloodlines. With strong bone structure, Koi will grow fast and big in the future(Tate-Goi).

A well designed and effective pond and filter system with minimum Koi population are very important to growing these large fish.

Mr. Fujita indicated that as a fish grows, the judging standards change. A Tosai or one year old fish is judged on pattern, condition and then body conformation. As it grows to 30", body conformation, condition and then pattern become the basis. Figuring out the stages a fish will take till it reaches prime condition is a little like betting on the lottery. The odds are pretty daunting for the novice koi hobbyist.

To learn more of Mr. Fujita's book, go to AKCA's website. The AKCA

Grant Fujita, shown above explaining the fine points of judging Showa brought in by the Charleston Club. Mr Fujita has been a koi hobbyist for over 40 years and a Koi Dealer for thirty. Even with this level of expertise, he still doesn't consider himself an expert. In his experience, there are several conditions important to growing large koi.

There are three basic head shapes: the triangle(this fish will not grow very big), the square(common in Showa-Sanke) and baseball home plate shape. The judges look for this large size head with wide space at the eye area and thick tail joint. The longer the distance from the tail joint to the end of the dorsal fin, the bigger

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FISH REDUCTION AUCTION

Pick out your FISH and bring them to the sale . Make room for more!!!! Maybe you're looking for "more". The SALE auction will be Saturday, May 10th at 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Carol and Leo's . Directions are on page 2. The social will follow at 6:00 p.m. If you haven't called and reserved a tank, do so **ASAP**. **This year we'd like to include goldfish....**So if you have goldfish to spare, bring them too. CALL LEO AT 704-455-8587 to reserve a tank. We'll have the water waiting - we're on well water so no worry about municipal chemicals in the water.



ugly, stringy stuff growing in the pond now

From pondmarket.com

That "stuff" is called by many names: String Algae, Hair Algae, Blanket Weed, etc..

My Koi is Bigger than Yours

Grow-out contests are all the rage again. Usually most are focused on the end result of who can finish their fish and get it up to maximum size.

Hariwaki was selected for our grow out contest and Brady at Lotus Farms supplied the fish. See pictures on this page for some more examples of fish selected. Fish were selected using a lottery drawing.

Growth factors basically involve temperature and food as it regards percentage of protein. You want to be feeding a high quality growth food. The secret is feeding small amounts frequently. Water quality will insure growth.

Sunlight will enhance color development. There are whites that look like 2% milk and bright shiny whites that look like driven snow.

What effect do these base colors have on the yellow and black that comes through them?

Excerpts of this article were reproduced from an article by Dick Benbow of Washington. Web site is www.DickBenbow.com

There are whites that look like 2% milk as well as bright shiny whites that look like driven snow.

* Directions to *
* POND REDUCTION SALE *
*
* From Matthews, take Hwy 51 *
* north to Albemarle Road. Turn *
* left on Albemarle Road and *
* then right at first light onto *
* Rock River Church Road. Fol- *
* low for five miles until you *
* come to Biltmore Drive on the *
* left. Turn left and go straight *
* into driveway at curve of the *
* road.
*
* From Independence Blvd, go *
* out Albemarle Road approx 8.3 *
* miles and after you cross I-485, *
* turn left onto Rocker River *
* Church road and follow above *
* directions.
*
* From Concord, come out Rocky *
* River Road, to Presbyterian *
* Church and turn at light. Go *
* 1.5 miles and Biltmore will be *
* on right.

SEE YOU SATURDAY!!!!



This time of year it can grow at amazing speed! The cause is a low concentration of beneficial bacteria due to the low water temperatures and simultaneous over-abundance of nutrients (sludge in the bottom of the pond, decaying leaves and other organic matter).

This algae growth can take vital oxygen away from the fish, especially if the pond gets covered by ice and snow(not very likely here).

There are remedies available that work even in colder temperatures:

"Aqua One" beneficial bacteria is not temperature sensitive and will help get rid of excess nutrients in the water.

"PondMarket Restor" will clean off the stuff coating the rocks in the pond.

"Pond Balance" will dissolve the long strings growing so profusely.

Had success in eliminating this pesky problem, share it with the club members. Would love to publish comments and opinions from readers. Let's start a "recipe" section and a "Used Equipment" section. Call or e-mail Carol at caomah@aol.com or 704-455-8587.

2008 Calendar of Events

- . April 12 – **Charleston Show** – Charleston Club with
Guest Speaker Grant Fujita Koi Keeping
 - . May10 - **Pond Reduction Auction at Carol & Leo's.**
 - . June 14 - **POND TOUR**, ending at Peaceful Ponds – Brian & Denise Kuchinski
 - . August 9 – **Allen Lee – KHV quarantine/bring microscopes**
 - . September 13 – **Rebecca Trull (new member)**
 - . October 11 – **Heather & Mike Long**
 - . November 11 – **??????**
 - . December 13 – **Tracy & Tanya McCorkle**
 - .(to be announced) in 2008.
 - .Trip to Blue Ridge Fish Hatchery
 - .Neuse River Fish Farm Fish Sale
- Watch for further updates.

PKWS 2008 OFFICERS

- President -
Geoffrey Huntley
704-510-1594
- Vice Pres.-
Tracy McCorkle
704-536-5931
- Secretary – Carol Mathis 704
-455-8587
- Treasurer – Darlene Shotts
704-784-1066
- Membership – Dawn Mize
980-235-9414
- Newsletter – Carol Mathis
704-455-8587
- Property Manager – Darrell
Mauldin 704-573-3663

POND TOUR SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 14, starting at 9:00 a.m. and ending at 5:00 p.m.

We need the members showing their ponds to contact Tracy McCorkle at tmc-corkle7@bellsouth.net with the information he has requested on your ponds. Tickets will be \$15.00 with \$5.00 of that going to the Concord Humane Society. Volunteers are also needed to help the different locations with ticket sales, etc. **CONTACT TRACY 704-622-2876.**

Useless Tidbits

The growth hormone produced in a Koi's body is partially controlled by the amount of sunlight it is exposed to. The amount of growth hormone produced directly influences the size and body shape of the Koi.

PKWS

Carol Mathis
1284 Biltmore Drive
Concord, NC 28025

Phone: 704-455-8587

Email: caomah@aol.com



MEMBERSHIP FORM

The Piedmont Koi and Watergarden Society (PKWS) is a not for profit organization. The membership year runs from January 1st through December 31st. Annual Membership Dues for a family for the first year are \$49.00 AND INCLUDES A NAME BADGE. For renewing members the dues are \$24.00 Additional nametags may be purchased at a cost of \$7.00 each. Please complete the following form and return it with your membership dues to:

**Dawn Mize
6918 Carriageway Lane
Charlotte NC 28227**

Please print clearly (this information will only be used for club records). Please print your names) as you would like them to appear on your name tag(s).

Last Name: _____ First Name(s): _____

Address 1: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____ email address: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Membership Dues(New member) \$49.00
Membership Dues(Renewing) \$24.00 (Circle One)
Additional Nametags (\$7.00) _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____