

# Fish 'N' Chips

A Monthly Marine Newsletter  
February / March 2003 Issue

## Index

[From Liz](#)

[Critter Corner](#)

[Caught In The](#)

[Net](#)

[Marine News](#)

[Upcoming](#)

[Events](#)

[Prove It!, a Bibliography](#)

[Newsletter Disclaimer](#)

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## From Liz

By Elizabeth M. Lukan 3/22/03

***UWATEC AG recalls Aladin Air X NitrOx dive computers:*** UWATEC AG of Hallwil, Switzerland has recalled approximately 390 dive computers manufactured in 1995 and sold under the model name Aladin Air X NitrOx. Software in the dive computers may inaccurately calculate desaturation times, resulting in possible decompression sickness. Five reports of decompression sickness have been received. Recalled products will be replaced by the current model, Aladin Air Z NitrOx, at no cost. Contact UWATEC at (800) 806-0640 or visit <http://www.uwatec.com/>. The complete recall notice and a picture of the product can be found at <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml03/03079.html>.

***Visit This Month's Subscriber's Tank Showcase:*** Jason and Tera Chavez's 55 Gallon Reef Tank is the March 2003 showcase and Keith Berkelhamer's 120 Gallon Reef Tank is the February 2003 showcase. Both showcases can be seen at <http://www.marinefiends.com/showcases.html> (*updated 8/24/04*).

[Back to Top](#)

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## Critter Corner

### Let's talk Angelfishes & Butterfly Fishes

By Elliot Dulberger of pufferlovers.com, 6/24/02

Edited by Elizabeth M. Lukan 3/31/03

Although the two groups are classified separately as Chaetodontidae (Butterfly) and Pomacanthidae (Angels) such is their similarity in appearance and tank habits that it is practical to treat them as one for this post.

The body forms are oval and laterally compressed. These features, along with the terminal mouth, provide a strong clue as to their natural habitat; coral heads, where their thin-sectioned bodies can squeeze easily between the branches. Juvenile Angelfish have a different coloration than their adults and it is not always easy to identify a young Angel with certainty; many species are similar at this stage - blue with white markings.

Of the two groups, Angelfish are the most numerous. The surest way to tell the difference is to look for the spine found on the gill cover of the Angels, but not on the Butterfly.

There appears to be no external differences between the sexes, although at breeding time the females may become noticeably swollen with eggs. Both groups spawn in the same manner, rising in the water to release eggs and sperm.

Most members of the Butterfly family are grazing fishes that feed on algae, sponges and corals; some are omnivorous, however, and include small and planktonic animals in their diets.

Although very attractive, these fishes are not really for the inexperienced hobbyist. They can be difficult to maintain in captivity, particularly the algae and sponge eating ones. The polyp-eating species are almost impossible to sustain. These fish are easily upset by changes in water conditions, usually showing dissatisfaction by going on a hunger strike.

They are fairly territorial and Angels may be intolerant of their own kind, although most of the Butterfly's are compatible. Angels are generally tolerant of dissimilarly-sized fishes; smaller fish do not alarm them, and they do not feel bothered by larger fishes. However, when faced with a fish of the same proportions, quarrelling may occur. In a large tank with a good number of hiding places, you can expect better results. Both Angels and Butterfly's need refuges in which to shelter at night.

Some of the more common Angels (not including Dwarfs) found and their sizes are:



- Three-Spot Angel, 10 inches, Territorial
- Scribbled Angel, 8 1/2 inches, (rarely available)
- Blue-Moon Faced, 12/15 inches, (special needs)
- Queen Angel, 18 inches, Aggressive
- King Angel, 18 inches, Aggressive
- Rock Beauty, 10/16 inches, Aggressive
- Blue Ring Angel, 10/16 inches, Territorial
- Emperor Angel, 12/16 inches, Very Inquisitive
- French Angel, 12 inches, Nippers of Fins
- Koran Angel, 15/16 inches, Territorial
- Regal Angel, 7/10 inches, Shy Fish

Butterfly Fish:



- Threadfin, 6/8 inches, Peaceful - Shy
- Four-eyed, 4/6 inches, Hard - Keeper
- Saddleback, 9 inches, Intolerant
- Pearlscale, 6 inches, Shy
- Pakistani, 4/6 inches, Intolerant
- Kleins Butterfly, 4/5 inches, Peaceful
- Blue-striped, 8 inches, Community

- Raccoon, 8 inches, Peaceful
- Chevron, 7 inches, Aggressive
- Addis, 8 inches, Intolerant
- Long-Nosed, 4/8 inches, Peaceful
- Copper-banded, 6/7 inches, Peaceful

Although I no longer have much interest in buying Angels or Butterfly fish I do have some old timers in my collection (which proves you can keep them alive). At the moment what I have left are:

- Blue-Moon Faced Angel, bought 8-11-97
- Majestic Angel, bought late 97
- Half Black Dwarf, bought 10-30-97
- Rock Beauty Angel, bought 10-21-00
- Raccoon Butterfly, bought 10-27-98
- King Angel, bought 10-31-00
- Pygmy Dwarf Angel, bought 07-14-00

When I look at the Angel list above I realize I have had all of them except the Queen and Blue-ringed. It all is in how much space you can give them and how peaceful you can keep the tank for them. Fish buying fanatics like me have a hard time setting them up right so better not to buy them for our type set-ups.

### ***Editor's Comments:***

The above article is part of a series of posts called "Let's talk" found on Elliot Dulberger's pufferlovers.com site. Elliot has given me permission to republish the series so look for more "Let's talk" articles in the future. You can visit Elliot's site at <http://www.pufferlovers.com/> (*url dead 10/07/05*).

### ***Photo Credits:***

The Three spot Angelfish (*Apolemichthys trimaculatus*) and Threadfin Butterflyfish (*Chaetodon auriga*) photos are the property of David Brough and were found on David's Exotic Tropicals site. Thanks Dave for the use of the photos. You can visit Exotic Tropicals at <http://www.exotictropicals.com/>.

[Back to Top](#)

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# Caught In The Net

By Elizabeth M. Lukan 3/31/03

## New Stuff Found

On Advanced Aquarist's Online Magazine (<http://www.advancedaquarist.com/>):

- Volume II, Issue 3, March 2003 is now available.

On Reefs.org (<http://www.reefs.org/>):

- Article: *Flatworm Eradication* by Various Authors
- Article: *Newbie Advice and Overflows* by Various Authors
- Download: Sandbed Depth Calculator, Courtesy of Inland Reef
- Editorial: *Are We There Yet?* by Adam Blundell

### ***The Inland Reef / Reefs.org Salt Analysis Project***

The Inland Reef and Reefs.org are collaborating on a detailed, independent analysis of the synthetic salt mixes currently available to hobbyists. For more information, visit <http://www.inlandreef.net/saanprdo.html> (*url dead 8/24/04*). Donations are also being accepted to cover the costs of the analysis and lab tests.

## **Marine Aquarium Council Update**

Second Quarter 2002

- The first implementation of MAC Certification took place in the Philippines June 17-26, 2002 which included three export companies, three collector associations, and three collection areas.
- On June 11, 2002, Director Malcolm Sarmiento Jr. of the Philippines Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) signed a Memorandum of Agreement with MAC on the Promotion of a Third Party Certification System for the Aquarium Fish Trade. The two organizations will work together on policy formulation and program development, development and delivery of skills training to collectors, and communication and public awareness for the aquarium trade.
- The Philippine Tropical Fish Exporters Association (PTFEA) has set up a members' fund to support training of ornamental collectors in becoming MAC Certified.
- Fiji is positioning itself to be among the first South Pacific countries with MAC Certified collection and export.
- In Honolulu, Hawaii work on marine ornamentals certification has now received

dedicated support.

- The Asosiasi Koral Kerang dan Ikan Hias Indonesia (AKKII) - the Indonesia Coral, Shell and Ornamental Fish Association - is working closely with Indonesian conservation groups to develop a pilot project for the implementation of MAC Standards.
- MAC Certification information continues to be available on the website.
  - A step-by-step guide on "How to Get Certified" is available by visiting the "Aquarium Industry" section of the MAC website.
  - Materials to help guide you through the MAC Certification process are also available in print form.
  - US, Caribbean or Latin America parties interested in receiving a MAC Certification Info Pack or guidance through the process should contact David Vosseler at [david.vosseler@aquariumcouncil.org](mailto:david.vosseler@aquariumcouncil.org). Interested parties in other areas should contact [info@aquariumcouncil.org](mailto:info@aquariumcouncil.org).
  - A new booklet on MAC Certification designed for wholesalers and retailers is now available. To download the booklet, visit the "Aquarium Industry" section of the MAC website and click on "MAC Certification: Information for Wholesalers and Retailers." A print version of the booklet may be requested by emailing [david.vosseler@aquariumcouncil.org](mailto:david.vosseler@aquariumcouncil.org) for US, Caribbean, or Latin America parties or [info@aquariumcouncil.org](mailto:info@aquariumcouncil.org) for other areas. Additional copies of the booklet may be obtained to help in educating buyers and suppliers about MAC Certification.
- MAC continues to be represented at the Trade Shows.
  - MAC was well represented at Interzoo (May 9-12, 2002 in Nurnberg, Germany). Numerous new industry members expressed interest in becoming involved in MAC and GMAD, especially wholesalers in Europe and the Indian Ocean.
  - MAC Certification Coordinator David Vosseler participated in the APPMA National Trade Show June 12-14, 2002 in Chicago where numerous retailers expressed their interest in becoming MAC Certified. In addition, a number of dry goods industry companies expressed interest in supporting the MAC Certification program.
  - MAC also attended SuperZoo 2002 (July 19-21, 2002, in Anaheim, California) and the HH Backer Pet Industry Christmas Trade Show (October 3-6, 2002, in Chicago).
- Outgoing MAC Board Chair Marshall Meyers and MAC Executive Director Paul Holthus participated in several events during the "Capitol Hill Oceans Week" in Washington, DC, in June, 2002.
  - During an all-day session on coral reefs, MAC Certification was the only industry and consumer-related effort to address marine aquarium trade sustainability issues.
  - Paul Holthus met with the legislative staffs of the four US Congresspersons co-

chairing the "House Oceans Caucus," sponsors of the Oceans Week event. During discussions on renewed interest in possible US legislation on the trade, Holthus briefed the Congressional staffs on the marine aquarium trade and certification.

- The New England Aquarium (Boston) has included a panel on MAC Certification in its biodiversity exhibit, which opened April 2002.
  - The panel includes the MAC Certification label and encourages viewers to "Ask your pet shop for MAC-certified fish."
  - The exhibit, *The Living Links: Choices for Survival*, is expected to reach more than 3 million individuals across the United States. It will remain at the New England Aquarium for two years and then travel to Birch Aquarium (San Diego), Folsom Children's Zoo (Lincoln, Nebraska), Pittsburgh Zoo (Pennsylvania), Hatfield Marine Science Center (Newport, Oregon) and the Seacoast Science Center (Rye, New Hampshire).
- The Seneca Park Zoo (New York) has developed an interpretive sign entitled "An Environmentally Friendly Saltwater Fish Tank Can Help Protect Coral Reefs," which features MAC.
- MacGillivray Freeman Films helped to raise awareness about MAC Certification during the preview screenings of its IMAX film, *Coral Reef Adventure*.
  - The MAC brochure and information on responsible aquarium keeping were distributed during screenings in NY, DC, Chicago and Boston.
  - The film was released in IMAX theaters around the world in February 2003.
  - MacGillivray Freeman Films is developing a Coral Reef Awareness campaign in conjunction with the film's release and is working with MAC to include a component on responsible aquarium keeping.
- Bruce Bunting (WWF-US Vice President for Conservation Finance), elected Chair of the MAC Board of Directors at the last Board meeting, formally took up this position on July 1, 2002.
- Also on July 1, 2002, Marshall Meyers (PIJAC Executive Vice President), startup Chair of the MAC Board, stepped down from this position.

Remember to visit the MAC website at <http://www.aquariumcouncil.org/> for more information and to subscribe to the newsletter.



[Back to Top](#)

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## Marine News

By Elizabeth M. Lukan 3/31/03

### ***2/5/03 - New Jersey, USA:***

Undersea hot springs not only produce valuable mineral deposits - they also provide habitats for a variety of unique organisms which may prove valuable for medicines and commercial products.

News Release: <http://ens-news.com/ens/feb2003/2003-02-05-09.asp#anchor3> (*url dead 8/24/04*)

### ***2/18/03 - Colorado, USA:***

Some of the most productive marine fishing methods are also the most damaging, and should be restricted or banned, scientists argued at a scientific meeting this week. Today, more than 400 leading scientists called today for the United Nations to issue a moratorium on longline and gillnet fishing, methods they say are wiping out populations of fish, turtles, marine mammals and other species in the Pacific Ocean.

News Release: <http://ens-news.com/ens/feb2003/2003-02-18-06.asp> (*url dead 8/24/04*)

### ***2/19/03 - DC, USA:***

New findings about the dynamics of coastal ocean ecosystems are prompting marine scientists to abandon long held assumptions about life in the sea and how best to protect it. Working along coasts from California to the Caribbean, researchers say they have cracked the "black box" of coastal ecosystems, revealing the inner workings of the near shore marine environment.

News Release: <http://ens-news.com/ens/feb2003/2003-02-19-06.asp> (*url dead 8/24/04*)

### ***2/26/03 - Maryland, USA:***

Scientists at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration are using satellite data to monitor the long term effects of heat stresses on several coral reefs throughout the world.

News Release: <http://ens-news.com/ens/feb2003/2003-02-26-09.asp#anchor5> (*url dead 8/24/04*)

### ***2/27/03 - DC, USA:***

The United States Coral Reef Task Force adopted a resolution that will improve water quality in the Florida Keys, while helping the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico upgrade ineffective wastewater treatment systems.

News Release: <http://ens-news.com/ens/feb2003/2003-02-27-09.asp#anchor3> (*url dead 8/24/04*)

**2/28/03 - California, USA:**

The average size of marine snails and limpets along the Southern California coast has declined over the past 100 years, and collection by humans is to blame.

News Release: <http://ens-news.com/ens/feb2003/2003-02-28-09.asp#anchor7> (*url dead 8/24/04*)

**3/3/03 - DC, USA:**

Officials from Delaware and New Jersey have decided to close all horseshoe crab harvesting in the Delaware Bay between May 1 and June 7. The ruling is being hailed by conservationists for its potential to protect both a prehistoric creature - the horseshoe crab - and the birds that depend on it for their survival.

News Release: <http://ens-news.com/ens/mar2003/2003-03-03-09.asp#anchor6> (*url dead 8/24/04*)

**3/5/03 - Florida, USA:**

Florida Governor Jeb Bush has declared March 2003 Seagrass Awareness Month. The intent is to highlight the importance of seagrasses to Florida's marine environment, commercial fisheries industry and the state's economy.

News Release: <http://ens-news.com/ens/mar2003/2003-03-05-09.asp#anchor6> (*url dead 8/24/04*)

**3/20/03 - American Samoa:**

WWF reports increased coral bleaching at all seven of the organization's research sites within the U.S. territory of American Samoa. This includes reefs within the protective boundaries of the U.S. National Park of American Samoa, Fagatele Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Maloata Bay community reserve.

News Release: <http://ens-news.com/ens/mar2003/2003-03-20-09.asp#anchor6> (*url dead 8/24/04*)

**3/20/03 - Washington, USA:**

Samples of fluid drawn from the crustal rocks that make up most of the Earth's seafloor are providing evidence to support the controversial assertion that life is widespread within oceanic crust.

News Release: <http://ens-news.com/ens/mar2003/2003-03-20-09.asp#anchor8> (*url dead 8/24/04*)

[Back to Top](#)

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## Upcoming Events

By Elizabeth M. Lukan 3/22/03

Event	Start Date / Time	End Date / Time	Location	Event Details, Notes, and For More Info
Aquarium Survey for Mike King	now	unknown		Reefs.org: <a href="http://www.reefs.org/survey/mike_survey.html">http://www.reefs.org/survey/mike_survey.html</a>
Fan Shell Survey	now	unknown		Marine Conservation Society, <a href="http://www.mcsuk.org/">http://www.mcsuk.org/</a>
Salinity Survey	now	unknown		Reefs.org: <a href="http://www.reefs.org/">http://www.reefs.org/</a>
Salt Mix Survey	now	unknown		Reefs.org: <a href="http://www.reefs.org/">http://www.reefs.org/</a>
MASLAC Meeting: Carol Keen re: Keeping and Caring for Seahorses + Drew Wetherholt re: Members tank presentation	4/11/03 7pm		Denny's Restaurant, 3060 San Fernando Rd, LA, CA, USA	Marine Aquarium Society of Los Angeles County: <a href="http://www.maslac.org/">http://www.maslac.org/</a>
Tampa Bay Aquarium Society & Tampa Bay Reef Club host Eric Borneman talk	4/12/03		Lakewood High School CAT Auditorium in St. Petersburg	No admission charge!
Southend, Leigh & District Aquarist Society Open Show 2003	5/3/03 3:00pm		Appleton School, Benfleet, Essex	No admission charge! Contact Show Secretary Chris Cheswright ( <a href="mailto:cheswright@blueyonder.co.uk">cheswright@blueyonder.co.uk</a> / 01268 472095) for show schedule

International Marine Aquarium Conference 2003	5/2/03	5/4/03	Chicago, IL	<a href="http://www.theimac.org/">http://www.theimac.org/</a>
Third International Days of Marine Aquaristic	6/7/03	6/9/03	Salle des fêtes in 67400 Illkirch Graffenstaden, Strasbourg, France	Organized by Récif France. Announced: Hans-Evers Balling, Heiko Blessin, Craig Bingman, Dieter Brockmann, Robert Brons, Lars Sebralla, Julian Sprung, Dieter Stüber. Contact: <a href="mailto:jjeckert@evc.net">jjeckert@evc.net</a>

**To Submit Your Event:** Send your event and all the specifics (date, time, location, pricing, contact info, etc.) via email to [fishnchips@mindspring.com](mailto:fishnchips@mindspring.com) (visit <http://www.marinefiends.com/submit.html> - updated 10/12/05) and I'll publish it in all issues of Fish 'N' Chips prior to the event.

[Back to Top](#)

## Prove It!, a Bibliography

By Elizabeth M. Lukan 3/22/03

**Article:** From Liz Recall Notice

- The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) Subscription List (<http://www.cpsc.gov>)

**Article:** Marine News

- Environment News Service, <http://ens-news.com/>

[Back to Top](#)

## Newsletter Disclaimer

To subscribe to Fish 'N' Chips, send a blank email to FishNChips-subscribe@yahoogroups.com or go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FishNChips/> visit <http://www.marinefiends.com/> (*updated 8/24/04*).

To unsubscribe, ~~send an email to FishNChips-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com~~ visit <http://www.marinefiends.com/> (*updated 8/24/04*).

Any and all comments, suggestions, etc., should be directed to [fishnchips@mail.com](mailto:fishnchips@mail.com).

The Fish 'N' Chips Website can be found at <http://www.marinefiends.com/> (*updated 8/24/04*).

To view the current issue of Fish 'N' Chips, visit <http://www.marinefiends.com/current.html> (*updated 8/24/04*).

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[Back to Top](#)