

# Paradise Fish

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**The First Exotic Fish *Macropodus opercularis*** The first documented record of a tropical fish being imported into Europe dates back to 1869. It was in this year that a certain N. Simon the French Consul in Ningpo, China either brought Paradise fish home with him or arranged their shipment to France, The French aquarist Charbonnier succeeded in breeding and rearing the fry in the following year. In 1876 Adolphus Basel took the fish to the U.S.A. Before the end of the 1870's Paradise fish were widely kept in both the U.S.A. and Europe. Even so, the Paradise was known to Linneus some hundred years previously as he coined it's first scientific name *Polycanthus viridis-auratus*, but it is quite possible that he only saw preserved specimens. Samuel Pepys in 1665 refers in his diary to colourful exotic fishes, which could have possibly been our subject fish, but there is no firm evidence. In 1665 the diarist recorded seeing in London " fine rarity, of fishes kept in a glass of water, that will live so forever, and finely marked they are, being foreign." Rather than goldfish, the fish were more likely to have been Paradise fish, *Macropodus opercularis* a familiar garden fish in Canton, China. The fish were almost certainly noticed by Europeans trading with China. The keeping of fish in an aquarium first became popular in Britain after ornate aquaria in cast-iron frames were featured at the Great Exhibition of 1851. The framed-glass aquarium was a development of the glazed Wardian case developed for British horticulturists in the 1830's, to protect exotic plants on long sea voyages.

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The Paradise Fish, *Macropodus operculatus*, was probably the fish tropical fish to be kept in Aquaria in Europe 1869. It was in this year that a certain N. Simon the French Consul in Ningpo, China either brought them to France, The French aquarist Charbonnier succeeded in breeding and rearing the fry in the following year. In 1876 Adolphus Basel took the fish to the U.S.A.

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Still available in pet shops it is not as popular as it once was.

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List of Aquarium Paradise Fish Wholesalers Periyar Nagar - Atlantis Paradise Island  
Paradise Fish - Feeding, Breeding and Care guide - In Land - Paradise Fish eBook:  
Peter. Look inside this book. The Paradise Fish, *Macropodus operculatus*, was probably the fish tropical fish to be kept in Aquaria in 5 Star Hotel & Resort - Nordic  
Sea Angling goes Paradise Fishing Lodge @ Panama. great fishing in paradise, huge



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