



English name: Bamboo Shrimp

Scientific name: *Atyopsis moluccensis*

Origin: Asia

Size male/female: 3.9 / 2.7 in

Water temperature: 24 - 26 °C

Water Parameters: pH 6.5 - 7.5

Breeding Rate: requires brackish water for larvae

Behaviour: non-aggressive

Difficulty: easy

Overview

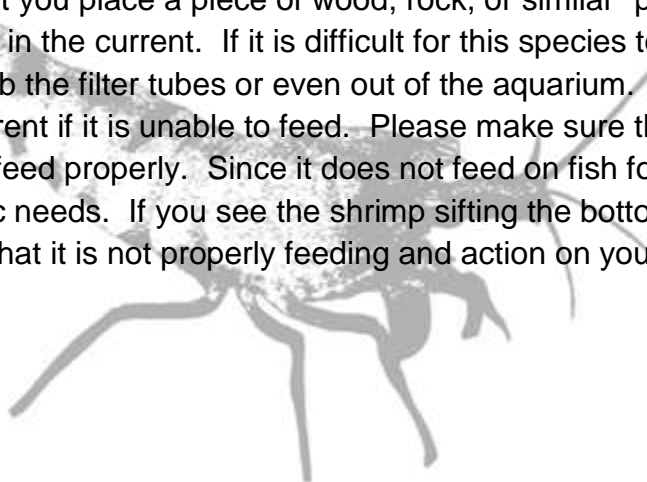
The bamboo shrimp is one of the most interesting shrimp in the hobby. It has several different names it is associated with including the Asian filter shrimp, fan shrimp and wood shrimp.

Breeding

There is one downside to the bamboo shrimp; it does not fully reproduce in freshwater. Like the amano shrimp, this species requires brackish water during the larval stage in order to successfully develop from hatching. Another downside is that all virtually all specimens sold online and in pet stores are wild-caught and not captive bred.

Water Parameters

It is highly suggested that you place a piece of wood, rock, or similar "platform" for the bamboo shrimp to sit in the current. If it is difficult for this species to be in the current it will tend to climb the filter tubes or even out of the aquarium. It will search out the source of the current if it is unable to feed. Please make sure that you are allowing this creature to feed properly. Since it does not feed on fish food you must accommodate its specific needs. If you see the shrimp sifting the bottom of the tank then that is an indicator that it is not properly feeding and action on your part is required.



Feeding

The "fans" of the bamboo shrimp are actually appendages that filter the current of outgoing filter water for microorganisms and/or particles of food. Since it filters the current you will most likely find this species sitting peacefully in the current with its fans spread out. If you observe the feeding behaviour closely you will notice that it closes the fan, puts the closed fan next to the mouth and swipes it across the mouth as to sort of "lick" it.

Coloration

The bamboo shrimp can assume many different colours, including red, tan, brown, and different shades of each. Some say that the coloration symbolizes the actual health of the species. It is also believed that the Bamboo Shrimp changes its coloration to blend in with its surroundings. Since the species must sit out in the open in the wild it would make sense that camouflage is required since they are sitting ducks for predators while feeding in streams. Also, perhaps the females may change colours to indicate that they are ready for mating.

Display

The Bamboo Shrimp is an enjoyable species and will spend most of its time out in the open, most likely in the current of water in the aquarium, filtering the current for food. Since this species spends most of the time out in the open fanning the current it is definitely a great "centrepiece" for an aquarium that you might want to have visitors look at. Its fans and interesting appearance will always intrigue guests and will spark conversation. It is extremely peaceful and can be shy if uncomfortable/unhealthy.

