



MOSQUITO FISH (GAMBUSIA AFFINIS)



- **Common name:** Mosquito Fish
 - **Scientific/Latin name:** *Gambusia affinis*
 - **Maximum length:** Males 0.5 to 2 inches, Females 1 to 3 inches
 - **Color:** Natural brownish gray
 - **Temperature Preference:** 60 to 80 degrees F, can survive 33 to 100 degrees F
 - **pH preference:** 7 to 8
 - **Hardness preference:** Moderate to hard
 - **Salinity preference:** 1 Tablespoon per 5 to 15 gallons
 - **Compatibility:** Not recommended for community tanks or ponds with other fish present, especially if you wish to have fry of other species survive
 - **Life span:** 1 to 3 years
 - **Ease of keeping:** Easy
 - **Ease of breeding:** Super easy
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- Mosquito fish are intended to be used for stocking ornamental ponds, unused or “out of order” swimming pools, and animal water troughs.
 - Copper pipe and fittings in contact with the water can kill the fish. The pipes can be coated with a special paint available at hardware stores. Plastic piping is preferable.
 - New concrete ponds will leach lime into the water and make the water alkaline. A new pond should be appropriately seasoned (filled, allowed to stand several days, drained and refilled).
 - Wine or Whiskey barrels will leach harmful chemicals into the water at first. They should be soaked and flushed out several times or lined before adding fish or plants.
 - If you have concerns about the pH of your pond an inexpensive pH kit can be purchased at a pet or swimming pool supply store. New ponds may turn green before becoming balanced, and an uncirculated pond will normally be somewhat green. Maintaining ornamental plants will help keep the water clear by competing for nutrients
 - When possible provide large rocks and vegetation for shelter from predators. There should be rocks on the bottom in the deepest part, where fish will spend cold days in an inactive state.
 - If there comes a time when you no longer have a need for the fish please call Allen County Mosquito Control at (260) 449-7459 for assistance in disposing of them.

Warning!!! Warning!!! Warning!!!

- Mosquito fish must never be released into the natural waterways of the State of Indiana. Doing so could have a detrimental effect on the species that naturally reside there.