

Breeding Cyphotilapia Frontosa

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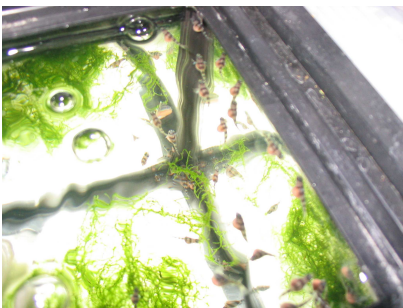
A few years ago I purchased some beautiful Burundi Frontosa as fry as I just loved the way they looked when they got larger. At the time all I was



interested in was getting these Lake Tanganyika beauties to size. As they began to grow larger the thought of breeding them became more relevant. Once they were large enough to spawn I realized I was very lucky to have a colony consisting of 1 male and 3 females out of the original four I had purchased. The first couple of mouthfuls from each female were not successful as I feel they weren't quite mature enough to carry to term. Having patience with them I waited and when the first female held for over 2 weeks I figured she had reached her maturity. I then went on to wait another week which was to say the least quite nerve racking. At the 3 week mark I



remove the holding female from the tank and stripped her to find beautiful little Frontosa fry that I could call my own.



Some of the preparation I did to help induce spawning was feed them frozen plankton, frozen spinach and soft and moist krill pellets. I had water parameters of 7.8ph and a hardness of 483.3. I also introduced Seachem's Cichlid salt gradually. Performing weekly water changes I believe helped a lot too. The tank layout was

quite simple as I used a fine layer of silica sand and round clay tiles to provide cover for them. I used an Emperor power filter to keep the water clean and a 120 gallon tank housed these beauties (48"x24"x24") I never had any light on the tank as the light in the room keeps the tank dimly lit. To this day I haven't changed anything in fact I haven't even moved the tank from it's original place. I produce fry from each female now on a regular basis and every mouthful is as exciting as the first. In closing I would like to say if you enjoy larger fish Frontosa are the fish for you.