

Subtropical species



Some fish will live happily in a unheated aquarium provided the water is not too cold and the temperature is stable. These are referred to as Subtropical, these areas are warm in summer, but colder than the tropics in winter. Species from these areas have adapted to cooler temperatures than tropical fish, therefore may be suited to a cooler aquarium.

It is not a good idea to mix these fish with varieties of Goldfish as they are not compatible, and may be eaten, or bully one another.

Below is a selection of fish that may be suitable, their maximum size and minimum recommended temperature they should be kept at. For the fishes welfare, please ensure that your room temperature is maintained above the stated level. If in doubt you should invest in a combined heater thermostat to maintain the temperature.

Below 18C



Odessa Barb 6cm
Minimum temp 14°C



Variatus Platy 6cm
Minimum temp 15°C



Paradise Fish 8cm
Minimum temp 16°C

18C or above



Golden Barb 6cm
Minimum temp 18°C



Rosy Barb 6cm
Minimum temp 18°C



White Cloud Minnow 4cm
Minimum temp 18°C



Chinese 'Plec' 6cm
Minimum temp 18°C



Peppered Catfish 6cm
Minimum temp 18°C



Amano Shrimp 4cm
Minimum temp 18°C

The information quoted in this publication are based on our own experience and were checked against Baensch's Aquarium Atlas Vol. 1 & FishBase for accuracy. These are known as a reliable sources of reference.

The area where our subtropical fish are kept has a minimum temperature of 18C maintained by a thermostatically controlled heater.