



# **Assessment of Pet Store and Seafood Market Availability of Invasive Species in Minnesota**



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# Assessment of Pet Store and Seafood Market Availability of Invasive Species in Minnesota

## Executive Summary

Fortin Consulting, Inc. (FCI) was hired by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to assess retail availability of invasive species and provide education on invasive species regulations, identification, and proper disposal. The research focused on visiting pet stores and seafood markets that sell aquatic and other live species. The purpose of this project was to provide a baseline understanding of the availability of invasive species at these retailers in Minnesota, as well as educational outreach to retailers.

Invasive species are defined as non-native species that cause or may cause environmental harm or harm to human health or threaten or may threaten natural resources or their use in the state. Along with several other trade pathways, the pet and seafood trades are some of the known pathways for invasive species. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources classifies invasive species as prohibited or regulated. Prohibited invasive species are generally illegal to possess, import, purchase, sell, propagate, transport, or introduce. Regulated invasive species are generally illegal to introduced into a free-living state (and this also applies for most other non-native species, classified as “unlisted” non-native species). FCI primarily searched for these species during the assessment, as well as invasive species classified under other state and federal regulations.

Seventy-four inventory examinations occurred in 66 pet stores and seafood markets (57 pet stores and 9 seafood markets). The prohibited invasive species, Louisiana crayfish (*Procambarus clarkii*), was found in two different independently owned pet stores. All of the pet stores and one third of the seafood markets inspected carried Minnesota regulated invasive species. Ten different regulated species were found in pet stores and one regulated species was found in seafood markets. Additional evidence that other prohibited and regulated invasive species not observed at the time of inventory examination may be sold in these stores was also found (such as video postings on a store Facebook page, labels on aquariums and a photo on a fish tank at a seafood market, and discussions with store staff). One species identified by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources as an early detection target, water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*), was found at two pet stores. Several non-native crayfish were being sold at five pet stores and were likely being sold in seafood markets although none were observed in-person during the inventory examinations. Several hitchhiker organisms (i.e., plants, snails, fish, or invertebrates attached to plants or received in the shipping container) were observed. None of these were known to be invasive species but two

were likely non-native crayfish which require a permit to import. The crayfish were tentatively identified using photographs as *Procambarus acutus* or *P. zonangulus*.

Information on invasive species laws, identification and disposal was offered to all the stores to help them identify and avoid selling prohibited species and prevent release into Minnesota waters. Several pet stores had managers and owners with a background in biology, environmental science, botany, or conservation. Many stated they had some knowledge, and some had substantial knowledge of invasive species issues. Most stores were happy to receive the materials and updated information on invasive species. A few stores provided the names of their suppliers; nine different suppliers were mentioned. There was one incident where a pet store manager became very defensive and somewhat belligerent when told there was a possible prohibited crayfish in their tanks. There was a language barrier in a few seafood markets in asking questions and providing information to store staff.

Many of the species found have been introduced to Minnesota lakes, ponds, wetlands, or streams and some have become invasive. The stores carry species of plants, invertebrates, and fish from all over the world. All the pet stores inspected, except for those carrying the prohibited species or potentially importing non-native crayfish, are thought to be complying with Minnesota invasive species laws. However, the legal regulated species may become a problem if accidentally or intentionally released to Minnesota waters. It is also important to note that this report includes a snapshot of what was present in the store at the time of inventory examination or labeled species confirmed as being sold. The composition of species being sold often varied between the first and second visits to a single store, and for the seafood markets, shipments were sometimes dependent on the weather where the fish, crayfish and other species are raised or harvested. It is the store owner's responsibility to make sure they are not selling prohibited species.

Ongoing inventory examination, education and connection with these businesses will help prevent the introduction of invasive species in Minnesota. Pet store owners can help by knowing which species present risk of being invasive, requesting scientific names from suppliers, providing invasive species information to customers, supporting rehoming of unwanted organisms, and maintaining connections with the DNR. The DNR can assist pet stores and prevent invasive species by working with suppliers; providing information to sellers and customers; assisting with species identification; sharing the retail assessment findings with sellers, other invasive species professionals, and the public; and conducting future inventory examinations. The DNR can assist seafood markets and prevent invasive species by providing educational information and conducting further inventory examinations that include translation in various languages.

## Introduction

Fortin Consulting, Inc. (FCI) was hired by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to assess the availability of invasive species in retail pet stores and seafood markets. Invasive species are defined as non-native species that cause or may cause environmental harm or harm to human health or threaten or may threaten natural resources or their use in the state. Along with several other trade pathways, Minnesota residents can purchase invasive species through the pet and seafood trades. Hundreds of species of plants, invertebrates, and fish from all over the world are sold through these businesses, which have historically led to accidental or intentional invasive species introductions.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) classifies invasive species as prohibited or regulated. Prohibited invasive species are generally illegal to possess, import, purchase, sell, propagate, transport, or introduce. Regulated invasive species are generally illegal to introduced into a free-living state (and this also applies for most other non-native species, classified as “unlisted” non-native species). FCI primarily searched for these species during the assessment, as well as invasive species classified under other state and federal regulations. Minnesota has additional regulations for crayfish: Live crayfish or crayfish eggs may not be imported without a permit issued by the DNR. Live crayfish can only be sold for aquarium use if the species cannot survive in Minnesota if released.

The purpose of this project was to provide a baseline understanding of the availability of invasive species at these retailers in Minnesota, as well as educational outreach to retailers. This is the first nearly statewide study of live organisms sold in pet stores and seafood markets in Minnesota. The results of the study will inform future work of the DNR as it evaluates program and funding needs for invasive species prevention and management.

## Methods

*Determination of study focus.* While several other industries also involve trade in live organisms and have historically led to invasive species introductions, pet stores and seafood markets were chosen for assessment in this study because there were manageable numbers of these retailers to visit in Minnesota. These are also industries for which invasive species regulations and enforcement by the state are currently relatively limited. The study is one of several trade pathways prevention and research efforts by the DNR conducted from 2019-2021. More information can be found at the [DNR's trade pathways for invasive species website](#).

*Store identification.* The DNR provided a list of pet stores and live seafood markets, incorporating additional stores recommended by FCI. The list encompassed all known pet stores and seafood markets thought to carry live organisms in Minnesota. FCI was conducting a similar project for Hennepin County around the same time as the DNR

study, so twenty stores in Hennepin County were removed from the list<sup>1</sup>. This larger list was narrowed down to 57 pet stores and nine seafood markets after calling each to confirm if they were open and carried live organisms. Pet stores were asked if they sold fish, invertebrates or live plants and animals. Seafood stores were asked if they carried live crab, fish, or crayfish.

*Target species selection and preparation for identification.* The DNR specified which species to search for during the assessment. These included prohibited and regulated invasive species<sup>2</sup> and proposed prohibited invasive species, non-native crayfish, Minnesota noxious weeds<sup>3</sup>, federal noxious weeds<sup>4</sup>, federally listed injurious wildlife<sup>5</sup>, and some plant species on a DNR “Early Detection Targets” list<sup>6</sup> (Appendix A). Minnesota prohibited, proposed prohibited, and regulated invasive species, early detection species, and non-native crayfish were prioritized because of the large number of invasive species to search for. DNR staff prepared an identification guide for these priority species to assist FCI staff with the assessment. FCI staff reviewed the DNR identification guide, plant and animal identification keys and information for any unfamiliar species. Many of the aquatic species were plants and fish, but also included snails, crayfish, and a turtle species. Some non-aquatic species were also on the list such as the European rabbit, some birds, and mammals, most of which were thought unlikely to be found in the pet stores or seafood markets.

Many target species have multiple common names, which can complicate inventory examination in stores. FCI did a search for common names and prepared a list of common names with their scientific names for the prohibited and proposed prohibited species (Appendix B). This helped in the search for prohibited species.

Organisms sometimes needed to be purchased for further identification. Because some of these species may have been prohibited to possess in Minnesota, a Minnesota DNR Prohibited Invasive Species Permit was obtained to allow FCI staff to possess prohibited invasive species purchased for further identification.

*Inventory examination process.* Initial inventory examinations were conducted anonymously, without FCI staff explaining what they were doing (as directed by DNR to avoid affecting assessment findings; though see related note on page 23). During the inventory examination, FCI staff walked throughout the stores and checked the tanks or other containers to identify any targeted species. In addition to species present, we recorded information on how plants and animals were stored, species labeling,

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<sup>1</sup> Contact FCI ([carolyn@fortinconsulting.com](mailto:carolyn@fortinconsulting.com)) or Hennepin County ([tony.brough@hennepin.us](mailto:tony.brough@hennepin.us)) for a report on results from the Hennepin County project.

<sup>2</sup> [Minnesota Invasive Species Laws](#) (including lists of prohibited and regulated invasive species)

<sup>3</sup> [Minnesota Noxious Weeds](#)

<sup>4</sup> [Federal Noxious Weeds](#)

<sup>5</sup> [Federally-listed Injurious Wildlife](#)

<sup>6</sup> [Minnesota Early Detection Target Species](#)

hitchhiker and moss ball<sup>7</sup> presence, and if any invasive species information was posted. If a listed species label was found but no live specimen was present, the store staff were asked if they carried it. If they did, it was recorded and included on the lists of invasive species sold but noted that it was not present at the time of inventory examination.

All invasive species found were recorded on a field sheet. A sample of any prohibited species or possible prohibited species was purchased for further identification and confirmation. Photographs of the tanks (pet stores) or produce (seafood markets) were taken at each store. FCI attempted to take photos of all freshwater tanks.

*Outreach and education to store staff.* Following the examination, FCI staff introduced themselves to the store manager, owner, or other staff if no manager was present and briefly explained the DNR research study purpose and discussed the findings. Store staff were told that FCI was not providing the names of the stores with the inspection results so the DNR would not be able to identify individual stores; the DNR instructed that FCI disassociate the findings from individual stores because the project was designed as a study providing a snapshot of invasive species availability in retail stores that would not be used for enforcement purposes. Store email addresses were obtained from those willing to share them for future communications from the DNR. Managers were asked who their suppliers were and if they would provide a purchasing list. They were also asked if they carried marimo moss balls.

The staff were offered the following invasive species educational handouts:

- Minnesota Invasive Species list – DNR (Appendix C)
- Invasive Species and Your Business - DNR handouts (Appendix D)
- Guidelines for disposal of invasive animals and plants – Hennepin County, modified with permission by the DNR (Appendix E)
- The business card of the DNR Invasive Species in Trade Specialist

If a prohibited or possible prohibited species was found, FCI staff discussed the rules regarding prohibited species and the potential harm to the environment. Store staff were asked to follow the disposal guidance provided. FCI staff asked the intent of the stores to follow guidance and not order or sell the prohibited species in the future. A summary of the conversation was recorded on the field sheet.

Any prohibited species found were reported to the DNR as soon as possible. Data provided to the DNR was by site number rather than store name and did not include any location information.

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<sup>7</sup> In March 2021, the U.S. Geological Survey received a report of invasive zebra mussels (*Dreissena polymorpha*) contaminating aquarium moss balls, prompting a nationwide response. Shortly after the finding, the DNR invasive species program and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service enforcement staff directly contacted all Minnesota pet stores to inform them of the concern and provide guidance on proper disposal of the moss balls.

*Secondary verification.* Several specimens received verification of taxonomic identity by additional experts. A sample of *Salvinia* plants found at a pet store was delivered to Miyeko Kimitch at the U.S. Department of Agriculture-Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA-APHIS) Minnesota field office for secondary verification. Suspected prohibited invasive crayfish were initially examined and photographed live and later were frozen. Upon closer examination using a dissecting microscope, those believed to be the prohibited invasive species, Louisiana crayfish (*Procambarus clarkii*), were confirmed to match the characteristics in the identification keys (there is limited availability of keys and identification information for some non-native crayfish species; many are from northern Mexico and the southern and southeastern U.S.). Photos were sent to Gary Montz, DNR research scientist and invertebrate expert, for species verification. The specimens believed to be Louisiana crayfish were tentatively confirmed by the DNR. The crayfish were later preserved in alcohol and shipped to William Budnick, an expert crayfish taxonomist at Michigan State University, for further identification.

## Results

### Pet Stores



All 57 pet stores visited carried either regulated or prohibited species (mean respective regulated and prohibited invasive species per store: 3.5 and 0.04; range 2–7 species; Tables 1a, 1b; Figures 1 and 2). One prohibited species, 11 regulated species, and one early detection target species were being sold. The sole prohibited species, Louisiana crayfish, was found at two pet stores (3.5%) located in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area. Commonly sold regulated species included goldfish (*Carassius auratus*) at 56 stores (98.2%) and koi (*Cyprinus carpio*) at 55 stores (96.5%). Commonly sold regulated plants included Brazilian waterweed (*Egeria densa*) at 33 stores (57.9%) and water lilies (*Nymphaea* spp.) at 25 stores (43.9%). Red-eared sliders (*Trachemys scripta elegans*), a regulated turtle species, was found in 24 stores (42.1%). All other regulated species, including Carolina fanwort (*Cabomba caroliniana*), parrot's feather

(*Myriophyllum aquaticum*), water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*), rusty crayfish (*Orconectes rusticus*) and *Tilapia* spp. were found in four or fewer stores. One early detection target species, water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) was found at four stores (7.0%).

Number and type of plant, fish, and invertebrate species and other species varied substantially from store to store. FCI did not attempt to identify all species but focused on searching for the listed species of concern for this project. However, a list of fish species with over 500 species or varieties was created from labels on the tanks (Appendix F).

Of the 57 stores surveyed, 39 of the stores were chain stores (PetSmart and Petco), four were franchises (Pet Supplies Plus), and 14 were independent. Thirty-two of the stores (56.1%) were in the seven county Twin Cities Metropolitan Area and 25 (43.9%) were in larger cities in greater Minnesota.

The two chain stores Petco and PetSmart generally carried a similar list of species and quite a few different species of both plants and fish. The plants were sold in packaging and in aquariums and often there was a plastic label in the plant or on the tanks. The chain stores had detailed premade labels on the aquariums, including the common name and scientific name and often a photo.

Pet Supplies Plus franchise stores sold a more limited number of species and had similar labeling to the chain stores on some tanks, but only common names on others. Both the chain and franchise stores appeared to have all species labeled in some way.



Inventory in the independent stores varied from just a few plants, fish, snails, or crayfish to a wide variety of plants, fish, reptiles, and invertebrates. Many plants, fish and invertebrates were in aquariums with multiple species. Aquariums had either species labels or handwritten common names on the glass. Not all plants, fish, and other species were labeled.

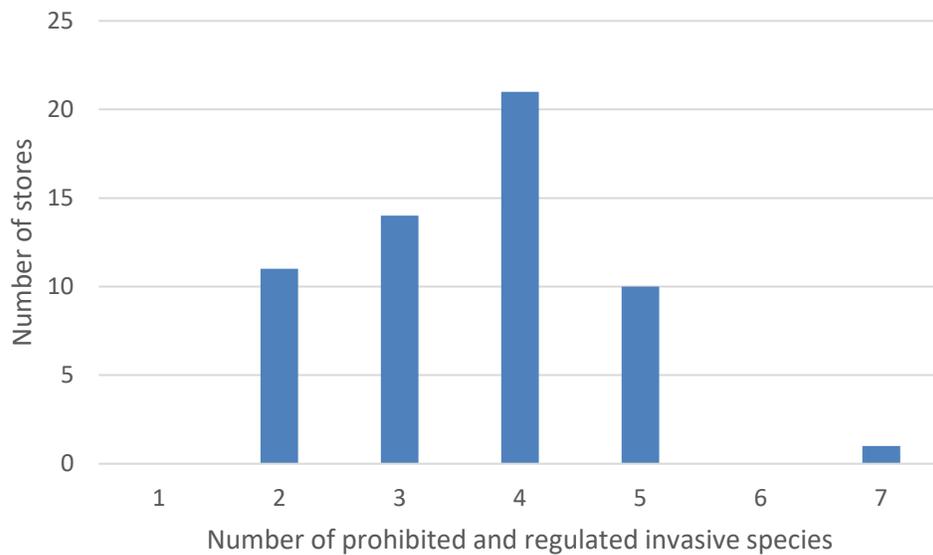


**Table 1a. Prohibited, Regulated and Early Detection Fish, Crayfish and Turtle Species Observed in Pet Stores**

Store Ownership	Louisiana crayfish ( <i>Procambarus clarkii</i> ; prohibited)	Goldfish ( <i>Carassius auratus</i> ; regulated)	Koi ( <i>Cyprinus carpio</i> ; regulated)	Rusty crayfish ( <i>Orconectus rusticus</i> ; regulated)	Tilapia ( <i>Tilapia</i> species; regulated)	Red-eared slider turtle ( <i>Trachemys scripta elegans</i> ; regulated)
Percentage of stores carrying	3.5	98.2	96.5	1.8	1.8	42.1
Total no. detected	2	56	55	1	1	24
No. detected at independent stores	2	13	13	1	1	1
No. detected at franchise stores	0	4	4	0	0	0
No. detected at chain stores	0	39	38	0	0	23
Average availability across stores	0.04	0.98	0.96	0.02	0.02	0.42

**Table 1b. Prohibited, Regulated and Early Detection Plant Species Observed in Pet Stores**

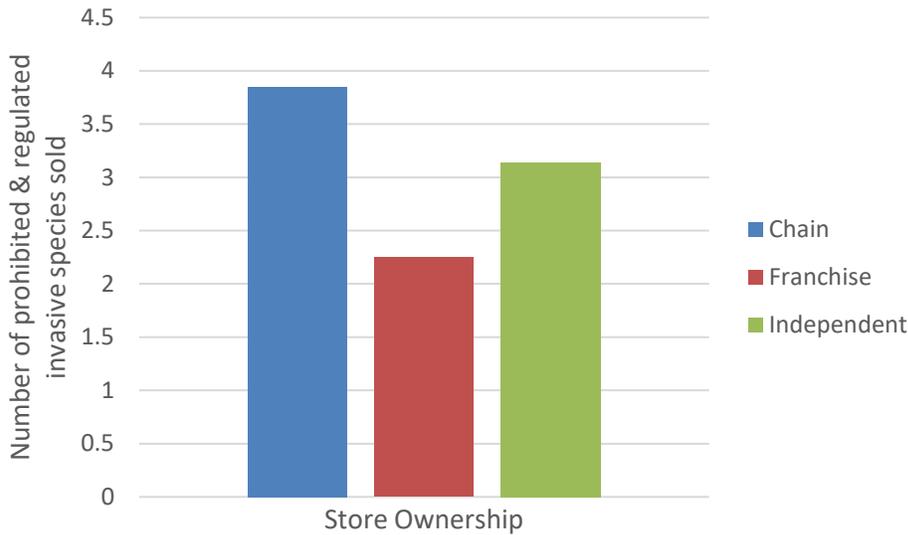
Species and regulatory classification	Carolina fanwort ( <i>Cabomba caroliniana</i> ; regulated)	Water hyacinth ( <i>Eichhornia crassipes</i> ; regulated)	Brazilian waterweed ( <i>Egeria densa</i> ; regulated)	Parrot's feather ( <i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i> ; regulated)	Non-native waterlilies ( <i>Nymphaea</i> spp.; regulated)	Water lettuce ( <i>Pistia stratiotes</i> ; early detection)
Percentage of stores carrying	7.0	1.8	57.9	1.8	43.9	7.0
Total no. detected	4	1	33	1	25	4
No. detected at independent stores	4	1	6	1	1	4
No. detected at franchise stores	0	0	1	0	0	0
No. detected at chain stores	0	0	26	0	24	0
Average availability across stores	0.07	0.02	0.58	0.02	0.44	0.07



**Figure 1. Prohibited and Regulated Invasive Species in Pet Stores - Number of stores with number of prohibited and regulated invasive species found in each store**

More prohibited and regulated animals including crayfish, fish and turtles (mean: 2.4; range: 1–4 species per store) were carried in the stores than plants (mean: 1.1; range: 0–3 species per store).

Invasive species found in pet stores varied by store ownership with chain stores carrying the most (mean: 3.85; range: 2–5), followed by independently owned stores (mean 3.14; range 2–7), and franchise stores carrying the fewest regulated and prohibited invasive species (mean 2.25; range 2–3; Figure 2). The few prohibited species detected were carried only in the independently owned stores. If just regulated invasive species are included, the mean number of species for these stores drops to 3.0 and range to 2–6.



**Figure 2. Mean Number of Prohibited and Regulated Invasive Species by Store Ownership**

### Prohibited Invasive Species

The prohibited species Louisiana crayfish (*Procambarus clarkii*) was found in two independently owned pet stores. One store had two color variations. It was also found in Hennepin County pet stores through a similar but separate 2021 study (not included in this report, see Methods). The DNR and many agencies list a common name of “red swamp crayfish” for this species. In the pet trade, this name is not used but many other common names are, including, tangerine crayfish, tangerine lobster, fireball crayfish, tricolor ghost crayfish, Louisiana crayfish, neon red crayfish, orange crayfish, snow white lobster, red lobster, scarlet crayfish, ghost crayfish, white specter crayfish, mudbug, red crayfish, black ghost, blue ghost, creamsicle crayfish, ivory crayfish, and vanilla crayfish. It is found in several varieties and colors in the pet trade that do not resemble the photographs commonly used for invasive species education (though the photographs used in educational materials do resemble the Louisiana crayfish used in cooking and dining).



Crayfish labeled "ivory crayfish", identified as *Procambarus clarkii*



Crayfish labeled "Red crayfish", likely *P. clarkii*



Crayfish labeled "Red crayfish", characteristics moderately consistent with *P. clarkii*

## Non-native crayfish

Four stores carried other non-native but not prohibited crayfish. Three stores were selling electric blue crayfish (*Procambarus alleni*) and two were selling crayfish labeled either “red-brick yabby” or “red” but came up as “yabby” on receipt. The store selling the red-brick yabby had 13 of them in stock. Two additional stores stated they had been selling electric blue crayfish. One said the supplier stopped selling them and the other thought they were not allowed to sell them anymore. Two stores had non-native crayfish that were not being sold, rusty crayfish and two unknown crayfish, in their tanks that came in with a fish order. The two unknowns resembled but were confirmed not to be the proposed prohibited marbled crayfish (*P. virginalis* or *P. fallax forma virginalis*) by the DNR and Michigan State University experts (these were believed to be *P. acutus* or *P. zonangulus* but a specimen of the suspected marbled crayfish could not be obtained to confirm identity; *P. zonangulus* is not native to Minnesota, but it is unclear if *P. acutus* is native to Minnesota).

The two crayfish labeled as “yabby” were purchased for identification. They did not appear to be *Cherax destructor*, the prohibited invasive species. This was confirmed by DNR staff and Michigan State University. Michigan State University provided a report identifying the crayfish provided (Budnick, 2021; Table 2).

**Table 2. Crayfish Identification - Michigan State University (MSU; Budnick, 2021)**

Site #	Name listed at store	MSU Identification	MSU ID notes
30	Red Brick Yabby crayfish	<i>Cherax quadricarinatus</i>	characteristics majorly consistent
30	Red crayfish on tank, Yabby on receipt	<i>Cherax quadricarinatus</i>	characteristics majorly consistent
25	Red crayfish	<i>Procambarus clarkii</i>	characteristics moderately consistent
25	Ivory crayfish	<i>Procambarus clarkii</i>	characteristics consistent
13	Electric Blue crayfish	<i>Procambarus alleni</i>	characteristics consistent
13	Red crayfish	<i>Procambarus clarkii</i>	characteristics majorly consistent

It is also important to note the possibility that sellers communicated with each other about the study, influencing the results. As previously mentioned, FCI was conducting a similar project for Hennepin County around the same time as the DNR study. One retailer in Hennepin County was found to be selling the prohibited invasive Louisiana crayfish. Because this finding occurred as part of the Hennepin County project, rather than the DNR study that is the focus of this report, the DNR responded by verifying the species and interviewing and educating the retailer and supplier. DNR staff were transparent about the purpose and process of the DNR study. There is a possibility that the supplier notified their customers throughout Minnesota, either to protect them and/or prevent the spread of invasive species. In turn, this may have led retailers to compare their stocks with the list of prohibited invasive species and make adjustments prior to FCI’s visits.

## Regulated Invasive Species

Regulated fish species found were documented on datasheets with their scientific name and the common name(s) on the label. Approximately 564 different fish species and varieties were found. There are duplicates in this count as some were only identified to the genus level, some to species level, and some to variety. Many of these had multiple common names (see Appendix F).

Red-eared slider turtle (*Trachemys scripta elegans*). Red-eared sliders are a popular pet turtle and were found in 24 stores (42.1%). All the turtles observed were stored in aquariums.



Red-eared slider (*Trachemys scripta elegans*)

Brazilian elodea or waterweed (*Egeria densa*). Brazilian waterweed is a very common submersed aquarium plant and is often sold under the common name “Anacharis” or sometimes “Elodea”. It was found in 33 stores (57.9%). It is stored in tanks weighted in bunches or sometimes floating in bunches.



Brazilian waterweed (*Egeria densa*)

*Nymphaea* species. *Nymphaea* species are water lilies, rooted floating-leaved plants. Twenty-five (43.9%) of the stores carried water lily bulbs, some packaged along with bulbs of additional aquatic species. They were found in plastic packaging or in boxes. Labels did not identify the lilies to the species level. It is not known how many different species or varieties of water lilies are being sold. While some *Nymphaea* species are native to Minnesota, non-native water lilies are classified as regulated invasive species.



**Water lily (*Nymphaea* spp.) and other aquatic plant bulbs**

Carolina fanwort (*Cabomba caroliniana*). Four stores (7.0%) carried green *Cabomba*. It is also found in a purple variety. Both the green and purple are varieties of *C. caroliniana*. Carolina fanwort was found only in independent pet stores. It is a rooted submersed plant with fan-like leaves arranged oppositely in whorls.



**Carolina fanwort (*Cabomba caroliniana*)**

Water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*). One store (1.8%) had a single water hyacinth plant mixed in with water lettuce. Water hyacinth is a non-rooted floating aquatic plant that has very long black roots and a beautiful purple flower. It has inflated petioles (stalks) which provide flotation.



**Water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*)**

Rusty crayfish (*Orconectes rusticus*). Rusty crayfish were observed in one store. Five crayfish were brought into the store from an individual that had caught them locally. Store staff reported that two crayfish had died and those remaining were not for sale. In a second visit to the store, no crayfish were observed, and it was reported that they had died.



**Rusty crayfish (*Orconectes rusticus*)**

Water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*). One early detection target species, water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*), was found. It was found in four of the pet stores inspected (7.0%). Water lettuce is a non-rooted floating-leaved plant. It has pubescent (hairy) thick leaves shaped in a rosette resembling lettuce leaves.



Water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*)

### **Other evidence of sale of prohibited and regulated invasive species**

A few stores had signs on their tanks indicating they sold some prohibited invasive species, including weatherloach (*Misgurnus anguillicaudatus*) and Louisiana crayfish (*Procambarus clarkii*), but the species itself was not present. When this was mentioned to the store managers, most stated they were not selling them and removed the signs.

Several types of snails were found including snails labeled as “Mystery Snails” but were black or gold varieties and the shells were colored as indicated. These snails were labeled *Pomacea bridgesii*. The invasive mystery snails are different genera, *Viviparus* and *Cipangopaludina*. Other snails observed did not appear to be any on the invasive species list.

Two stores had fish tanks labeled with “*Perca*”, the genus name for perch species, but no species name was indicated. None of the fish in the tanks resembled the prohibited European perch (*Perca fluviatilis*). Rabbits were observed in one independent store, but they were not the prohibited invasive European rabbit species.

### **Aquarium moss balls**

Many store managers were aware of the recent finding of zebra mussels contaminating aquarium moss balls and said they had been contacted by the DNR about the need to stop selling and destroy them. Many reported that the moss balls were removed, frozen

and disposed of. Several managers of one chain store reported that the stores were conducting system-wide cleaning to destroy any zebra mussels that could be present. They reported that this cleaning was to be completed in phases in stores across the state. Fish and aquatic plants were temporarily not for sale during this process. Signs about this cleaning process were found at two of stores of the same company.

Two stores had marimo moss balls in a display-only tank. At one store, FCI was told that one moss ball was locally grown and had been there for years. Staff said they were not selling aquarium moss balls and other moss balls that they had for sale were frozen and disposed of. The second store had one moss ball that had been in a home tank for a couple of years and was brought to the store for display about four months earlier but was not for sale. The moss ball was examined. No obvious zebra mussels were present.

During the store visits, no stores were observed to be selling marimo moss balls. However, a review of photographs taken during the examinations showed a moss ball in a tank with a price sign. FCI followed-up with a phone call to the store manager. The manager said it may have been left over from an order prior to the recall. They were not selling them at the time of the call, but it is possible the one observed was sold. Fourteen stores had tanks labeled with marimo moss balls, but none were in the tanks except for the two previously described, and one tank had the price tag removed. Java moss balls were observed at 5 stores.

### **Hitchhikers**

Hitchhikers are unexpected species that come in unintentionally with shipments. Hitchhiker crayfish, snails, duckweeds, and common *Salvinia* (not the prohibited invasive *Salvinia* species) were observed in 18 stores. More stores reported that they receive hitchhikers, but the hitchhiking organisms may not have been present or observed at the time of FCI examination. Several stores reported that they occasionally to often receive crayfish as hitchhikers in orders. The crayfish come in with goldfish and feeder fish. One store manager said they once had a single order that had as many as 60 tiny crayfish in it. The stores manage these hitchhiker crayfish in different ways including removal, freezing, and disposal; giving them away to customers; giving them to employees; and/or selling them to a customer that feeds them to piranhas.

Photographs taken of two hitchhiker crayfish were sent to the DNR and experts in Michigan for identification (these were also described in the Non-native crayfish section). They were identified as *P. acutus* or the extremely similar *P. zonangulus*. Neither are classified as invasive species but there is concern that *P. zonangulus* may be invasive (Budnick, 2021). A live specimen was not collected because the crayfish was already given to a customer. However, FCI was able to contact this individual and get additional photos to help with identification.



Hitchhiker crayfish identified as *Procambarus acutus* or *P. zonangulus*

Snails are common hitchhikers in aquarium tanks, often coming in on live plants. Some stores reported that they try to remove hitchhiker snails once detected by treating water or by hand. One store indicated the snails were not a problem because they die from water changes. Several stores report that they feed hitchhiker snails to goldfish, cichlids, and assassin snails. Two stores said they may sell the hitchhiker snails. A few stores reported that they do not often get hitchhiker snails in their shipments. One manager reported that they don't receive many plants with snails on them but if they do, the whole bag is disposed of. Another said they mostly just leave them. A couple stores reported that the snails will not survive because they have some salt in the tanks.

One store reported they sometimes receive tadpoles in their feeder shipments.

### **Storage of Plants and Animals**

All the fish and most plants were stored in aquarium tanks. Some plants were in pots within the tanks, some were floating at the top of the tanks, and some were unpotted but weighted down. Plants were also found on shelves either potted and in plastic containers, floating in water in a plastic container, or were sold as dry bulbs in plastic packaging or boxes. Turtles, crayfish, and snails were stored in aquarium tanks. All plants and animals seemed to be well contained with no risk of unintentional escape from stores.

### **Suppliers**

A few stores provided the names of their suppliers (Table 3), but many did not want to provide the name, or the staff interviewed did not know who the suppliers were. Nine different suppliers were mentioned. One manager said they have over 25 suppliers but did not provide names. Apet was mentioned 25 times and is a supplier for the large chain stores.

**Table 3. Pet Store Suppliers**

<b>Pet Supplier</b>	<b>Number of Stores</b>
A & M Aquatics	1
Apet	25
Complete Aquatics	1
Gentry & Caterberry Fisheries, Inc.	2
Go Aquatics	5
North Star Aquatics	3
Private sellers	3
Segrest Farms	1
Viking Pet Center	1
5-D Tropical	5

Many stores stated they received shipments about once a week. One large store stated that they receive 25 shipments a week during the busy season (the seller did not explain when the busy season occurs).

### **Seafood Markets**

An assessment of seafood stores was completed to determine if stores were selling live fish, crabs, crayfish, or other organisms for consumption that are classified as invasive species. All seafood markets were independently owned stores but three had more than one location. Seven of the stores (77.8%) were in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area and two (22.2%) were in larger cities in greater Minnesota.

No prohibited species were observed during the store visits. Three of the stores carried live tilapia, a regulated invasive species (Table 4). Others carried tilapia in the coolers chopped up, or frozen. Based on postings on Facebook, signs at the stores, and phone calls to stores, three markets were thought to be carrying live crayfish, but samples could not be collected to determine what species they were selling.

- One market had a “crawfish” sign, but none were in stock and market staff did not know when they would be receiving them or what species they were.
- The second market posted videos of what appeared to be live Louisiana crayfish on their Facebook page several times in 2021. FCI called the store multiple times to determine when they would have them in stock. However, no samples were able to be collected to confirm identification of the crayfish despite two visits to the store.
- The DNR received information in mid-May that a third market may be importing live Louisiana crayfish and other crayfish. FCI staff called the store and were told that due to poor weather in the south, they would not receive the shipment of Louisiana crayfish until mid- to late-June. FCI called them several more times

and visited the store once, and no crayfish were observed. Confirmation of live crayfish was not received in any of the calls. In the last phone call, FCI was told that the market did not receive any shipments from Louisiana in 2021 but were expecting some from Minnesota. The species of crayfish was not provided. There is a possibility that some of these are rusty crayfish, which are legal to sell but are regulated invasive species.



Crayfish photos posted on Facebook page

One Asian market sold several species of fresh fish, crabs, eel, softshell turtle, and loaches. One tank labeled “loach” had a photo of what appears to be the prohibited invasive weatherloach (*Misgurnus anguillicaudatus*) posted on it. However, the tank was empty, so it was not possible to inspect a live specimen.



Photo of a weatherloach found on tank at seafood store

**Table 4. Regulated Species Observed in Seafood Markets**

Note: An x indicates a detection and a - indicates no detection.

Site #	Store Ownership	Store Type	Tilapia ( <i>Tilapia</i> spp.; regulated)
8	Independent	Seafood	-
31	More than 1	Seafood	-
32	Independent	Seafood	x**
33	More than 1	Seafood	-
37	Independent	Seafood	-
50*	Independent	Seafood	-
56	Independent	Seafood	x
57	More than 1	Seafood	x
58	Independent	Seafood	-
Total Detected	Independent (some with more than 1 location)	Seafood	3

\*Possible Louisiana crayfish observed in videos from store posted on Facebook

\*\*Not in stock at time of inspection, but store sells

Store #8 sells live crayfish, but they were not in stock, and species was unknown

Store #31 was expecting to receive crayfish, but they were not in stock at the time of the visit or phone calls

There was a language barrier in a few stores in asking questions and providing information to store staff. It is not known which languages were being spoken by sellers. FCI tried to determine if live species were sold and to provide some educational information and materials. Several of the markets did not take the educational materials. None of the stores provided names of suppliers. The market staff FCI spoke with mostly did not know the suppliers or else they did not want to provide suppliers' names.

### Storage of live fish and crayfish

Live fish were kept in tanks. The crayfish observed in the Facebook post were kept in open cardboard boxes that were quite full. They were not stored in water. There is the potential for escape of these crayfish, although it is not likely they would make it out the door and to a surface water.

### Quality Control Checks

FCI staff reviewed the many photos taken at each store to make sure all species of concern were recorded. Some additional regulated or early detection species were found and recorded. It is important to note that this report includes a snapshot of what was present in the store at the time of inventory examination or labeled species confirmed as being sold. Ten percent (six pet stores and two seafood markets) were revisited to determine if different invasive species would be found. Only one store had the same number of invasive species on the second visit. Otherwise, each store had one to three more or fewer ( $\pm 1-3$ ) species found in the initial inventory examination (Table 5). This indicates either the stores had sold these species, new species came in,

or some were missed in the first or second examination. It is likely that species were sold, and new supplies were received. Shipments are received biweekly to up to 25 times per week at the stores, according to store staff.

**Table 5. Quality Control Checks - Pet Stores - Invasive species detected at the first (V1) and second (V2) visits to pet stores (#) that received quality control checks**

Note: An x indicates a detection and a - indicates no detection.

Common name	Scientific name	5 V1	5 V2	11 V1	11 V2	22 V1	22 V2	25 V1	25 V2	30 V1	30 V2	66 V1	66 V2
Goldfish	<i>Carassius auratus</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	-	-
Koi	<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>	x	x	-	-	x	x	x	x	x	x	-	-
Non-native waterlilies	<i>Nymphaea spp.</i>	-	-	-	-	x	x	-	-	-	-	x	x
Brazilian waterweed	<i>Egeria densa</i>	-	x	-	-	-	x	-	x	x	-	x	x
Water lettuce	<i>Pistia stratiotes</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	x	x	x	-	x	x
Carolina fanwort	<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	x	-	-	-	-	-
Red-eared slider	<i>Trachemys scripta elegans</i>	-	-	-	-	-	x	-	-	-	-	x	x
Rusty crayfish	<i>Orconectes rusticus</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	x	-	-	-	x	-
Louisiana crayfish	<i>Procambarus clarkii</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	x	-	-	-	-	-

For the seafood markets (Table 6), shipments were sometimes dependent on the weather where the fish, crayfish and other species are raised or harvested and staff did not always know when they would receive them. The markets indicated that the crayfish sell out quickly. It was difficult to time the inventory examination for when the live species were present.

**Table 6. Quality Control Checks - Seafood Markets; Invasive species detected at the first (V1) and second (V2) visits to seafood markets (#) that received quality control checks**

Note: An x indicates a detection and a - indicates no detection.

Common name	Scientific name	50 V1	50 V2	57 V1	57 V2
Tilapia	<i>Tilapia spp.</i>	-	-	x	-
Louisiana crayfish	<i>Procambarus clarkii</i> *	-	-	-	-

\*Possible *P. clarkii* sold at store 50 based on Facebook photos but not found at time of visits.

## Presentation and Distribution of Educational Information & Materials

Invasive species education material was observed in several of the PetSmart stores. The materials observed were from the Habitatitude® program. A Habitatitude® brochure with the “Do not release” message was found in a rack with many brochures on fish and animal care. One store had Habitatitude® cards posted next to the tanks.

Two stores were identified as accepting rehomed pets. One had two aquariums with fish in them that were labeled "Adoption tanks". The other noted on their website that they will rehome pets. Additional stores may also offer this, but the question was not asked.

A discussion on the inspection findings occurred and educational materials were offered to each store. Most stores were happy to receive the materials and updated information on invasive species. One store manager became defensive and difficult when it was pointed out that crayfish being sold were possibly invasive. Several stores had managers and owners with a background in biology, environmental science, botany, or conservation. Many had some knowledge, and some had substantial knowledge of invasive species issues. Some stated they would post the educational materials in the breakroom. Several store managers indicated they would change some behaviors when it was pointed out that some activities could cause potential introductions of invasive species. For example, two managers said they would quit selling crayfish after being made aware that some may be prohibited species. When it was pointed out that some labels on tanks were for the prohibited invasive species weatherloach (*Misgurnus anguillicaudatus*), the labels were removed. FCI staff suggested that stores request scientific names along with common names so they can make comparisons to the invasive species lists and check for hitchhikers which could be invasive species and dispose of them.

Summaries of the conversations with store staff were noted on the field sheet. Below are some of the comments from store staff.

- Happy to receive the AIS information, "This is awesome. This will be really helpful".
- "Happy to be up-to-date on invasive species".
- Manager was "very happy that we were going out and educating people on AIS."
- One store owner commented that this was the first time someone has come into the store in 20 years (referring to someone checking on what was being sold).
- Manager knew about the Louisiana crayfish being a prohibited species. He had sold prohibited and proposed prohibited species before. He would be more aware of them and try not to sell them
- Surprised that some crayfish were on the prohibited species list
- "I had no idea these crayfish were prohibited".
- "After talking, we will stop buying and selling crayfish".
- In a follow-up phone call with a store manager, the manager stated he had decided not to support the sale of crayfish anymore after he learned some may be invasive.

- After being told crayfish hitchhikers could potentially be AIS, will stop selling them to customer and dispose of them.
- Hopes the DNR “can try to regulate turtles more” (manager was concerned about customers not planning for the size of adult turtles and presumably with how a customer might dispose of it if it becomes too large).
- Manager talks to customers about how fish and turtles grow. Doesn’t want them to be released into a pond.
- “We always make sure we look at the scientific names” when ordering fish and invertebrates.
- We will ask supplier to provide scientific names next time.
- Having pictures of the AIS when ordering fish would help a lot.
- A poster on AIS would be helpful so they could post it in the store.
- One said they are on the email list and get updates from the DNR.
- Tries to deter people from buying goldfish without the proper tank size.

## Conclusions and Recommendations

### Pet Stores

The assessment showed that pet stores are carrying prohibited, regulated, and early detection species. It is legal for them to carry the regulated and early detection species.

It was difficult to conduct the assessment due to the number of different species often found in a tank, with many of them moving. Aquariums may also have a lot of vegetation in them that the fish can hide in. Algae on the tank glass also limited visibility sometimes. A combination of looking at the species in the tanks as well as the labels was used to locate as many species as possible. FCI staff relied on photographs and identification information in keys and in the DNR-prepared information to identify the targeted invasive species. One problem that was found is that the prohibited or other invasive species may not always look like the commonly used photographs in educational materials or keys. Breeding has substantially changed the appearance of some species. This was very evident in the prohibited invasive species found, Louisiana crayfish. This species was more easily detected based on a list of common names assembled for this project, or in some cases, scientific names found on labels at the store. A closer look at distinguishing features was needed for positive identification.

Most of the inspections were conducted anonymously prior to speaking with a manager or other staff. In the smaller stores or when the store was not busy, it was harder to remain anonymous because FCI staff were often approached by store staff. It did not

seem to matter if the inspections were conducted anonymously or not, the data was gathered equally either way. It was not always possible to speak to a manager or owner, in which case the findings were discussed with store staff present. A few staff were as or more knowledgeable about species in the tanks than the manager. Many store employees were helpful in identifying species if asked.

Most of the store staff (managers, owners, and employees) were cooperative and interested in hearing about the project and invasive species education information. There was one incident where a manager became very defensive and somewhat belligerent when told there was a possible prohibited crayfish in their tanks. Some were leery of the project, did not believe it was just for research, and questioned if they would get into trouble. FCI staff explained that this was a research project to determine what was being sold and that the DNR was interested in helping them understand and comply with the laws as well as protect Minnesota waters and the environment.

Over 500 fish genera, species or varieties were observed. Many plants species were also observed. In a similar study completed for Hennepin County in 2015, one pet store clerk commented that they have access to about 800 species of plants that can be interchanged and sold as “assorted plants”.

One store carried six different species of turtles, including the regulated red-eared slider (Table 7). Some staff noted they spoke to customers about making sure they had tanks large enough for turtles, which can grow large, and telling them not to release them to the environment. There is concern from store managers that turtles could be released if they outgrow tanks. This concern also exists for goldfish and koi.

**Table 7. Turtles Observed in Pet Stores**

<b>Common name</b>	<b>Scientific name</b>
African side-neck turtle	<i>Pelusios spp.</i>
Chinese striped-neck turtle	<i>Mauremys sinensis</i>
Mississippi map turtle	<i>Graptemys pseudogeographica kohni</i>
Painted turtle	<i>Chrysemys picta spp.</i>
Red-eared slider	<i>Trachemys scripta elegans</i>
Reeves turtle	<i>Mauremys reevesii</i>

Some of the plants and animals found during the inventory examination have been reported in Minnesota lakes or rivers, including Louisiana crayfish, rusty crayfish, goldfish, Brazilian waterweed, water hyacinth and water lettuce. Other species may not survive Minnesota winters.

Discussions with store staff indicated that the DNR effort to contact pet stores about zebra mussels found in marimo moss balls was effective. Forty-seven of the stores stated they had been contacted and had removed and disposed of them, mostly by freezing first and then throwing them away. There were still a few stores that had them in tanks but stated they were not for sale or were locally grown (and presumably did not

contain zebra mussels). Several stores still had the moss ball labels on the tanks, but no moss balls were observed in the tanks.

Little to no information was posted in the stores about the danger of invasive species if released to the environment. The short invasive species education discussion had some positive results with some stores deciding not to sell crayfish. Many others were made aware of the issues and indicated they would be more careful in what they were ordering and selling. Managers often stated they would put the educational materials in the employee breakroom.

The prohibited species, weatherloach (*Misgurnus anguillicaudatus*), also known as gold dojo loach in pet stores, was found in pet stores during a 2017 study in Dakota and Hennepin counties (Fortin Consulting, 2017). It was reported to the DNR and the DNR contacted these pet stores about this finding and the need to remove them from stores and future sales. These efforts appear to have been successful. Weatherloach was not found during this study. However, a label on an aquarium listing the species was observed in two stores (not the same stores reported in 2017). Both stores confirmed they were not selling weatherloach and removed the label when it was discussed with store staff. One of the stores was part of the chain where weatherloach were previously found. It is concerning that the label was still present four years after the chain was notified by DNR enforcement to stop selling them.

FCI staff were able to see supplier lists from some suppliers. They generally include common names without scientific names. This makes it difficult for store owners and managers to know what they are ordering. FCI was told by some store managers that they rely on their suppliers to know what species are legal. One of the suppliers of the crayfish identified as Louisiana crayfish, a prohibited invasive species, told the store owner they were *Procambarus alleni* when he called to ask about them.

The assessment results were provided to the DNR without revealing retail store names and locations. Since there were findings of prohibited crayfish in several stores, it would be helpful to contact all stores, as well as known suppliers, regarding the finding and what to look for. Random future inspections may help to ensure that prohibited invasive crayfish are not being sold. A focus on periodically inspecting the suppliers may be the most efficient way of preventing prohibited species from getting into retail stores.

### **Store staff responses to the assessment**

Most store managers, owners, and staff FCI spoke with were happy to receive the invasive species information and to hear more about the laws and concerns related to invasive species and some were glad to hear that this education of stores is occurring. The seafood market staff were less receptive to the information, in part due to a language barrier.

### **Recommendations for pet stores**

Invasive species prevention practices for retail pet stores:

- Make sure the scientific name is included on all ordering lists from suppliers.

- Make sure the store has the most recent DNR list of prohibited invasive species and check supplier lists against the DNR list to avoid ordering prohibited species.
- Check orders for hitchhikers, small plants, snails, crayfish, or other species that are included with the orders. If the identity of these hitchhikers is unknown or they are invasive, they should be destroyed and properly disposed of. Consider providing feedback to suppliers about the concern of getting hitchhikers in orders and the potential that some could be invasive species.
- Stores could provide information to customers regarding invasive species and not releasing live organisms.
- If they are not already accepting returns of live plants and animals, consider offering this to customers to prevent them from being released or offer information about the Minnesota Aquarium Society's and others' unwanted fish and plant rehoming events.
- All stores should get on the DNR's mailing list so they can be contacted to receive future updates on invasive species.

Ideas for possible assistance from the DNR to pet stores and others to prevent selling of prohibited species and release of regulated species:

- Work with suppliers to identify and remove invasive species from sales, add scientific names to sales lists, and to remove hitchhikers as much as possible prior to shipping to retail stores.
- Provide periodic information to stores on invasive species, including updated regulations.
- Provide a list of common names of invasive species to watch out for when purchasing.
- Provide an invasive species photo guide to help pet stores avoid purchasing invasive species. This should include photos from the industry that show the different varieties. This could be an update of the Invasive Species and Your Business handout (Appendix D).
- Notify counties, watersheds and others about the retail assessment findings so they are aware of this potential invasive species pathway.
- Direct calls from DNR and USFWS staff to pet stores about the marimo moss ball recall was effective. This method could possibly be used for communicating future concerns or changes in laws. More work is needed to establish a list of email addresses for the stores.
- Conducting future inventory examinations would help ensure prohibited invasive species are not being sold and prevent future sales if some are being sold.

- Encourage county invasive species staff to conduct periodic inspections of pet stores and seafood markets. The photo guide mentioned above would be helpful for this along with the common names list.
- There is very little invasive species information provided to customers.
  - Provide an eye-catching but simple poster about invasive species for stores to post for customer education, possibly with the “do not release” message.
  - Provide educational materials free or at a low cost that businesses can hand out to customers to help educate customers on not releasing live species to the environment. These materials could also be used by county, watershed and other invasive species education programs.
  - Provide a list of talking points for store staff to tell customers when purchasing regulated or early detection species, or any species. Encourage store managers to train staff to talk to customers about invasive species.

### **Future research recommendations**

- Researchers conducting the inventory assessments are likely not experts in all of the types of organisms that will be found. Many of these organisms are not from the United States and taxonomic keys may not be available. An invasive species photo guide with detailed descriptions and drawings of identifying features would be very helpful. This guide should include photos from the industry that show the different color variations, as well as common names used in the industries being assessed.
- Update lists of common names to include more invasive species.
- Have experts available that can help with identification of organisms.
- There are a lot of tiny snails that come in with orders, which are difficult to identify. Possibly collect some samples and have them identified by an expert in snail taxonomy.

### **Seafood Markets**

No prohibited species were found at seafood markets during this study, however, the potential for prohibited species being carried was possible based on review of Facebook videos from one market, a photo posted on a tank, and reports provided to DNR staff. One regulated species, tilapia, was found. The live species are carried seasonally, dependent on weather in the area they are raised or harvested. It was difficult to time inspections to when the live specimens were at the stores. Additional inspections would be needed to determine if more species are being carried.

There was a language barrier with the Asian markets. FCI staff was not able to get contact information, find out what species they sell live, or discuss invasive species

concerns with all stores and many did not accept the educational materials. It is not known how aware the store staff are of invasive species concerns.

### **Recommendations for seafood markets**

Ideas for possible assistance from the Minnesota DNR to seafood stores to prevent selling of prohibited species and release of regulated species:

- Provide a handout with photos on invasive species specific to this industry, translated to the language spoken by the market owners.
- Provide periodic information to stores on invasive species, including updated regulations. This information may need to be translated for some stores to be effective.

### **Future research recommendations**

- Additional assessments would be helpful to more fully identify if the suspected invasive species identified in this study are being sold. Any future inspections should include a budget that accounts for the potential need for multiple visits and phone calls to make sure the organisms will be present at the time of the visit.
- Determine what language is used in the markets and have a staff person fluent in that language conduct the assessment or provide an interpreter if there is a need to speak to store staff.
- Have experts available that can help with identification of organisms.

### **Suggestions for assessing garden centers**

Studies conducted in Hennepin County in 2015 and 2021 as well as a Dakota County study in 2017 showed that garden centers are also a potential source of aquatic invasive species. This Hennepin and Dakota county research included all garden centers that carried aquatic plants located in the two counties. A statewide study would be expensive due to the number of stores that exist. In order to assess the sale of aquatic invasive species it would need to be conducted when the plants are delivered to the stores, generally May to June. Many stores do not make a second order, so it is important to get there early before they sell out. It is possible that a project like this could be conducted by Minnesota Department of Agriculture nursery inspectors or Master Gardener or Minnesota Water Steward volunteers with oversight and training from a professional.

## **Conclusions**

The Minnesota DNR is working to make connections with businesses in Minnesota to provide education on invasive species. Ongoing work is needed in this area. This research project was successful in identifying some invasive species sold in pet stores and seafood markets and making retail store staff more aware of invasive species, including highlighting that species retailers order from trusted suppliers may

unintentionally be invasive. It is the store owner's responsibility to make sure they are not selling prohibited species. Ongoing inventory examination, education and connection with these businesses will help prevent the introduction of invasive species in Minnesota.

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## Appendix A. List of Invasive Species Primarily Searched for at Pet Stores and Seafood Markets

FCI staff primarily trained to search for the following prohibited invasive species, proposed prohibited species, regulated invasive species, early detection species, and non-native crayfishes. They also reviewed lists of and searched for state-listed noxious weeds, federally listed noxious weeds and injurious wildlife.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Regulatory Classification
<i>Alopochen aegyptiacus</i>	Egyptian goose	Regulated IS
<i>Alosa pseudoharengus</i>	alewife	Regulated IS
<i>Amyntas</i> and <i>Metaphire</i> spp.	jumping worms	Proposed prohibited IS
<i>Azolla pinnata</i>	mosquito fern, water velvet	Prohibited IS, federal noxious weed
<i>Bithynia tentaculata</i>	faucet snail	Prohibited IS
<i>Butomus umbellatus</i>	flowering rush	Prohibited IS
<i>Bythotrephes longimanus</i>	spiny waterflea	Regulated IS
<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>	Carolina fanwort or fanwort	Regulated IS
<i>Callitriche stagnalis</i>	pond water-starwort	Early detection list
<i>Carassius auratus</i>	goldfish	Regulated IS
<i>Carassius carassius</i>	crucian carp	Prohibited IS, injurious wildlife
<i>Carassius gibelio</i>	Prussian carp	Prohibited IS, injurious wildlife
<i>Caulerpa taxifolia</i>	killer algae	Prohibited IS, federal noxious weed
<i>Channa</i> and <i>Parachanna</i> spp.	snakehead fishes	Proposed prohibited IS, injurious wildlife
<i>Channa argus</i>	northern snakehead fish	Prohibited IS, injurious wildlife
<i>Cherax destructor</i>	yabby	Prohibited IS, injurious wildlife
<i>Cipangopaludina</i> spp.	Chinese mystery snail, Japanese trap door snail	Regulated IS
<i>Clariidae</i> family	walking catfish	Proposed prohibited IS, injurious wildlife
<i>Corbicula fluminea</i>	golden freshwater clam	Proposed prohibited IS
<i>Crassula helmsii</i>	Australian stone crop	Prohibited IS
<i>Ctenopharyngodon idella</i>	grass carp	Prohibited IS
<i>Cygnus olor</i>	mute swan	Regulated IS
<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>	common carp, koi	Regulated IS
<i>Dreissena bugensis</i>	quagga mussel	Prohibited IS, injurious wildlife
<i>Dreissena</i> spp.	zebra mussel	Prohibited IS, injurious wildlife
<i>Egeria densa</i>	Brazilian waterweed	Regulated IS
<i>Eichhornia azurea</i>	anchored water hyacinth	Prohibited IS, federal noxious weed
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	water hyacinth	Regulated IS
<i>Eriocheir</i> spp.	mitten crabs	Proposed prohibited IS, injurious wildlife
<i>Gambusia affinis</i>	western mosquitofish	Prohibited IS
<i>Gambusia holbrooki</i>	eastern mosquitofish	Proposed prohibited IS
<i>Gymnocephalus cernuus</i>	ruffe	Prohibited IS
<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>	hydrilla	Prohibited IS, federal noxious weed
<i>Hydrocharis morsus-ranae</i>	European frog-bit	Prohibited IS

<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Regulatory Classification</b>
<i>Hygrophila polysperma</i>	Indian swampweed, Miramar weed	Prohibited IS, federal noxious weed
<i>Hypophthalmichthys harmandi</i>	largescale silver carp	Prohibited IS, injurious wildlife
<i>Hypophthalmichthys molitrix</i>	silver carp	Prohibited IS, injurious wildlife
<i>Hypophthalmichthys nobilis</i>	bighead carp	Prohibited IS, injurious wildlife
<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>	Chinese water spinach, swamp morning-glory	Regulated IS, federal noxious weed
<i>Iris pseudacoris</i>	yellow iris or yellow flag	Regulated IS
<i>Lagarosiphon major</i>	African oxygen weed	Prohibited IS, federal noxious weed
<i>Lates niloticus</i>	Nile perch	Proposed prohibited IS, injurious wildlife
<i>Limnoperna fortunei</i>	golden mussel	Proposed prohibited IS
<i>Limnophila sessiliflora</i>	ambulia	Prohibited IS, federal noxious weed
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i> , <i>L. virgatum</i> , or any variety, hybrid, or cultivar thereof	purple loosestrife	Prohibited IS, state prohibited noxious weed
<i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i>	broad-leaved paperbark tree	Prohibited IS, federal noxious weed
<i>Misgurnus anguillicaudatus</i>	Oriental weatherfish	Prohibited IS
<i>Monochoria hastata</i>	ambulia, arrowleaf false pickerelweed	Prohibited IS, federal noxious weed
<i>Monochoria vaginalis</i>	heartshape false pickerelweed	Prohibited IS, federal noxious weed
<i>Morone americana</i>	white perch	Prohibited IS
<i>Mycocastor coypu</i>	nutria	Prohibited IS
<i>Mylopharyngodon piceus</i>	black carp	Prohibited IS, injurious wildlife
<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>	parrot's feather	Regulated IS
<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	Eurasian watermilfoil	Prohibited IS
<i>Najas minor</i>	brittle naiad	Prohibited IS
<i>Neogobius melanostomus</i>	round goby	Prohibited IS
<i>Nitellopsis obtusa</i>	starry stonewort	Prohibited IS
Non-native crayfishes (multiple species)	non-native crayfish	Require a permit to import
<i>Nyctereutes procyonoides</i>	Asian raccoon dog	Prohibited IS, injurious wildlife
<i>Nymphaea</i> spp.	non-native waterlilies	Regulated IS
<i>Nymphoides peltata</i>	yellow floating heart	Proposed prohibited IS
<i>Orconectes rusticus</i>	rusty crayfish	Regulated IS
<i>Oreochromis</i> , <i>Sarotherodon</i> , <i>Tilapia</i> spp.	tilapia	Regulated IS
<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	European rabbit	Prohibited IS, injurious wildlife
<i>Osmerus mordax</i>	rainbow smelt	Regulated IS
<i>Ottelia alismoides</i>	duck lettuce	Prohibited IS, federal noxious weed
<i>Perca fluviatilis</i>	European perch	Prohibited IS, injurious wildlife
<i>Percottus glenii</i>	Amur sleeper	Prohibited IS, injurious wildlife
<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>	sea lamprey	Prohibited IS
<i>Phasianus colchicus strachi</i>	Sichuan pheasant	Regulated IS
<i>Phoxinus phoxinus</i>	Eurasian minnow	Prohibited IS
<i>Phragmites australis</i> subsp. <i>australis</i>	common reed, phragmites	Proposed prohibited IS, state prohibited noxious weed
<i>Pistia stratiotes</i>	water lettuce	Early detection list

<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Regulatory Classification</b>
<i>Potamogeton crispus</i>	curly-leaf pondweed	Prohibited IS
<i>Potamopyrgus antipodarum</i>	New Zealand mud snail	Prohibited IS
<i>Procambarus clarkii</i>	red swamp crayfish	Prohibited IS
<i>Procambarus virginalis</i> or <i>P. fallax</i> forma <i>virginalis</i>	marmorkreb or marbled crayfish	Proposed prohibited IS
<i>Proterorhinus marmoratus</i>	tubenose goby	Prohibited IS
<i>Proterorhinus</i> spp.	tubenose gobies	Proposed prohibited IS
<i>Pseudorasbora parva</i>	stone moroko	Prohibited IS, injurious wildlife
<i>Rutilus rutilus</i>	roach	Prohibited IS, injurious wildlife
<i>Sagittaria sagittifolia</i>	arrowhead	Prohibited IS, federal noxious weed
<i>Salvinia molesta</i> , <i>S. auriculata</i> , <i>S. biloba</i> , <i>S. herzogii</i>	giant salvinia, aquarium watermoss	Prohibited IS, federal noxious weed
<i>Scardinius erythrophthalmus</i>	rudd	Prohibited IS
<i>Siluris glanis</i>	wels catfish	Prohibited IS, injurious wildlife
<i>Solanum tampicense</i>	wetland nightshade	Prohibited IS, federal noxious weed
<i>Sparganium erectum</i>	exotic bur-reed	Prohibited IS, federal noxious weed
<i>Stizostedion lucioperca</i>	zander	Prohibited IS, injurious wildlife
<i>Stratiotes aloides</i>	water aloe or water soldiers	Prohibited IS
<i>Sus scrofa scrofa</i>	European wild boar	Prohibited IS
<i>Tinca tinca</i>	tench	Proposed prohibited IS
<i>Trachemys scripta elegans</i>	red-eared slider	Regulated IS
<i>Trapa natans</i>	water chestnut	Prohibited IS
<i>Viviparus georgianus</i>	banded mystery snail	Regulated IS

## Appendix B. Common Names of Prohibited Aquatic Invasive Species

### Fish

*Carassius carassius*: crucian carp, English carp, gibeles, golden carp, Prussian carp, Wild goldfish

*Carassius gibelio*: Prussian carp, Gibel carp, Golden carp

*Channa argus*: northern snakehead fish, Amur snakehead, eastern snakehead, ocellated snakehead, snakehead

*Ctenopharyngodon idella*: grass carp, glass carp, white amur

*Gambusia affinis*: western mosquitofish, Gambusia, gambezi, topminnow

*Gymnocephalus cernuus*: ruffe, Eurasian ruffe, blacktail, pope, redfin darter, river ruffe, Acerina cernua

*Hypophthalmichthys harmandi*: largescale silver carp, largescale carp

*Hypophthalmichthys molitrix*: silver carp, Chinese carp

*Hypophthalmichthys nobilis*: bighead carp, big head

*Misgurnus anguillicaudatus*: Oriental weatherfish, amur mud loach, amur weatherfish, dojo, Japanese loach, Japanese weatherfish, Pond loach, weather loach, gold dojo loach

*Morone americana*: white perch, narrow-mouthed bass; sea perch; silver perch; wreckfish

*Mylopharyngodon piceus*: black carp, black amur, Black Chinese roach, Chinese roach, snail carp

*Neogobius melanostomus*: round goby, ginger goby, black spotted, goby, Caspian round goby,

*Perca fluviatilis*: European perch, Baars, perch, Reddie, Redfin perch, River perch

*Perccottus glenii*: Amur sleeper, Chinese sleeper, rotan

*Petromyzon marinus*: sea lamprey, lake lamprey

*Phoxinus phoxinus*: Eurasian minnow, common minnow, European minnow, Italian minnow, Zaisan minnow

*Proterorhinus marmoratus*: tubenose goby

*Pseudorasbora parva*: stone moroko, false rasbora, topmouth minnow, topmouth gudgeon

*Rutilus rutilus*: roach

*Scardinius erythrophthalmus*: rudd, pearl roach, redeye

*Siluris glanis*: Wels catfish, Sheatfish, Danube catfish, European catfish,

*Stizostedion lucioperca*: zander, pikeperch, European pike-perch, European walleye, perch-pike

### Invertebrates

*Bithynia tentaculata*: faucet snail, mud Bithynia, common bithynia

*Cherax destructor*: yabby, common yabby, Blue Claw Fresh water, Blue Pearl

*Dreissena bugensis*: quagga mussel

*Dreissena spp.*: zebra mussel

*Potamopyrgus antipodarum*: New Zealand mud snail

*Procambarus clarkii*: red swamp crayfish, Tangerine crayfish, fireball crayfish, Tricolor ghost crayfish, Louisiana crayfish, neon red crayfish, orange crayfish, snow white lobster, red lobster, scarlet crayfish, ghost crayfish, white specter crayfish, mudbug, red crayfish, black ghost, blue ghost, creamsicle crayfish, vanilla crayfish

**Non-native crayfish (permit required to import)**

*Cambarellus patzcuarensis*: Mexican dwarf crayfish, Dwarf Mexican crayfish

*Procambarus alleni*: Electric Blue Crayfish, Electric blue Lobster, Blue Crayfish, Sapphire Crayfish, Florida Crayfish

*Procambarus fallax f. virginalis* or *P. virginalis*: marbled crayfish, marmorkreb, self-cloning crayfish

**Proposed Prohibited Species**

*Amyntas* & *Metaphire* spp: jumping worms, crazy worm, Japanese jumper

*Clariidae* family: walking catfish, clarias catfish, freshwater catfish

*Corbicula fluminea*: golden freshwater clam, Asiatic clam, golden clam, good luck clam

*Eriocheir* spp: mitten crabs, Chinese mitten crab, Shanghai hairy crab

*Gambusia holbrooki*: Eastern mosquitofish, gambies, plague minnow, top minnow, starling's perch

*Lates niloticus*: Nile perch, African snook, Victoria perch, Goliath perch, Giant lates

*Limnoperna fortune*: golden mussel

*Tinca tinca*: Tench, green trench, Doctor fish

## Minnesota Invasive Species

The most current laws and list of species are posted at <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/laws.html>. Note: This only includes species regulated by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. Visit the links on the other side of this page for more information.

### PROHIBITED INVASIVE SPECIES

Certain invasive species that can threaten natural resources are prohibited in Minnesota. It is unlawful to possess, import, purchase, transport or introduce these species without a permit. Prohibited aquatic invasive species in Minnesota include the following, and any hybrids, cultivars, or varieties of the species listed below:

#### Aquatic Plants

- African elodea (*Lagarosiphon major*)<sup>^\*</sup>
- aquarium watermoss or giant salvinia (*Salvinia molesta*)
- Australian stone crop (*Crassula helmsii*)
- brittle naiad (*Najas minor*)<sup>\*</sup>
- curly-leaf pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*)<sup>^</sup>
- Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*)<sup>^</sup>
- European frog-bit (*Hydrocharis morsus-ranae*)<sup>^</sup>
- flowering rush (*Butomus umbellatus*)<sup>^</sup>
- hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*)<sup>^\*</sup>
- Indian swampweed (*Hygrophila polysperma*)<sup>\*</sup>
- purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*, *Lythrum virgatum*, or any variety, hybrid, or cultivar)<sup>^</sup>
- starry stonewort (*Nitellopsis obtusa*)
- water soldier (*Stratiotes aloides*)<sup>^\*</sup>
- water chestnut (*Trapa natans*)<sup>^</sup>

Plus the aquatic plants listed in Code of Federal Regulations, title 7, section 360.200 (Noxious Weeds).

Note: only the aquatic and wetland weeds are listed here. There are additional federal noxious weeds.

- arrowhead (*Sagittaria sagittifolia*)
- ambulia (*Limnophila sessiflora*)
- broadleaf paperbark tree (*Melaleuca quinquinervia*)
- burreed, exotic (*Sparganium erectum*)
- giant Salvinia (*Salvinia auriculata*, *S. biloba*, *S. herzogii* and *S. molesta*)<sup>^\*</sup>
- killer algae *Caulerpa taxifolia* (Mediterranean strain)
- *Monochoria hastata* and *M. vaginalis*
- mosquito fern (*Azolla pinnata*)
- nightshade, wetland (*Solanum tampicense*)
- *Ottelia alismoides*
- water hyacinth, rooted (*Eichornia azurea*)

#### Fish

- Amur sleeper (*Percocottus glenii*)
- bighead carp (*Hypophthalmichthys nobilis*)<sup>†</sup>
- black carp (*Mylopharyngodon piceus*)
- crucian carp (*Carassius carassius*)<sup>†</sup>
- Eurasian minnow (*Phoxinus phoxinus*)<sup>^</sup>
- European perch (*Perca fluviatilis*)
- grass carp (*Ctenopharyngodon idella*)<sup>^†</sup>
- largescale silver carp (*Hypophthalmichthys harmandi*)
- northern snakehead fish (*Channa argus*)<sup>†</sup>
- Oriental weatherfish (*Misgurnus anguillicaudatus*)<sup>\*</sup>
- Prussian carp (*Carassius gibelio*)
- roach (*Rutilus rutilus*)
- round goby (*Neogobius melanostomus*)
- rudd (*Scardinius erythrophthalmus*)
- ruffe (*Gymnocephalus cernuus*)
- sea lamprey (*Petromyzon marinus*)
- silver carp (*Hypophthalmichthys molitrix*)<sup>†</sup>
- stone moroko (*Pseudorasbora parva*)
- tubenose goby (*Proterorhinus marmoratus*)
- wels catfish (*Siluris glanis*)<sup>\*†</sup>
- western mosquitofish (*Gambusia affinis*)<sup>^\*</sup>
- white perch (*Morone americana*)<sup>†</sup>
- zander (*Stizostedion lucioperca*)<sup>†</sup>

#### Invertebrates

- faucet snail (*Bithynia tentaculata*)
- New Zealand mud snail (*Potamopyrgus antipodarum*)
- quagga mussel (*Dreissena bugensis*)
- red swamp crayfish (*Procambarus clarkii*)<sup>^\*†</sup>
- yabby (*Cherax destructor*)<sup>\*†</sup>
- zebra mussel (*Dreissena spp.*)<sup>\*</sup>

## REGULATED INVASIVE SPECIES

It is legal to possess, sell, buy, and transport regulated invasive species, but they and most other organisms may not be introduced into a free-living state, such as being released or planted in public waters.

### Aquatic plants

- Brazilian waterweed (*Egeria densa*)
- Carolina fanwort or fanwort (*Cabomba caroliniana*)
- Chinese water spinach (*Ipomoea aquatica*)
- nonnative waterlilies (*Nymphaea spp.*)
- parrot's feather (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*)
- water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*)
- yellow iris or yellow flag (*Iris pseudacoris*)

### Fish

- alewife (*Alosa pseudoharengus*)
- koi, common carp (*Cyprinus carpio*)
- goldfish (*Carassius auratus*)
- rainbow smelt (*Osmerus mordax*)
- tilapia (*Oreochromis, Sartheradon & Tilapia spp.*)

### Invertebrates

- banded mystery snail (*Viviparus georgianus*)
- Chinese mystery snail, Japanese trap door snail (*Cipangopaludina spp.*)<sup>†</sup>
- rusty crayfish (*Orconectes rusticus*)
- spiny waterflea (*Bythotrephes longimanus*)

### Reptiles

- red-eared slider turtle (*Trachemys scripta elegans*)

## PROPOSED PROHIBITED SPECIES

These species are proposed for listing as Minnesota prohibited invasive species and some are federally regulated.

- common or giant reed grass, phragmites (*Phragmites australis subsp. Australis*)<sup>^</sup>
- yellow floating heart (*Nymphoides peltata*)
- Eastern mosquitofish (*Gambusia holbrooki*)<sup>^\*</sup>
- golden freshwater clam (*Corbicula fluminea*)<sup>^\*</sup>
- golden mussel (*Limnoperna fortunei*)
- jumping worms (*Amyntas & Metaphire spp.*)
- Nile perch (*Lates niloticus*)<sup>\*†</sup>
- marmorkreb or marbled crayfish (*Procambarus virginalis* or *P. fallax forma virginalis*)<sup>\*</sup>
- mitten crabs (*Eriocheir spp.*)<sup>†</sup>
- Tench (*Tinca tinca*)<sup>†</sup>
- tubenose goby (*Proterorhinus spp.*)
- snakehead fishes (*Channa & Parachanna spp.*)<sup>\*†</sup>
- walking catfish (Clariidae family)<sup>\*†</sup>

## Early detection targets

These species are not regulated but have the potential to infest Minnesota surface waters if released.

- Asian clam (*Corbicula fluminea*)
- pond water starwort (*Callitriche stagnalis*)
- water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*)

**Additional species are prohibited or regulated at the state and national levels** including 1) non-native crayfish<sup>†</sup> 2) State-listed noxious weeds: [www.mda.state.mn.us/plants-insects/minnesota-noxious-weed-list](http://www.mda.state.mn.us/plants-insects/minnesota-noxious-weed-list) 3) Federally-listed noxious weeds: <https://plants.usda.gov/java/noxious> 4) Federally-listed injurious wildlife: <https://www.fws.gov/injuriouswildlife/>

\* Species documented in the pet and aquarium trade

† Species documented in the seafood trade

<sup>^</sup> Species documented in the horticulture trade

# INVASIVE SPECIES AND YOUR BUSINESS

JOIN US IN PROTECTING MINNESOTA WATERS - SELL ONLY LOW-RISK SPECIES AND HELP TO PREVENT RELEASES AND ESCAPES

The **invasive plants and animals pictured here** have been documented in the seafood trade and are illegal to possess or sell in Minnesota without a permit. Invasive species are non-native species that present risks to Minnesota’s fish, wildlife and plant communities, water quality and recreation or human health. Please note, this is not a complete list of species that are illegal to possess or sell.

Visit <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/restaurants-and-food-markets.html> for a complete list.

**DO NOT OFFER THESE SPECIES FOR SALE AT YOUR BUSINESS!**

Silver carp  
(*Hypophthalmichthys molitrix*)



Grass carp  
(*Ctenopharyngodon idella*)



Non-native crayfish (*Procambarus clarkii*, *Cherax destructor*, etc.)



Bighead carp  
(*Hypophthalmichthys nobilis*)



Mitten crab  
(*Eriocheir sinensis*)\*



\*Mitten crabs are federally regulated species and are proposed state prohibited invasive species.

## DO NOT OFFER THESE SPECIES FOR SALE AT YOUR BUSINESS!

Visit <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/restaurants-and-food-markets.html> for a complete list.

Snakehead fishes (*Channa* and *Parachanna* spp.)\*



Crucian carp (*Carassius carassius*)



Wels catfish (*Silurus glanis*)



Walking catfish (*Clarias batrachus*)\*



Nile perch (*Lates niloticus*)\*



White perch (*Morone americana*)



Tench (*Tinca tinca*)\*



\*Snakehead fishes, Nile perch and tench are either federally regulated and/or proposed state prohibited invasive species. Northern snakehead (*Channa argus*) is already a state prohibited invasive species.

PHOTO CREDITS: Snakehead fishes – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | Crucian carp – “Карась звичайний, або карась золотий” by Володимир Дзюбак, License: CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/> | Wels catfish – “Wels / Catfish @ Fühlinger See” by Craebby Crabbson, License: CC BY-NC 2.0, <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/2.0/> | Walking catfish – Zachary Randall, Florida Museum, UF 238365 | Nile perch – “Lates niloticus” by Daiju Azuma, License: CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/> |

# INVASIVE SPECIES AND YOUR BUSINESS

JOIN US IN PROTECTING MINNESOTA WATERS | **SELL ONLY LOW-RISK SPECIES AND HELP TO PREVENT RELEASES AND ESCAPES**

The **invasive plants and animals pictured here** have been documented in the pet and aquarium trades and are illegal to possess or sell in Minnesota. Invasive species are non-native species that present risks to Minnesota's fish, wildlife and plant communities, water quality and recreation or human health. Please note, this is not a complete list of species that are illegal to possess or sell.

**DO NOT OFFER THESE SPECIES FOR SALE AT YOUR BUSINESS!**

**AQUATIC PLANTS** ▶ Visit [dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/pet-and-aquarium-businesses.html](http://dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/pet-and-aquarium-businesses.html) for a complete list.

Indian swampweed, dwarf hygrophylla  
(*Hygrophylla polysperma*)



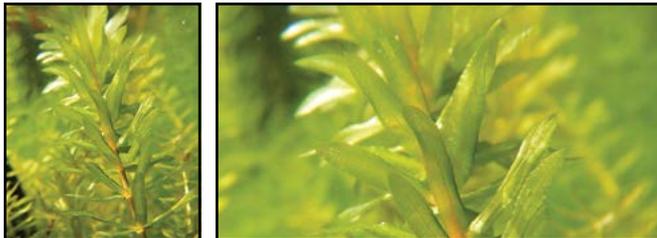
Giant salvinia  
(*Salvinia molesta*)



Brittle naiad  
(*Najas minor*)



Hydrilla  
(*Hydrilla verticillata*)



Water soldier, water aloe  
(*Stratiotes aloides*)



**Please remind your customers not to release aquarium pets and plants into the wild!**

Remember: It is illegal to release most non-native animals and plants into a free-living state in Minnesota.



PHOTO CREDITS

Indian swampweed, dwarf hygrophylla – U.S. Geological Survey  
Giant salvinia – Vic Ramey, UF/IFAS Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants  
Brittle naiad – Mark Warman  
Hydrilla – L. Gettys, UF/IFAS Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants

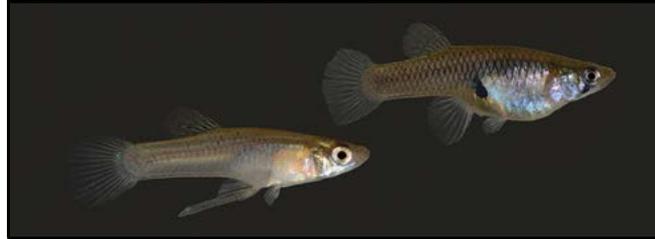
**DO NOT OFFER THESE SPECIES FOR SALE AT YOUR BUSINESS!**

**FISH, CRAYFISH AND INVERTEBRATES** ► Visit [dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/pet-and-aquarium-businesses.html](http://dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/pet-and-aquarium-businesses.html) for a complete list.

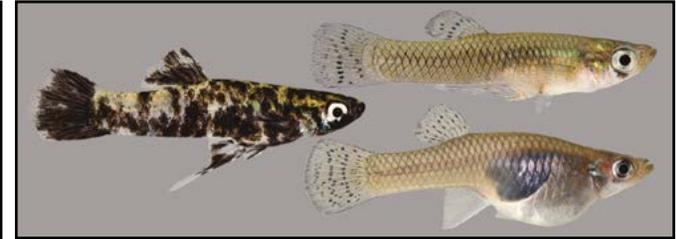
Oriental weatherfish, pond loach, dojo loach  
(*Misgurnus anguillicaudatus*)



Western mosquitofish  
(*Gambusia affinis*)



\*Eastern mosquitofish  
(*Gambusia holbrooki*)



Stone moroko  
(*Pseudorasbora parva*)



Northern snakehead  
(*Channa argus*), \**Channa* spp. and *Parachanna* spp.



\*Nile perch, Victoria perch, African snook  
(*Lates niloticus*)



Wels catfish, sheatfish (*Silurus glanis*)



\*Walking catfish (*Clarias batrachus*)



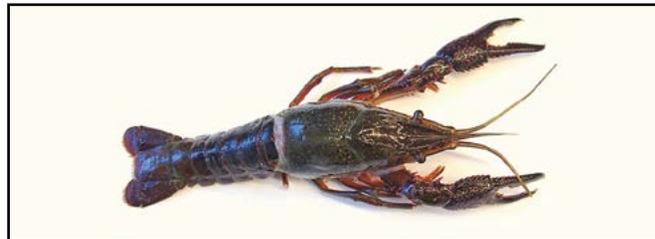
Yabby, yabbie (*Cherax destructor*)



\*Marbled crayfish, marmokrebs (*Procambarus virginalis* or *Procambarus fallax* forma *virginalis*)



Red swamp crayfish, Louisiana crawfish  
(*Procambarus clarkii*)



\*Golden clam  
(*Corbicula fluminea*)



\*While eastern mosquitofish, snakehead fishes in addition to northern snakehead (*Channa* and *Parachanna* spp.), Nile perch/Victoria perch/African snook, walking catfish, marbled crayfish/marmokrebs and golden clam are not yet illegal to possess and sell, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is proposing to classify them as such.

PHOTO CREDITS

Oriental weatherfish, pond loach, dojo loach – Zachary Randall, Florida Museum, UF 236274 | Western mosquitofish – Brian Zimmerman  
Eastern mosquitofish – Zachary Randall, Florida Museum, UF 238434, 235876, 238435 | Northern snakehead – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | Nile perch, Victoria perch, African snook – © Andrew Nightingale  
Walking catfish – Zachary Randall, Florida Museum, UF 238365 | Red swamp crayfish, Louisiana crawfish – Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center

# Guidelines for disposal of invasive animals and plants



Photo Credit: Minnesota Aquatic  
Invasive Species Research Center

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) infestations can occur as a result of the release of invasive animals and plants. Introducing animals and plants into the environment in Minnesota can cause harm to our lakes, streams and wetlands.



## Guidelines to help prevent the introduction and spread of AIS:

- **Filter** out plant fragments, snails, eggs or other small living species from tank water using a strainer or small mesh net before disposing of water down the drain.
- **Prevent** plants and plant parts, seeds, animals and tank or rinse water, from reaching storm drains.
- **Inspect and rinse** new aquatic plants over a sink with a strainer, to rid them of seeds, fragments, snails and fish.
- **Make sure** plants and animals cannot escape or are not released into the environment.
- **Provide information** to your customers on proper disposal of unwanted plants and animals.
- **Freeze** unwanted plants for 24 hours and then place in a sealed plastic bag in the trash. Composting of plants should be avoided, as seeds and fragments may still grow.
- **Follow guidelines** for humanely euthanizing prohibited invasive fish and other animals. Guidelines are available through the American Veterinary Medical Association. Disposal of live organisms should be considered as the last resort.

If you suspect you may have received a prohibited species in a shipment or a customer brings one in, please contact Chelsey Blanke (651-259-5350) or Heidi Wolf (651-259-5152) at the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for additional instructions.

Find the current prohibited species list by searching: "MN DNR AIS laws" or directly at: [www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/laws.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/laws.html). Also be aware of state and federal noxious weeds, federally-listed injurious wildlife and permitting requirements for crayfish importation.

These guidelines were developed by Hennepin County and modified for statewide distribution by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

Minnesota Department  
of Natural Resources

info.dnr@state.mn.us  
[www.mndnr.gov/invasives](http://www.mndnr.gov/invasives)



## Appendix F. Fish Species and Aquarium Labels Observed in Pet Stores

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Aborichthys elongatus</i>	red tail squirrel loach
<i>Acantopsis dialuzona</i>	horseface loach
<i>Acarichthys heckelii</i>	Heckel's threadfin acara, Heckelii cichlid
<i>Aequidens diadema "Rio Itaya"</i>	royal acara
<i>Agamyxis pectinifrons</i>	spotted raphael catfish
<i>Albino Dimidiochromis compressiceps</i>	Albino Dimidiochromis compressiceps
<i>Alestes</i>	alestes tetras
<i>Altolamprologus calvus</i>	black calvus/ pearly lamprologus
<i>Altolamprologus compressicep</i>	gold head compressiceps, Red fin compressiceps
<i>Amatitlania nigrofasciata</i>	black convict, convict cichlid, convict, gold convict cichlid
<i>Amatitlania siquia</i>	Honduran red point
<i>Amatitlania sp.</i>	pearl Honduran red point
<i>Ambastaia sidthimunki</i>	dwarf "Sidthimunki" loach
<i>Ambystoma mexicanum</i>	axolotl
<i>Ameiurus melas</i>	black bullhead, bullhead
<i>Amphilophus</i>	blood red parrot cichlid
<i>Amphilophus citrinellus</i>	parrot jelly bean cichlid
<i>Amphilophus citrinellus x Paraneetroplus synspilus</i>	blood parrot, blood parrot cichlid, blue tiger blood parrot, parrot blood cichlid, platinum parrotfish, red parrot, snow white parrot, yuanbao cichlid
<i>Amphilophus Festae</i>	red terror
<i>Amphilophus labiatus</i>	red devil cichlid
<i>Amphilophus lyonsi</i>	Amphilophus lyonsi
<i>Ancistrus brachyurus</i>	butterfly pleco
<i>Ancistrus cf. cirrhosus "Longfin"</i>	longfin bushy
<i>Ancistrus Cirrhosus</i>	bristlenose pleco, bushynose pleco
<i>Ancistrus dolichopterus</i>	bristlenose plecostomus

**Scientific Name****Common Name**

<i>Ancistrus sp</i>	ancistrus rio Paraguay pleco, blue eye bristlenose pleco, bushynose pleco, brown bushynose, calico bushy pleco, chocolate bushynose pleco, lemon blue eye bushynose, longfin bristlenose pleco, lemon longfin bushynose, white spotted ancistrus pleco, yellow red eye pleco
<i>Ancistrus sp. "Super Red"</i>	super red ancistrus
<i>Andinoacara pulcher</i>	blue acara, electric blue acara
<i>Andinoacara rivulatus</i>	Aequidens rivulatus "Green Terror", green terror
<i>Aphyocharax anisitsi</i>	blood tetra, bloodfin glass tetra, bloodfin tetra
<i>Apistogramma agassizii</i>	Apistogramma agassizii fire red
<i>Apistogramma borellii</i>	apisto borelli
<i>Apistogramma cacatuoides</i>	Apistogramma cacatuoides, cacatuoides dwarf cichlid
<i>Aplocheilichthys lineatus</i>	gold wonder killifish, killie gold wonder
<i>Aplocheilichthys panchax</i>	panchax killie
<i>Apteronotus albifrons</i>	black ghost knife, ghost black knife, ghost knife
<i>Apteronotus leptorhynchus</i>	ghost brown knifefish
<i>Archocentrus myrnae</i>	Archocentrus myrnae
<i>Archocentrus nigrofasciatus</i>	pink convict
<i>Ariopsis seemanni</i>	columbian shark
<i>Aristochromis christyi</i>	Aristochromis christyi
<i>Aspidoras spilodus</i>	aspidorus "C125" spilodus cory
<i>Aspredinidae</i>	banjo catfish
<i>Astatotilapia latifasciata</i>	zebra obliquiden cichlid, Zebra Obliquidens
<i>Asterophysus batrachus</i>	gulper catfish
<i>Astronotus ocellatus</i>	long fish Oscar, Oscar, oscar tiger red cichlid
<i>Auchenipterichthys thoracatus</i>	driftwood cat
<i>Auchenoglanis occidentalis</i>	giraffe catfish, giraffe nose catfish
<i>Aulonocara</i>	aulonocara bi-color, aulonocara luanda
<i>Aulonocara baenschi</i>	regal peacock, sunshine peacock, yellow peacock cichlid
<i>Aulonocara ethelwynnae</i>	aulonocara ethelwynnae
<i>Aulonocara jacobfreibergi</i>	aulonocara eureka red fire fish peacock, lemon jacobfreibergi, otter point jake peacock, peacock cichlid, red jacobfreibergi, red peacock, red peacock cichlid
<i>Aulonocara kandeense</i>	aulonocara kandeense "blue orchid"

<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>Aulonocara nyassae</i>	peacock cichlid, peacock African cichlid
<i>Aulonocara sp.</i>	bicolor peacock, lemon jake peacock, Lwanda peacock, orangeblood peacock, red shoulder peacock
<i>Aulonocara stuartgranti</i>	aulorocara ngara, lethrinops "Red Cap", Ngara peacock, red sunburst peacock African cichlid
<i>Aulonocara stuartgranti Maulana</i>	Aulonocara stuartgranti "Maulana"
<i>Aulonocara maisoni</i>	aulonocara maison
<i>Aulonocara sp. "Walteri".</i>	aulorocara walteri
<i>Aulonocara stuartgranti</i>	aulonocara red shoulder
<i>Aulonocara Stuartgranti Sp. Maleri</i>	aulonocara maleri
<i>Badis badis</i>	badis badis
<i>Balantiocheilos melanopterus</i>	bala shark
<i>Balitoridae</i>	hillstream loach
<i>Balitoropsis</i>	lizard loach
<i>Barbodes lateristriga</i>	spanner barb
<i>Barbodes semifasciolatus</i>	gold barb, gold neon barb
<i>Barbonymus altus</i>	platinum tinfoil barb, red tail tinfoil barb, tinfoil redtail barb
<i>Barbonymus schwanenfeldii</i>	tin foil barb, tinfoil gold redtail barb
<i>Barbus conchoni</i>	rosy barb
<i>Barbus fasciolatus</i>	African banded barb
<i>Barbus tetrazona</i>	gold tiger barb, green tiger barb
<i>Barilius bakeri</i>	Barilius bakeri
<i>Baryancistrus xanthellus</i>	gold nugget pleco, gold nugget plecostomus,
<i>Beaufortia kweichowensis</i>	hillstream butterfly loach/pleco, Chinese butterfly loach
<i>Bedotia geayi</i>	Madagascar rainbow
<i>Betta</i>	betta
<i>Betta persephone</i>	persephone betta
<i>Betta sp</i>	binalatung betta sp
<i>Betta splendens</i>	betta, crowntail betta, glo betta, halfmoon betta
<i>Betta anabantoides</i>	giant betta
<i>Biotodoma cupido</i>	cupid cichlid

<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>Boehlkea fredcochui</i>	blue tetra
<i>Boraras brigittae</i>	Chili red rasbora
<i>Boraras maculatus</i>	Boraras maculatus, Boraras maculatus "Dwarf Rasbora"
<i>Boraras urophthalmoides</i>	exclamation point rasbora
<i>Botia almorhae</i>	botia yo yo loach, yo yo botia, yo yo loach, yoyo loach
<i>Botia Histriónica</i>	gold burmese loach
<i>Botia splendida</i>	Yasuhikotakia splendida botia
<i>Botia striata</i>	striata botia loach
<i>Brachydanio rerio</i>	long finned zebra danio
<i>Brachydanio rerio 'frankei'</i>	longfin leopard danio
<i>Brachygobius</i>	bumble bee goby
<i>Brachygobius xanthozonus</i>	bumblebee goby
<i>Buccochromis heterotaenia</i>	Buccochromis heterotaenia
<i>Buccochromis rhoadesii</i>	Buccochromis rhoadesii
<i>Buccochromis spectabilis</i>	Buccochromis spectabilis
<i>Calophysus macropterus</i>	vulture catfish
<i>Carassius auratus</i>	black moor, bubble eye, comet, Goldfish- fantail, oranda, telescope
<i>Carinotetraodon travancoricus</i>	dwarf pea puffer, pea puffer
<i>Carnegiella strigata</i>	marbled hatchetfish
<i>Centrarchidae</i>	sunfish
<i>Centromochlus perugiae</i>	honeycomb catfish
<i>Centropyge vroliki</i>	pearscale angel
<i>Cephalopholis sonnerati</i>	tomato victorian
<i>Chaetostoma milesi</i>	rubber lip pleco
<i>Chaetostoma milesi</i>	rubberlip pleco
<i>Chaetostoma sp. Aff</i>	rubber nose pleco
<i>Chalceus macrolepidotus</i>	pink tail Chalceus
<i>Champsochromis Caeruleus</i>	Malawi Trout
<i>Chitala blanci</i>	royal clown knife
<i>Chitala ornata</i>	clown knifefish

<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>Chlamydogobius</i>	australian goby
<i>Chromobotia macracanthus</i>	clown loach, green tiger botia, tiger botia
<i>Cichla kelberi</i>	kelberi peacock bass
<i>Cichla ocellaris</i>	OB peacock, peacock bass, peacock fish, xiegu peacock bass
<i>Cichla temensis</i>	temensis peacock bass
<i>Cichlasoma hybrid</i>	Thailand flowerhorn
<i>Cichlasoma salvini</i>	salvini cichlid
<i>Cichlasoma sp</i>	cherry red flowerhorn
<i>Cichlasoma trimaculatus x</i>	
<i>Cichlasoma festae</i>	red dragon flowerhorn
<i>Cichlidae</i>	assorted cichlid
<i>Cleithracara maronii</i>	keyhole cichlid, key hole cichlid,
<i>Colisa labiosa</i>	sunset gourami, sunburst/thicklip gourami
<i>Colisa lalia</i>	Powder Blue Dwarf Gourami
<i>Copadichromis boadzulu</i>	Nyassachromis boadzulu
<i>Copadichromis borleyi</i>	kadango
<i>Copadichromis quadrimaculatus</i>	Copadichromis quadrimaculatus
<i>Corydoras</i>	albino catfish, albino cory, cory cats, cory green caryfish, green cory, green cory cat, green laser cory, punctatus cory cat
<i>Corydoras aeneus</i>	aeneus corydora, albino corydora, green aeneus corydora, orange Venezuelan cory
<i>Corydoras bilineatus</i>	San Juan cory
<i>Corydoras bondi</i>	bondi cory
<i>Corydoras delphax</i>	delphax cory
<i>Corydoras elegans</i>	elegance cory, elegant cory
<i>Corydoras imitator</i>	corydoras imitator
<i>Corydoras julii</i>	juli cory, julii cory, juli corydora
<i>Corydoras melanotaenia</i>	green/gold cory cat
<i>Corydoras metae</i>	cory metae catfish
<i>Corydoras nanus</i>	corydora nanus
<i>Corydoras paleatus</i>	corydoras paleatus, paleatus corydora, pa oh corydorus
<i>Corydoras panda</i>	panda cory, panda corydoras
<i>Corydoras punctatus</i>	punctatus corydora

<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>Corydoras pygmaeus</i>	pygamy cory
<i>Corydoras sp.</i>	corydora kenci
<i>Corydoras sterbai</i>	sterbai cory
<i>Corydoras venezuelanus</i>	blue Venezuelan cory, Venezuelan cory
<i>Crenicara</i>	pike cichlid
<i>Crenicichla cf. saxatilis</i>	saxatilis pike cichlid
<i>Crenicichla regani</i>	dwarf remari pike
<i>Crenicichla sp. 'Atabapo</i>	red atabapo pike
<i>Crinum natans</i>	crinum natans
<i>Crossocheilus oblongus</i>	siamese algae eater
<i>Crossocheilus reticulatus</i>	silver flying fox
<i>Ctenopoma acutirostre</i>	leopard Ctenopoma
<i>Cynotilapia sp. "Jalo"</i>	Red Top Afra
<i>Cyphotilapia frontosa</i>	altoloamprologua compressiceps "Blue ikola", black widow frontosa, blue zaire frontosa, Burundi frontosa, frontosa, frountosa, Red frontosa, seven stripe frontosa
<i>Cyprichromis leptosoma</i>	
"Jumbo Speckleback Moba"	Cyprichromis speckleback
<i>Cyprichromis leptosoma</i>	
"Kerenge"	Cyprichromis leptosoma Kerenge
<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>	Common carp, koi
<i>Cyrtocara moorii</i>	blue moorii hap, hap moorii
<i>Danio albolineatus</i>	pearl danio
<i>Danio cf. "dangila"</i>	Moustached danio
<i>Danio choprai</i>	glo danio
<i>Danio erythromicron</i>	erythromicron danio
<i>Danio kerri</i>	long fin danio
<i>Danio kyathit</i>	kyathit danio
<i>Danio margaritatus</i>	celestial pearl danio, galaxy rasbora
	cosmic blue glofish danio, electric green glofish danio, galactic purple glofish danio, glofish danio, gold zebra danio, green glofish danio, leopard danio, long-finned danio, orange glofish danio, red glofish danio, starfire red glofish danio, sunburst orange glofish danio, zebra danio, zebra gold lonfin danio, zebra tetras
<i>Danio rerio</i>	
<i>Danio rerio 'frankei</i>	leopard long-fin danio, leopard long fin danio

<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>Dasyatis margaritella</i>	pearl stingray
<i>Datnioides microlepis</i>	Datnoid, Irian jaya tiger datnoid
<i>Dawkinsia filamentosa</i>	filamentosa barb, filamentosis barb
<i>Desmopuntius pentazona johorensis</i>	five banded pentazona barb
<i>Devario aequipinnatus</i>	giant danio, giant gold danio, giant gourami
<i>Dianema longibarbis</i>	porthole fish
<i>Elacatinus</i>	neon blue goby
<i>Electrophorus electricus</i>	electric eel
<i>Enneacanthus gloriosus</i>	bluespotted sunfish
<i>Epalzeorhynchus bicolor</i>	redtail black shark, redtail shark, red bala shark, red tail shark
<i>Epalzeorhynchus frenatum</i>	albino rainbow shark, galactic purple glofish shark, glo shark, green glofish shark, purple glofish shark, rainbow shark, white fin rainbow shark
<i>Epalzeorhynchus kalopterus</i>	flying fox
<i>Epeizeorhynchis bicolor</i>	red-tail black shark
<i>Epipremnum aureum</i>	gold aureum
<i>Eretmodus cyanostictus</i>	Eretmodus kipili orange
<i>Erpetoichthys calabaricus</i>	rope fish
<i>Esox lucius</i>	spot face pike
<i>Etroplus maculatus</i>	orange chromids
<i>Exodon paradoxus</i>	exodon "bucktoothed" tetra, paradoxus exodon
<i>Farlowella</i>	farlowella, farlowella catfish, fariowella pleco
<i>Farlowella acus</i>	whiptail, whiptail catfish, whiptail pleco
<i>Fontitrygon margaritella</i>	albino pearl stingray
<i>Fossochromis rostratus</i>	Fossochromis rostratus
<i>Garra</i>	garra rufa algae eater
<i>Garra flavatra</i>	panda garra
<i>Garra rufa</i>	garden rufa algae eater, gara rufa, garra rufa algae eater
<i>Gasteropelecidae</i>	hatchetfish
<i>Gasteropelecus sternicla</i>	silver hatchet, silver hatchet fish
<i>Gastromyzon punctulatus</i>	Borneo sucker

<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>Geophagus brasiliensis</i>	pearl cichlid
<i>Geophagus jurupari</i>	Geophagus jurupari
<i>Geophagus surinamensis</i>	geophagus surinameros
<i>Geophagus sveni</i>	Geophagus sveni, glo sveni
<i>Geophagus winemilleri</i>	Geophagus winemilleri
<i>Glossolepis dorityi</i>	dorityi rainbow
<i>Glossolepis incises</i>	red iran rainbow
<i>Glossolepis pseudoincises</i>	albino millenium rambosa, orange millinnium rainbow fish
<i>Glossolepis wanamensis</i>	emerald rainbow, emerald wanamensis rainbowfish
<i>Glyptoperichthys gibbiceps</i>	hi fin leopard gibbicep, marble sailfin pleco
<i>Gnathonemus petersii</i>	elephant nose
<i>Gobioides broussonnetii</i>	dragon goby
<i>Gymnocorymbus socolofi</i>	Gold Skirt Tetra
<i>Gymnocorymbus ternetzi</i>	black hifin/longfin tetra, black long-fin tetra, black skirt longfin tetra, black skirt tetra, black tetra, cosmic blue glofish tetra, electric green glofish tetra, galactic purple glofish tetra, glo tetra, starfire red glofish tetra, sunburst orange glofish tetra, tetra, white skirt hi-fin tetra, white skirt longfin tetra, white skirt tetra, white tetra
<i>Gyrinocheilus aymonieri</i>	algae eater, algae eater Chinese, Chinese algae eater, Chinese gold algae eater, gold algae eater, gold barb, gold Chinese algae eater,
<i>Haludaria fasciata</i>	golden algae eater, ofocinelus algae eater
<i>Hampala macrolepidota</i>	melon Indian barb
<i>Haplochromis</i>	hampala barb
<i>Haplochromis nyererei</i>	Kyoga flameback, Red fin borleyi
<i>Haplochromis phytophagus</i>	Pundamilia nyererei red
<i>Haplochromis sp.</i>	Christmas fulu
<i>Haplochromis sp. "ruby green"</i>	flameback victorian
<i>Hasemania nana</i>	ruby green
<i>Helostoma temminckii</i>	silver-tip tetra, silver tip tetra, silver tipped tetra, silvertip tetra
<i>Hemiancistrus guahiborum</i>	kissing gourami, pink kissing gourami
<i>Hemiancistrus sp.</i>	orange seam pleco, Xingu orange seam pleco,
<i>Hemiancistrus subviridis</i>	blue phantom pleco
<i>Hemibagrus wyckioides</i>	green phantom, green phantom pleco
	red tail Asian catfish

<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>Hemichromis bimaculatus</i>	jewel cichlid, jewel turquoise African cichlid, turquoise jewel
<i>Hemiodoras morrиси</i>	hemiodoras morrиси catfish
<i>Hemigrammus</i>	headlight taillight tetra
<i>Hemigrammus bleheri</i> ,	golden rummynose tetra
<i>Hemigrammus erythrozonus</i>	glowlight tetra, glo lite tetra, glo tetra, glo-lite tetra
<i>Hemigrammus Filamentosus</i>	phoenix tetra
<i>Hemigrammus ocellifer</i>	head and taillight tetra, head & tail light tetra
<i>Hemigrammus rhodostomus</i>	rummynose tetra, rummy nose tetra
<i>Hemigrammus rodwayi</i>	gold tetra
<i>Hemiodus gracilis</i>	red tail hemiodus
<i>Herichthys carpintis</i>	electric blue Texas cichlid
<i>Herichthys cyanoguttatus</i>	green Texas cichlid, Texas cichlid
<i>Heros cf. efasciatus</i>	gold severum, severum gold cichlid
<i>Heros rotkeil</i>	orange shoulder severum
<i>Heros severus</i>	green heros severum, green severum, severum, severum green cichlid, severum gold cichlid
<i>Heros sp.</i>	red streak gold severum, red streak severum
<i>Herotilapia multispinosa</i>	rainbow cichlid
<i>Heterandria formosa</i>	heterandria formosa
<i>Holacanthus bermudensis</i>	blue angel
<i>Hoplarchus psittacus</i>	true parrot cichlid
<i>Horabagrus Brachysoma</i>	sun catfish
<i>Hydrocynus goliath</i>	goliath tiger fish
<i>Hydrolycus scomberoides</i>	Payara barracuda
<i>Hypancistrus debilittera</i>	
<i>Arnbruster</i>	Colombian zebra pleco
<i>Hypancistrus debilittera</i>	Colombian zebra
<i>Hypancistrus sp.</i>	king tiger pleco
<i>Hypancistrus zebra</i>	zebra pleco
<i>Hyphessobrycon amandae</i>	ember tetra
<i>Hyphessobrycon anisitsi</i>	Buenos Aires tetra

<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>Hyphessobrycon columbianus</i>	Columbian red & blue tetra, Columbian tetra
<i>Hyphessobrycon eques</i>	neon serpae tetra, red minors, sepae tetra, serpae tetra
<i>Hyphessobrycon erythrostigma</i>	bleeding heart tetra
<i>Hyphessobrycon flammeus</i>	green fire tetra, orange von rio tetra, von rio tetra
<i>Hyphessobrycon heliacus</i>	kittly tetra
<i>Hyphessobrycon herbertaxelrodi</i>	black neon tetra, neon black tetra
<i>Hyphessobrycon megalopterus</i>	black phantom, black phantom tetra, phantom black tetra
<i>Hyphessobrycon pulchripinnis</i>	lemon tetra
<i>Hyphessobrycon rosaceus</i>	candy cane tetra, candycane tetra, rosy tetra, rosy white fin tetra
<i>Hyphessobrycon rosaceus "HY511"</i>	candy cane tetra
<i>Hyphessobrycon sweglesi</i>	phantom red tetra, red phantom tetra,
<i>Hyphessobrycon eques</i>	serpae longfin/hi fin tetra, serpae neon tetra
<i>Hypostomus laplatae</i>	red fin hypostomus
<i>Hypostomus plecostomus</i>	common pelco, hypostomus pleco, load pleco, pleco, yellow pleco
<i>Hypselecara temporalis</i>	Hypselecara temporalis, temporalis cichlid
<i>Ictiobus cyprinellus</i>	buffalo fish
<i>Inpaichthys kerri</i>	blue emperor tetra
<i>Iriatherina weneri</i>	featherfin rainbow, treadfin rainbow, threadfin rainbow fish
<i>Jordanella floridae</i>	flag fish, flagfish, American flag fish, American flagfish
<i>Julidochromis</i>	julidochromis
<i>Julidochromis marlieri</i>	marlerii
<i>Julidochromis ornatus</i>	Julidochromis ornatus
<i>Julidochromis regani</i>	Julidochromis regani
<i>Julidochromis transcriptus</i>	julidochromis transcriptus, Julidochromis transcriptus bemba, Julidochromis transcriptus "Gombi"
<i>Kryptopterus vitreolus</i>	ghost glass catfish, glass catfish, glass ghost catfish

**Scientific Name**

*Labidochromis caeruleus*  
*Labidochromis Chismulae*  
*Labidochromis sp.*  
*Lamprologus meleagris*  
*Lamprologus ocellatus*  
*Lamprologus ornatipinnis*  
*Lasiancistrus sp. L178*  
*Leiarius marmoratus*  
*Leiocassis siamensis*  
*Lentipes ikeae*  
*Lepidiolamprologus attenuatus*  
*Lepisosteidae*  
*Lepisosteus platyrhincus*  
*Lepomis machrochirus*  
*Lepomis marginatus*  
*Lepomis megalotis*  
*Leporacanthicus galaxias*  
*Leporinus friderici*  
*Leporinus Granti*  
*Lichnochromis acuticeps*  
*Limia nigrofasciata*  
*Loricariidae*  
*Luciocephalus aura*  
*Luciosoma spilopleura*  
*Macrogathus aculeatus*  
*Macrogathus pancalus*  
*Macrogathus siamensis*  
*Macrogathus zebrinus*  
*Macropodus opercularis*  
*Malapteruridae*

**Common Name**

electric yellow lab, lemon yellow cichlid, lemon yellow African cichlid, yellow lab cichlid, yellow labidochromis  
clown lab, Clown labidochromis, Powder Blue Labidochromis  
labidochromis sp "Hongi", lab hongi  
Lamprologus meleagris  
gold ocellatus  
Lamprologus ornatipinnis  
red fin lasiancistrus pleco  
marble achara catfish  
Siamese Catfish  
lentipes ikeae goby/blue belly goby  
lepidiolamprologus attenuatus  
gar  
florida gar  
bluegill  
dollar sunfish  
Longear sunfish  
vampire pleco  
friderici leporinus  
strawberry leporinus  
Lichnochromis acuticeps  
Humpback limia  
albino pleco  
crocodile peppermint pike  
apollo shark  
lesser spiny eel  
yellow spiny eel  
peacock eel  
zebra spiny eel  
paradise gourami  
electric catfish

<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>Marosatherina ladigesii</i>	Celebes rainbowfish
<i>Mastacembelus armatus</i>	tire track eel
<i>Mastacembelus ellipsifer</i>	ellipsifer eel
<i>Maylandia callainos</i>	zebra cobalt blue cichlid
<i>Maylandia estherae</i>	cherry red cichlid
<i>Maylandia lombardoi</i>	kennyi cichlid
<i>Megalechis thoracata</i>	albino hoplo catfish
<i>Melanochromis</i>	black cichlid
<i>Melanochromis auratus</i>	auratus, auratus cichlid, golden cichlid
<i>Melanochromis cyaneorhabdos</i>	maingano blue cichlid, maingano cichlid
<i>Melanochromis johanni</i>	Johanni
<i>Melanochromis johannii</i>	electric blue johanni, johanni electric blue cichlid, Mbuna
<i>Melanochromis auratus</i>	albino auratus
<i>Melanotaenia boesemani</i>	boesmanni rainbow, boesemani rainbow, boesemani rainbowfish, boesemani rainbow
<i>Melanotaenia kamaka</i>	kanaka rainbow
<i>Melanotaenia lacustris</i>	turquoise rainbow, turquoise rainbowfish
<i>Melanotaenia maccullochi</i>	malanotoenia moccullochi rainbow
<i>Melanotaenia praecox</i>	black neon rainbow, dwarf neon blue rainbowfish, dwarf neon rainbow
<i>Melanotaenia splendida</i>	deepwater creek rainbow
<i>Melantaenia herbertaxelrodi</i>	yellow rainbow fish
<i>Mesonauta festivus</i>	festivum cichlid
<i>Mesonoemacheilus triangularis</i>	zodiac loach
<i>Metriaclima sp.</i>	Metriaclima sp. Daktari, metriaclima "zebra long pelvic"
<i>Metriaclima sp. "mbweca"</i>	Metriaclima Mbweca
<i>Metynnias argenteus</i>	silver dollar
<i>Metynnias fasciatus</i>	tiger silver dollar
<i>Metynnias lippincottianus</i>	spotted silver dollar
<i>Microglanis iheringi</i>	bumblebee catfish, bumblebee catfish, bumblebee catfish

<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>Microglanis iheringi</i> Gomes	bumblee bee catfish
<i>Micropterus salmoides</i>	mouth bass
<i>Mikrogeophagus altispinosus</i>	Bolivian ram cichlid, ruby clown cichlid
<i>Mikrogeophagus ramirezi</i>	black ram, Blue ram, blue veil angel ram, electric blue ram, German blue, German ram, gold ram, golden balloon ram, ram cichlid
<i>Mikrogeophagus ramirezi</i> var	German gold ram cichlid, gold ram
<i>Moenkhausia pittieri</i>	diamond tetra
<i>Moenkhausia sanctaefilomenae</i>	red eye emperor tetra, red eyed tetra
<i>Myleus schomburgkii</i>	black bar silver dollar
<i>Myliobatoidei</i>	flower stingray
<i>Myloplus rubripinnis</i>	red hook metynnis
<i>Mylossoma duriventre</i>	spotted mylossoma
<i>Myxocyprinus asiaticus</i>	highfin banded loach
<i>Nannacara adoketa</i>	zebra acara
<i>Nannostomus beckfordi</i>	Golden pencilfish
<i>Nannostomus beckfordi</i> var. "Red"	red beckford pencilfish
<i>Nannostomus eques</i>	diptail pencilfish
<i>Nannostomus mortenthaleri</i>	Peruvian pencilfish, Peruvian red pencilfish, red arc pencil fish
<i>Nanochromis transvestitus</i>	Nanochromis transvestitus
<i>Nematobrycon palmeri</i>	emperor tetra
<i>Neolamprologus brichardi</i>	brichardi, neolamprolohus brichardi
<i>Neolamprologus brichardi</i> Albino	albino lamprologus brichardi
<i>Neolamprologus buescheri</i>	Neolamprologus buescheri
<i>Neolamprologus cylindricus</i>	Neolamprologus cylindricus
<i>Neolamprologus helianthus</i>	Neolamprologus helianthus "Mbita"
<i>Neolamprologus leleupi</i>	Neolamprologus leleupi
<i>Neolamprologus multifasciatus</i>	multifactus shell dweller, neolamprolohus multifasciatus

<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>Neolamprologus pulcher</i>	Daffodil cichlid
<i>Neolamprologus sexfasciatus</i>	Gold Sexfasciatus
<i>Neolamprologus similis</i>	Neolamprologus similis
<i>Neolamprologus tretocephalus</i>	Tretocephalus
<i>Neomacheilus triangularis</i>	batk loach
<i>Nimbochromis livingstonii</i>	livingstoni, nimbochronis livingstoni
<i>Nimbochromis venustus</i>	nimbochronis venustus, Venustus
<i>Oliotius oligolepis</i>	checkerboard barb
<i>Oryzias</i>	platinum medaka rice fish
<i>Oryzias woworae</i>	ricefish daisy blue killifish
<i>Osteoglossidae</i>	Arowanna, arowana
<i>Osteoglossum bicirrhosum</i>	silver arowana
<i>Osteoglossum cf.</i>	blue arowana
<i>Osteoglossum Ferreirai</i>	blue arowana
<i>Otocinclus</i>	Otocinclus, otocincus catfish, Otocinclus "dwarf sucker"
<i>Otopharynx lithobates</i>	yellow blaze lithobates
<i>Panaqolus sp.</i>	alenquer tiger pleco
<i>Panaque bathyphilus</i>	papa pleco
<i>Panaque cochlodon</i>	blue eye pleco
<i>Panaque maccus</i>	clown pleco
<i>Panaque nigrolineatus</i>	royal pleco, watermelon plecostomus
<i>Panaque nigrolineatus laurafabianae</i>	watermelon pleco
<i>Panaque schaeferi</i>	titanic pleco
<i>Pangio kuhlii</i>	khuli loach, kullii loach
<i>Pantodon buchholzi</i>	pantadon butterfly
<i>Paracheiroidon</i>	albino tetras
<i>Paracheiroidon axelrodi</i>	cardinal tetra
<i>Paracheiroidon innesi</i>	green neon tetra, neon tetras

<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>Paracheirodon simulans</i>	green tetra, neon green tetra
<i>Parachromis managuensis</i>	jaguar cichlid
<i>Parambassis ranga</i>	glassfish tetra
<i>Parancistrus auranbacus</i>	chubby pleco
<i>Parancistrus aurantiacus</i>	chubby pleco
<i>Paraneetroplus bulleri</i>	Sarabia cichlid
<i>Paraneetroplus synspilus</i>	Gold Based Fader flowerhorn
<i>Paratilapia polleni</i>	Paratilapia polleni, paratilapia bleekeri
<i>Parosphromenus linkei</i>	Parosphromenus linkei/Moonspot Licorice Gourami
<i>Peckoltia compta</i>	leopard frog tetra
<i>Peckoltia sabaji</i>	para pleco, spotted tiger
<i>Peckoltia vittata</i>	candy cane pleco
<i>Pelvicachromis</i>	kribonsis ocodated
<i>Pelvicachromis pulcher</i>	kribonsis, kribensis African cichlid
<i>Perca</i>	perch
<i>Pethia conchonius</i>	longfin rosy barb, rosy barb
<i>Pethia nigrofasciata</i>	black ruby barb
<i>Pethia padamya</i>	odessa barb
<i>Petrotilapia tridentiger</i>	Tridentiger
<i>Petruichthys brevis</i>	inle loach
<i>Phenacogrammus interruptus</i>	congo tetra
<i>Phractocephalus hemiliopterus</i>	red tailed catfish, red tail catfish
<i>Pimelodus pictus</i>	pictus catfish, pictus spot catfish, pimelodella catfish, pimelodella pietus cat
<i>Pimephales promelas</i>	rosy minnows, rosy red minnow
<i>Placidochromis milomo</i>	VC-10, Placidochromis milomo "VC"
<i>Placidochromis phenochilus</i>	phenochilus, placiaochromis "white lip" phenochilus
<i>Placidochromis Phenochilus</i>	placidochrom phenochilus "star sapphire"
<i>Platydoras armatulus</i>	raphael catfish, rafael spot/stripe catfish, raphael striped catfish, striped raphael catfish

<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>plecostomus</i>	Pleco
<i>Plesiotrygon iwamae</i>	plesiotrygon "antennna" stingray
<i>Poecilia</i>	molly
<i>Poecilia sp.</i>	dumbo purple mosaic
<i>Poecilia latipinna</i>	dalmation molly, sailfin molly
<i>Poecilia latipinna var.</i>	red leopard lyretail molly
<i>Poecilia reticulata</i>	Blue multicolor guppy, blue topaz guppy, dumbo ear tiger guppy, fancy guppy, guppy, halfback red rose guppy, metal galaxy, purple mosaic dumbo guppy, rose tail guppy, silverhead guppy, yellow lace king cobra guppy
<i>Poecilia reticulata var.</i>	
"Black Moscow"	black Moscow guppy
<i>Poecilia reticulata var.</i> "Blue Moscow"	Moscow blue guppy
<i>Poecilia sphenops</i>	balloon lyretail molly, balloon molly, black molly, creamsicle molly, gold dust molly, lyretail gold molly, lyretail molly, lyretail silver molly, molly, molly balloon, silver molly, sunset molly
<i>Poecilia spp.</i>	Sailfin molly- dalmation, Green Sailfin Molly
<i>Poecilia wingei</i>	black bar endler guppy, scarlet endlers, Tiger endler guppy
<i>Polypteridae</i>	bichir, palmos bichir
<i>Polypterus</i>	green bichir
<i>Polypterus bichir</i>	nile bichir
<i>Polypterus bichir lapradei</i>	Lapradei bichir
<i>Polypterus delhezi</i>	barred bichir, delhezi bichir
<i>Polypterus ornatipinnis</i>	Ornatipinnis bichir, ornate bichir
<i>Polypterus Palmas Palmas</i>	marbled bichir
<i>Polypterus senegalus</i>	albino senegal bichir, platinum sengenal bichir, senegal bichir, senegalus albino bichir, Senegalus bichir
<i>Polypterus teugelsi</i>	Teugelsi bichir
<i>Pomacanthus maculosus</i>	yellow head angelfish
<i>Potamotrygon motoro</i>	wild motoro stingray
<i>Potamotrygon tigrina</i>	tiger stingray
<i>Prionobrama filigera</i>	glass bloodfin tetra
<i>Pristella maxillaris</i>	gold pristella, gold pristella tetra, gold tetra, pristella gold tetra, pristella tetra, x-ray tetra

<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>Protomelas similis</i>	red empress
<i>Protomelas sp. Steveni</i>	
Taiwan	Taiwan reef
<i>Protomelas taeniolatus</i>	protomelas tangerine tiger
<i>Protomelas sp</i>	protomelas albono Taiwan reef
<i>Protopterus annectens</i>	African lungfish
<i>Pseudacanthicus sp.</i>	red fin sternella
<i>Pseudochalceus kyburzi</i>	kyburz tetra
<i>Pseudocrenilabrus multicolor</i>	pseudocrenilabrus multicolor
<i>Pseudoplatystoma fasciatum</i>	tiger shovelnose catfish
<i>Pseudosphromenus cupanus</i>	paradise spiketail gourami
<i>Pseudotropheus acei</i>	white tail acei
<i>Pseudotropheus elongatus</i>	Pseudotropheus/Mbuna
<i>Pseudotropheus livingstoni</i>	Pseudotropheus Livingstoni
<i>Pseudotropheus socolofi</i>	powder blue socolofi, scoloffi, socolofi
<i>Pseudotropheus sp.</i>	acei, African cichlid
<i>Pseudotropheus zebra</i>	Albino zebra, Red zebra
<i>Pterophyllum</i>	angelfish, paraiba blue angel, pearlscale platinum angel
<i>Pterophyllum altum</i>	baby altum angel
<i>Pterophyllum scalare</i>	black angel, black angelfish, blue smokey pinoy angel, clown angelfish, platinum angel, platinum angelfish, red-black angelfish, veil angel
<i>Pterophyllum sp</i>	black marble angelfish, marble angelfish
<i>Pterygoplichthys gibbiceps</i>	albino pleco gibbiceps, albino sailfin plecostomus, gibbiceps leopard hifin pleco, leopard pleco, sailfin pleco
<i>Pterygoplichthys joselimaianus</i>	gold spot Plecostomus, yellow spotted para pleco
<i>Pterygoplichthys scrophi</i>	rhino pleco
<i>Pundamilia nyererei</i>	Nyererei crimson tide, crimson tide victorian
<i>Puntigrus</i>	black tiger barb
<i>Puntigrus tetrazona</i>	green tiger barb, tiger barb

<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>Puntius amphibius</i>	scarlet barb
<i>Puntius conchoni</i>	rosy barb/rosy neon barb, rosy red glass barb
<i>Puntius rhomboocellatus</i>	rhombo barb, snakeskin barb
<i>Puntius tetrazona</i>	cherry barb, galactic purple glofish barb, glo barbs, glo tiger barb, glofish orange longfin barb, long fin tiger barb, longfin tiger barb, starfire
<i>Puntius titteya</i>	red glofish barb, tiger barb, tiger longfin barb
<i>Pygocentrus nattereri</i>	cherry barb, veiltail cherry barb
<i>Rasbora</i>	piranha, red bellied piranha
<i>Rasbora borapetensis</i>	rasbora
<i>Rasbora einthovenii</i>	red tail rasbora
<i>Rasbora trilineata</i>	brilliant rasbora
<i>Rhamphochromis esox</i>	scissortail rasbora
<i>Rineloricaria sp.</i>	rhamphoschrimois tiger fish
<i>Rocio octofasciata</i>	red lizard catfish
<i>Sahyadria denisonii</i>	electric blue jack Dempsey, jack dempsey cichlid
<i>Sambucus racemosa</i>	roseline shark
<i>Sawbwa resplendens</i>	gold black lace
<i>Schilbe uranoscopus</i>	asian rummy-nose tetra
<i>Sciaenochromis ahli</i>	glasscutter catfish
<i>Sciaenochromis fryeri</i>	electric blue, electric blue cichlid, electric blue hap
<i>Sciaenochromis fryeri</i> "albino"	Electric blue alhi
<i>Sciaenochromis ahli</i>	Albino hap ahli
<i>Scleropages formosus</i>	iceberg ahli
<i>Scleropages jardinii</i>	red dragon
<i>Scobiancistrus aureatus</i>	jardini arowana
<i>LO14</i>	sunshine pleco
<i>Semaprochilodus insignis</i>	flagtail prochilodus
<i>Semaprochilodus taeniurus</i>	flagtail prochilodus, red fin prochilodus
<i>Serpenticobitis octozona</i>	serpent loach
<i>Serrasalmus</i>	Manueli piranha
<i>Sicyopus rubicundus</i>	red lip goby

<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>Sorubim lima</i>	lima catfish
<i>Sphaerichthys vaillanti</i>	samurai gourami
<i>Sternoptychinae</i>	hatchet fish
<i>Sturisoma panamense</i>	royal whiptail
<i>Symphysodon</i>	discus
<i>Symphysodon aequifasciatus</i>	Blue face heckel discus, camera brown wild discus
<i>Symphysodon discus Heckel</i>	Heckel wild discus
<i>Symphysodon sp</i>	assorted discus, pigeon blood discus
<i>Synodontis acanthomias</i>	Synodontis acanthomias
<i>Synodontis Angelicus</i>	polka dot synodontis
<i>Synodontis angelicus X eupterus</i>	Synodontis angelicus X eupterus
<i>Synodontis eupterus</i>	eupterus synodontis cat, threadfin synodontis
<i>Synodontis flavitaeniata</i>	Synodontis Flavitaeniatus
<i>Synodontis lucipinnis</i>	lucipinnes synodontis
<i>Synodontis multipunctatus</i>	synodontis multipunctatus
<i>Synodontis nigrita</i>	gold nigrita synodontis, syno lace catfish
<i>Synodontis nigriventris</i>	upside down catfish
<i>Synodontis ocellifer</i>	Synodontis ocellifer
<i>Synodontis Piedratus</i>	Piedratus synodontis
<i>synodontis sp.</i>	synodontis sp.
<i>Tambrapamei</i>	arulius barb
<i>Tanichthys albonubes</i>	white cloud, white cloud longfin danio
<i>Tateurndina ocellicauda</i>	peacock goby, peacock gudgeon
<i>Tetra Hyphessobrycon flammeus</i>	von rio tetra
<i>Tetraodon palembangensi</i>	dragon puffer
<i>Tetraodon lineatus</i>	Fahaka puffer
<i>Tetraodon miurus</i>	murus puffer, red murus puffer
<i>Tetraodon schoutedeni</i>	Schoutedeni puffer, spotted congo puffer
<i>Thayeria boehlkei</i>	penguin tetre
<i>Thorichthys meeki</i>	firemouth cichlid

<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>Tilapia kottae</i>	coptodon kottae
<i>Tilapia spp</i>	talapia
<i>Tor sp</i>	mahseer carp
<i>Toxotes blythii</i>	clouded archer
<i>Trematocranus placodon</i>	cape mclear "Jacob"
<i>Trichogaster</i>	dwarf blood gourami, dwarf gourami, gourami
<i>Trichogaster china</i>	dwarf golden honey gourami, dwarf honey red gourami, red honey gourami
<i>Trichogaster chuna</i>	honey dwarf gourami
<i>Trichogaster lalius</i>	dwarf flame gourami, dwarf gourami, dwarf powder blue gourami, dwarf red fire gourami, dwarf red flame/blood gourami, dwarf turquoise gourami, powder blue dwarf gourami
<i>Trichogaster trichopterus</i>	Platinum Gourami
<i>Trichopodus leerii</i>	pearl gourami
<i>Trichopodus microlepis</i>	moonlight gourami
<i>Trichopodus pectoralis</i>	snakeskin gourami
<i>Trichopodus trichopterus</i>	blue gourami, gold gourami, opaline gourami, upaline gourami
<i>Trichopsis pumila</i>	sparkling gourami
<i>Trigonostigma espei</i>	porkchop rasbora, pork chop rasbora
<i>Trigonostigma hengeli</i>	glowlight rasbora
<i>Trigonostigma heteromorpha</i>	harlequin rasbora, Rasbora heter
<i>Tropheus duboisi</i>	tropheus duboisi
<i>Tropheus moorii</i>	golden kiriza tropheus, naumbo red tropheus
<i>Tropheus sp</i>	Tropheus sp
<i>Uaru amphiacanthoides</i>	chocolate cichlid, urau cichlid
<i>Vieja synspilus</i>	flowerhorn, kamfa flowerhorn
<i>Xenomystus nigri</i>	African knife
<i>Xenotoca doadrioi</i>	Red tail goodeidae
<i>Xenotoca eiseni</i>	xenotoca eiseni
<i>Xenotoca variata</i>	Jeweled splitfin goodeidae
<i>Xiphophorus</i>	platty, platy, sword tail

**Scientific Name****Common Name**

*Xiphophorus hellerii*

black swordtail, green swordtail, marigold swordtail, neon swordtail, pineapple sword, red eye lyretail swordtail, red tuxedo swordtail, red wag swordtail, snake red/white swordtail, super red swordtail, tuxedo swordtail

*Xiphophorus maculatus*

blue coral platy, bumblebee platy, calico white platy, crystal platys, flag ship platy, green lantern platy, hifin platy, platy, plumetail, Red Mickey Mouse Platy, red platy, red wag platy, standard platy, sunburst neon mickey platy

*Xiphophorus maculatus*

*hybrid*

plumetail platy, tiger comet platy

*Xiphophorus variatus*

redtail black variatus platy

*Yasuhikotakia morleti*

botia skunk loach, skunk botia

*Zacco platypus*

zacco platypus