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# Conservation of Malagasy Cichlids

Presented by Ronald Nielson  
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- Southeastern coast of Africa
- Underdeveloped nation
- Large population growth

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# Fort Dauphin



# Food Fish

- Introduction of Tilapia to provide a food source for the local populace
- Tilapia grow quickly and are predators
- Tilapia must be smoked, not sun dried

# Deforestation



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# Deforestation = Extinction



# Conservation Ideas

- Captive breeding programs (AZA, private breeders)
- In-situ parks and breeding programs
- ACA CARES – your club in action
- ACP Database, [www.acp-database.com](http://www.acp-database.com) (Anton Lamboj)
- CCWG – Cichlid Conservation Working Group
  - Collective group of hobbyists

# Keeping Malagasy Cichlids

- Myths and Legends
- The basics
- Major Species
- Breeding
- Misunderstandings

# Myths and Legends

- Tank size
- Aggression
- Breeding difficulty

# The Basics

- Tank size one gallon per inch of fish
- pH 7.2 – 7.5, wide range
- Temp 82f, + when breeding
- Hardness 100 parts per million
- Decorations
  - gravel
  - rocks
  - plants

# Major Cichlid Species

- Paratilapia
- Ptychochromis
- Paretroplus

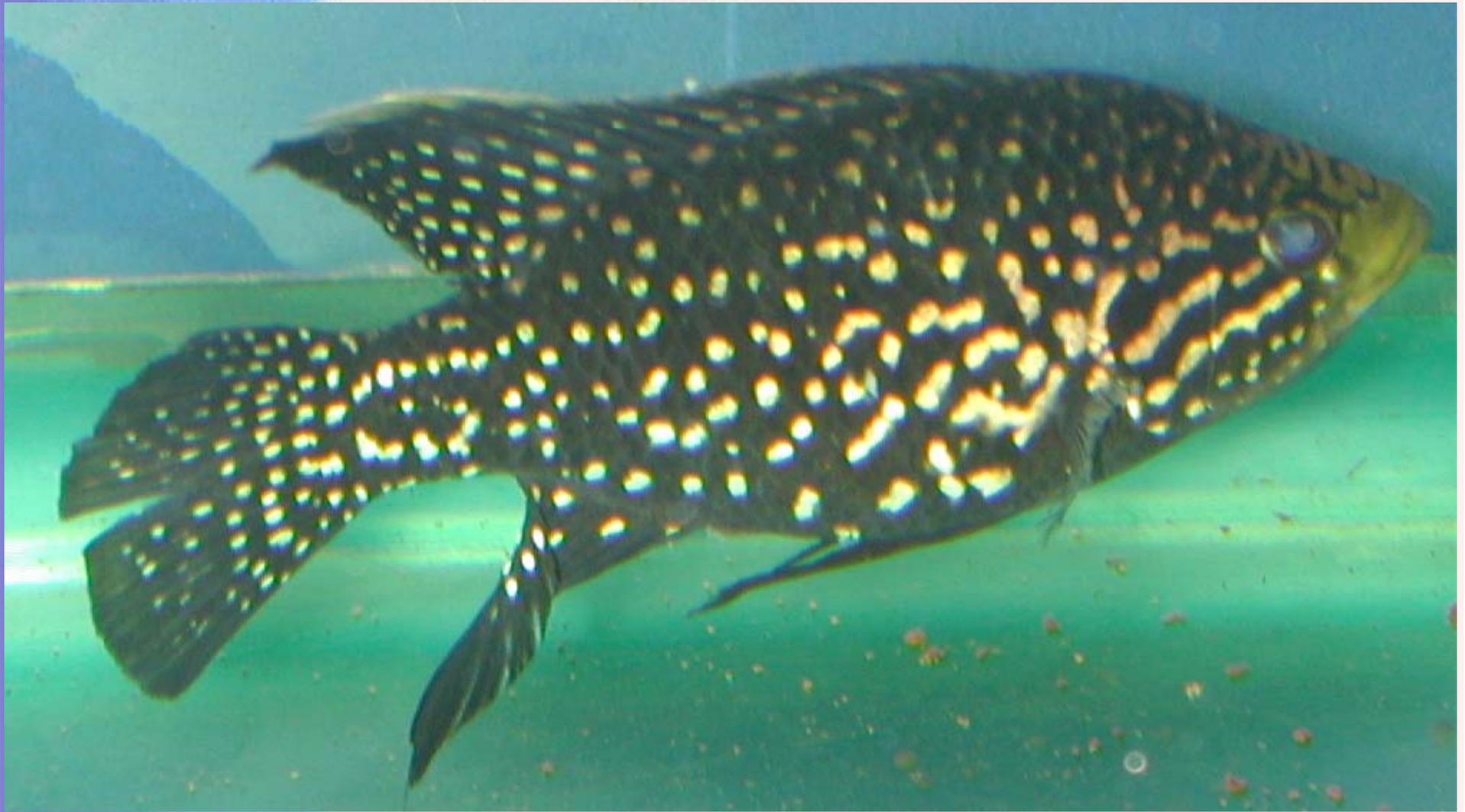
# Paratilapia

- Species Small Spot



# Paratilapia

- Species Large Spot



# Ptychochromis

- Grandidieri



# Ptychochromis

- Grandidieri



# Ptychochromis

- Oligacanthus, mananjeba



# Ptychochromis

- Oligacanthus, mananjeba



# Ptychochromis

- Oligacanthus, Nosey Bee



# Ptychochromis

- Oligacanthus, Nosy Bee



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REINTHAL & STIASSNY, 1997 foto P. Burnel

# Katria



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# Paretroplus

- Menarambo



# Paretroplus

- Maculatus



# Paretroplus

- Maculatus



# Paretroplus

- Norissati



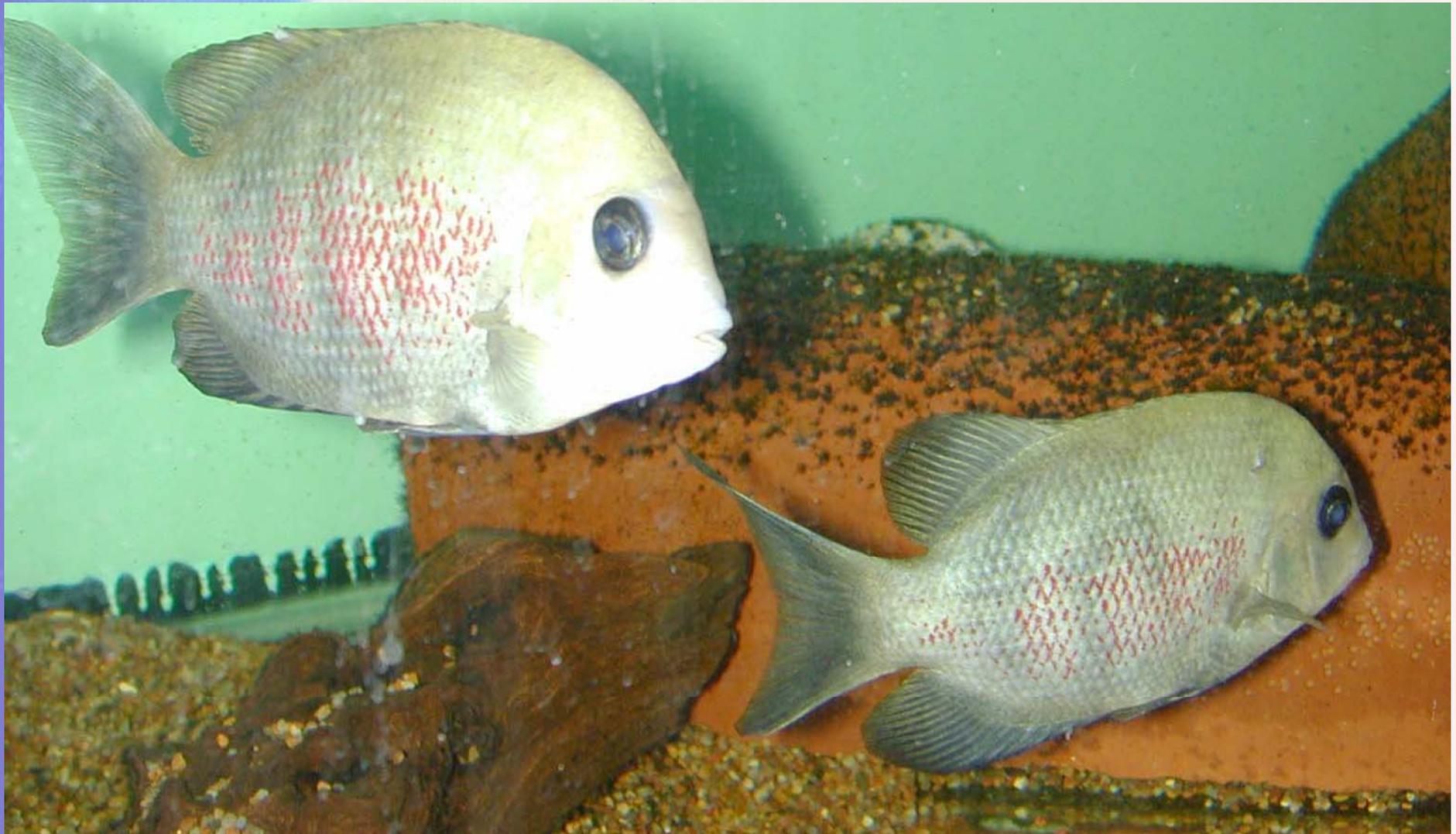
# Paretroplus

- Kieneri



# Paretroplus

- Petiti, Actually Dambabe



# Paretroplus

- Dami
- Polyactus
- Blue Lips
- Maromandia



# Other Cichlids and Fish



REINTHAL & STIASSNY, 1997 foto P. Burnel

- Ptychochromoides
- Bedotia
  - Geayi
  - Madagascariensis
- Pachypanchax
- Bathygobius

# Breeding



- Tankmates
  - Male and Female
  - Aggression
  - Spawning
  - Grow Out



# General Conditions

- Temp – 82 - 86 F
- Dither fish
  - Until pair forms successfully
  - Possibly smaller tank 40b
  - Large spawns(800-1000), but smaller fry that will not survive initial 6 weeks. Survivors (100-200)

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# Ptycho Spawns



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# Ptycho Spawns



# Ptycho Spawns



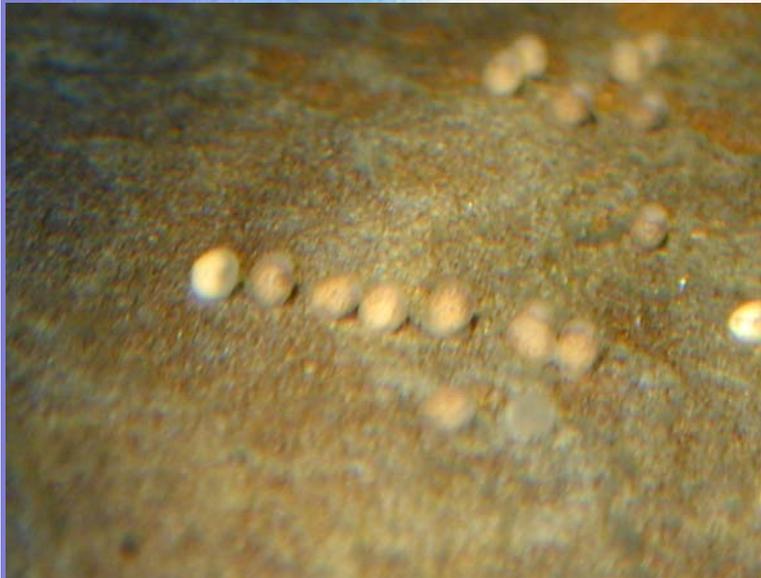
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# Ptycho Spawns



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# Paretroplus Spawns



# Paretroplus

- Petiti, Actually Dambabe



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# Nourissati



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# Maculatus



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# Maculatus



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# Maculatus



# General Conditions

- Lake fish, temp – 86 F
- River fish, temp – 82 F
- Dither fish to reduce aggressive activity
- Age is a question, 3-4 years??

# Misunderstandings

- Not many keeping the fish
- Not much written about them
- Some difficulties to understand a new fauna
- Difficult to obtain - \$

Future

- Keep
- Breed
- Write

How?

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  - Please join us to learn and preserve
  - [ron@fishpost.com](mailto:ron@fishpost.com)

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Good  
Night