

Care Sheet

GULF SARATOGA

Scleropages jardinii



- SIZE:** Grow to about 90cm and over 5kg.
- RANGE:** Northern Australia around the Gulf of Carpentaria.
- TEMP:** 22 – 28 Celsius
- WATER:** pH about 7.0. Hardness 50-200ppm.
- FOOD:** Prefers live food in the form of fish, insects, etc. When settled they will learn to take frozen and fresh food such as prawns, mussels, strips of meat.
- COLOUR:** *S. jardinii* shows a pink/red crescent at the base of its scales.
- COMPATABILITY:** Both Australian Saratoga species are aggressive and territorial and must be kept singularly in aquariums.

Saratogas make spectacular aquarium display fish, but obviously only small or medium sized specimens should be kept in aquariums. Their tank should be as large as possible, preferably about 1.5 to 2 meters long to allow for growth and adequate room to swim. Their aquarium must be covered, as saratogas are expert jumpers. Because of their large size they have not been spawned in aquariums. They are mouth brooders and in nature the breeding females incubate up to approximately 100 eggs in spring.