

Longnose Butterflyfish

Forcipiger flavissimus



The Longnose Butterflyfish is a beautiful marine with characteristic “butterfly” shaped body. It can be distinguished from other Butterflyfish by its long snout, which makes it instantly recognisable. A very popular aquarium fish, they have an interesting habit of swimming on their side or even upside down from time to time.

Maximum Size

In nature up to 22cm

Water Parameters

pH 8.0 – 8.4

SG 1.020 – 1.025

Temperature

24°C - 26°C

Distribution

This striking yellow Marine fish inhabits rock and coral reefs in wide areas of the Pacific, Indo-Pacific and the Red Sea.

Feeding

The Longnose Butterflyfish needs regular feeding. In nature it will pick constantly for small invertebrates, aided by its long nose. Fish housed in aquaria will require frozen and live brine shrimp and mysis shrimp, ideally at least 3 times per day (young specimens will require more frequent feeding). They may nibble at coral.

Housing

The Longnose Butterflyfish will require a minimum tank capacity of 250 litres. Provide plenty of coral for them to shelter in, as well as open spaces and rocks enabling them to travel freely.

Ideally, they should be among the first introduced to the tank, as they need to feel comfortable in the environment before they will feed.

Care

Take care when handling, as their long noses and dorsal fins can easily get caught and damaged. Use soft nets.

Compatibility

A peaceful marine that can be housed with other, bolder tankmates. However, it is territorial so will fight other members of its own species. They are best kept as the only one of their species per system. In nature they are often found in pairs.

care sheet



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