

## Peppered Catfish

*Corydoras paleatus*



Right: Peppered Catfish

Above: Long Finned Peppered Catfish have recently become available



### Natural Range

Southern Brazil, South America.

### Maximum Size and Longevity

Peppered Corydoras can grow up to 6 cm and live for 3 to 5 years.

### Water Quality

Text

- Temperature: 22°C - 26°C.
- pH: 6.0—7.0
- General Hardness: 50—100 ppm.

### Feeding

Peppered Corydoras are a bottom dwelling fish species and it will eat most sinking foods. They are omnivorous, and although good scavengers, they should be fed a regular substantial diet. Crumbles and sinking feeds are best and they also readily feed on frozen foods such as Brine Shrimp, Bloodworm and Beefheart.

### Compatibility

Peppered Corydoras are a peaceful community fish, and is naturally schooling, both with their own kind and other Corydoras species. These fish are best kept in small schools to help keep the tank bottom clean.

### Colour and Varieties

These scaleless fish are mainly bronze with black and grey specks giving them the appearance of being peppered. There is now a long finned variety available.

### Sexing

Females are plumper and slightly larger than males. The dorsal fin is slightly longer in males than females.

### General Information

Peppered Corydoras have an armoured skin, which is reflected in its name - Cory means "a kind of fish" and Doras means "a leathery skin". Unlike some catfish, Peppered Corydoras are active during the day but do prefer a well planted tank with plenty of hiding places. They are one of the most commonly kept catfish species in the world. This species is farmed in huge quantities throughout Asia.