

Agassizi's Dwarf Cichlid

Apistogramma agassizii



Natural Range

South America, widespread in the Amazon River region to the lower Rio Urubamba (Peru).

Maximum Size and Longevity

8 cm, 3 – 5 years in captivity.

Water Quality

- Temperature: 24°C - 28°C.
- pH: 5.5 – 6.8.
- General Hardness: 30 – 100 ppm.

Feeding

Apistogramma agassizii are carnivorous and will take dry foods such as flake and crumble as well as frozen foods such as blood worm, and brine shrimp. They also benefit from the occasional feeding of live food such as mosquito larvae and black worm.

Compatibility

They are a very peaceful Cichlid species and make a colourful addition to most community tanks. The male however can be very protective of his females and fry, so it is recommended not to stock many bottom dwelling fish as they can be a target for the overprotective male.

Colour and Varieties

There are many different geographic forms of *A. agassizii*, and there has been much selective breeding to develop different strains.

Sexing

Males are much larger and have elongated fins and more colours than the female who tend to be more yellow, especially when they are spawning.

General Information

This dwarf cichlid is one of the easiest to keep of all the *Apistogramma* varieties. It is a beautiful little cichlid to watch and does very well in a heavily planted tank (minimum 90cm). Ensure there are plenty of caves to hide and spawn in. Like many *Apistogramma* species they fare better when kept at a ratio of 1 male per 3 – 4 females.

