

Freshwater Sole

Family: Solidae (sometimes called Freshwater Flounder)

Pic: Freshwater Sole



Natural Range

Tailed Sole fish and Freshwater Sole Tongue are Native Australian fish found in patchy distribution in the Northern Territory and in central – southern New Guinea. Fresh water Sole Brazil fish are found in Western Central Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico to Panama.

Maximum Size

The fish size varies from 14 cm – 40cm, depending on the species type.

Water Quality

- Temperature: 24°C - 28°C.
- pH: 7.0—8.0
- General Hardness: 150—200 ppm.

Feeding

They feed on small crustaceans and other invertebrates. These species are carnivorous bottom feeders and can be given brine shrimp, bloodworms and black worms.

Compatibility

Freshwater Flounder are peaceful fish that are compatible in a community tank. Do not keep them with large aggressive feeders as they will not be able to compete. They may eat small fish that can fit into their mouth.

Colour and Varieties

Freshwater Sole fish are brown on the dorsal surface with dark spots and blotches with a white body underneath. Tongue Soles are easily distinguished by the elongate tongue-shaped body, hooked snout and lack of pectoral fins.

Sexing

At this stage, the sexual differences are unknown.

General Information

This unique fish with an intriguing anatomy are referred to as Flounder fish because of their flattened and laterally compressed bodies. They are known to inhabit the oceans, freshwater and brackish water conditions and are typically found on sandy, muddy or silty substrates in bays and estuaries.

Sole fish lack pectoral fins and their eyes are found on the left side of the body. They have normal fish-like larvae with eyes present on each side of the head but as the juvenile develops one eye migrates over the top of the head to the other side of the head. As a result the fish develops a benthic life style resting on its blind side.

This fascinating fish will do well in an aquarium if provided with the right environmental conditions. They will spend most of their time on the bottom therefore a sandy substrate is ideal and they will sporadically stick to the sides of the tank.