

Petenia Splendida Red Snook

Petenia Splendida

Pic: Juvenile Red Snook at 15cm. This is the size available commercially in Australia. Once this fish reaches maturity (>15cm) they will develop a bright orange / red colour, overlaid with a lace network of pearly-gold on their head and body.



Natural Range

Central America

Maximum Size and Longevity

Maximum length is between 40-60cm and life span of 5-10 years.

Water Quality

- Temperature: 24°C - 26°C.
- pH: 7.0—7.5
- General Hardness: 150—250 ppm.

Feeding

The Red Snook is a big fish with a big mouth, and will happily take small to medium sized live foods, floating/sinking pellets and frozen foods.

Petenia splendida will benefit from a varied diet, and feeding foods rich in beta carotene will intensify their red colouration. All Naturals Range Frozen Brine Shrimp and Krill are both ideal for this fish, as they contain naturally occurring beta-carotene. As the Snook is very greedy, feed one whole cube. Only partially defrost the cube before feeding, as they like their food to be 'chunky'.



Compatibility

A moderately peaceful species by Central American standards, the Red Snook can be added with minimal fuss into a community tank with other mildly aggressive species, or fish larger than its mouth.

Colour and Varieties

Petenia splendida have two naturally occurring colour morphs, a silver/green form and a red form.

The red form is less common in the wild than the silver/green, but is more popular in the aquarium trade, so we tend to see it far more commonly available.

Sexing

This species shows no sexual dimorphism other than size. Males will be larger than females.

General Information

Petenia splendida has a very unique extendable jaw structure which allows them to extend or open their mouth to engulf unsuspecting fish. This jaw structure needs to be taken into account when managing a community tank, to prevent the loss of smaller fish due to predation.

The Red Snook is a great looking, reasonably peaceful Central America cichlid, which can be kept with similar sized fish in a community environment. We highly recommend this fish to aquarists interested in keeping larger American cichlids.

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