Princess Cichlid
*Neolamprologus brichardi* (also called Fairy Cichlid, or Princess of Burundi)

**Natural Range**
Lake Tanganyika, Africa

**Maximum Size and Longevity**
Maximum length is 10-12cm. The Princess Cichlid can live for at least 5 years when housed in appropriate conditions.

**Water Quality**
- Temperature: 24°C - 28°C.
- pH: 7.8—8.2
- General Hardness: 200—350 ppm.

**Feeding**
In the aquarium, this fish will eagerly recognise prepared foods, such as pellets and flakes, but it is recommended to supplement their diet with frozen and live food, such as Brine or Mysis shrimp. We use and recommend Aquarium Industries Naturals Range Frozen Brine Shrimp, and Frozen Mysis Shrimp.

**Colour and Varieties**
*N. brichardi* has a number of geographical variations and colour forms. Most are slight differences, ranging from unique patterning, elongated finnage or colour variations.

Confusion can occur when identifying *N. brichardi*, especially at a small size, as there is another cichlid within this genus with a similar name. The ‘Daffodil Princess Cichlid’ looks similar to *N. brichardi*, but is a completely different species (*N. pulcher*).

**Sexing**
Sexual differences can be observed via the dorsal fin, as males usually have a longer and a more developed dorsal than females. Interestingly these fish are monogamous and usually form bonds for life.

**Compatibility**
*Neolamprologus brichardi* is a semi-aggressive dwarf cichlid that is well suited to ‘smaller species only’ aquariums, although it can be a great community cichlid in larger environments. When considering tank size, it is important to understand how protective this fish is when defending their young. In order to reduce aggression after breeding, ensure that they have ample room, and are not the largest fish in the tank.

In the home aquarium if size is permitting, it’s common to see the parents allowing many generations of fry to stay within their territory, and these older fry will assist the parents in guarding the new.

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