

Freshwater Glass Shrimp

Paratyta australiensis.



Natural Range

South Eastern Australia and north to Cairns region

Maximum Size

Can grow up to 35mm

Water Quality

- Temperature: 12°C - 25°C.
- pH: 6.5—7.5 Do not allow to drop below 6.5
- General Hardness: 50—300 ppm.

Feeding

In nature a scavenger. In the aquarium they will eat any sinking fish food.

Compatibility

Fresh water shrimp have tiny claws or pincers that are covered in setae and are therefore completely harmless to aquarium fish.

Colour and Varieties

As the name implies, glass shrimp are basically transparent but there are some rarer varieties that are coloured.

General Information

Glass shrimp make an interesting addition to the home aquarium, living quite happily in either tropical or indoor cold water aquariums. They make good scavengers and are not destructive to aquatic plants as they poke around in all corners looking for the tiniest particles of left over food.

Glass shrimp get on well with each other and can be kept several per container. They are ideal for small aquariums such as nano tanks, and bowls. If kept with aquarium fish they should not be mixed with large species as they are relished by fish as food.

To enable them to grow, glass shrimp moult several times a year. For a short time after they moult their skeleton is quite soft and they should not be handled or moved. They should also be provided with adequate shelter and hiding places in the form of plant thickets, rocks or caves.

Glass shrimp derive their oxygen from water they live in and are adversely affected by the accumulation of waste products. They are sensitive to copper in the water, so ensure medications containing copper are not used. Their water and their environment should be looked after as for aquarium fish.