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Guppy yellow taxi glass belly

Fancy guppy 1Despite of the fact that I'm more a fan of non-bitgtailed guppies, I do have to admit that I am and have been keeping bitgtailed guppies throughout the years. For sure there are certain bitgtailed guppies which will be graded the "wow-factor" by me but it's just a general thing that I'm not a huge fan of bitgtailed guppies.Nevertheless, fancy guppies come in a variety of bodysize, finshape, bodysize and colouration. And that makes it so interesting to keep fancy guppies as well...The large fin traits (or shapes) is something that's been generated by the socalled "Kalymma gene". The Kalymma gene has been described by J.H. Schröder (1974). The complex pattern of inheritance of the Kalymma gene needs the postulation of a suppressor gene. So, the Kalymma gene only produces large fins if a suppressor allele is absent.Besides caudal, dorsal and anal fin, also the pectoral fins are subject to larger fins with fancy guppy breeding. Nice examples of such guppies are the socalled "big ear guppies" or also known as elephant ear guppies and dumbbo guppies. Base colors: There are multiple base colors (primary colors) when we consider fancy guppies: grey (wild color), black (nigrocaudatus), blonde, golden, bronze, pink, opal, white, blue and asian blue. The base color grey is the most dominant base color when crossed to another base color. Unless, the specimen with a grey base color is carrying another base color (recessive gene), it may reproduce another base color in the offspring depending on the base color of the mating partner.Note that the base colors golden, bronze and blonde may differ in names according to american, asian and european standards.The base colors "grey" and "blonde" are the most common ones.Below: Base colors.Above: Juvenile pink guppies (1 female/2 males)Above: Two juvenile male guppies that are both pink based despite of the fact that the upper male shows blue and black. The term "base color" actually refers to the formation of the pigment color and its distribution in the cells present. These color cells (chromatophores) are not the color, markings or pattern that we can see with the naked eye. Note: Certain base colors we know can be called differently in other countries. For instance blonde that's called golden in some countries. So, don't be surprised that it's not always clear with the standards that are going on.Above: Pigment cell types of the guppy. Xanthophores (X), melanophores (M) and iridophores (I) on the dorsal side of a guppy female shown under incident light. Leucophores could not be identified. Scale bar: 200 mm. (1 Reference: Journal.pone.0085647.g001) Xanthophores: Yellow colors cells that absorb blue light cells. Melanophores: Dark (brown till black) color cells that absorb light across the spectrum. Iridophores: Silvery or blue color cells that reflect light (iridescent). Leucophores: White colors cells. Erythrophores: Red color cells. Note: Melanophores are capable of color change upon physiological stimuli and by transporting the melanosomes (contains melanin) along the microtubes toward the cell center. As a result they will become pale in appearance. All color cells are also different in shape as the picture above shows.The fish skin (so, this does not apply for guppies only) consists of 3 layers. (A) Illustration of a section of skin showing the dermal chromatophore unit (modified from Bagnara et al., 1968; Bagnara and Hadley, 1973) and how the interaction of the chromatophores result in the observed reflectance spectrum of a color patch. The upper layers of xanthophores and erythrophores act to filter light and preferentially absorb short wavelengths (violets and blues). The underlying iridophores mat reflect all incident light or partially scatter light (depending on the thickness, spacing and orientation of the platelets. Any remaining light is absorbed by the melanophores or reflected back through the upper chromatophores by a basal layer of leucophores (if present). If the platelets of the iridophores are arranged to reflect light of all wavelengths equally. The specimen will appear silver, yellow, orange or red, depending on the pigment composition of the xanthophores (Grether et al., 2004). If the platelets are arranged so that light is partly reflected. This results in the specimen appearing blue if no xanthophores are present, or yellow-green, green or blue-green if xanthophores are present (Grether et al., 2004). In the context of color change, note that the dendritic processes of the melanophores extend up and terminate above the iridophores. (B) During color change on dark backgrounds, the iridophores may aggregate (leading to a reduction in the surface area of reflectance), while melanin pigmentsmove into the dendritic processes to cover the iridophores (Bagnara and Hadley, 1973). The overall effect is a change in the shape of the melanophore. Thus, melanin pigments are aggregated when the specimen is placed on a pale background, making the specimen appear pale, while pigments are dispersed on a dark background, thereby darkening the skin of the specimen. Above: A layout made by Rudy Vanderstraeten which gives a good summary of the genetic genealogy table of guppy strains.For further information, I'd like to refer to the guppy genetics chapter by clicking the button below:Below: A tank with High end ritz guppies and Maple leaf guppies from breeder Kenjiro Tanaka (Japan).Well, one of my favourites are the snakeskin topswords. I've got this strain from Peter and Astrid Raschke in September 2014. This beautiful patterned fancy guppy comes in grey and blonde based bodies. They're really vivid fish in a fishtank and now it seems very prolific as well.Above: we see a male at the livebearer show in Diemelsee-Adorf (Germany). In some way of all the snakeskin fancy strains I had, this version is the most outstanding one to me. Moscow blueKeeping and breeding moscows (and in generally moscow blue) has been going on in an "on & off" situation at my place. I grew up in the seventies and eighties with the old verion of moscows which happened to be half greys and half blacks at that time. After 2010 the full moscows were becoming more popular. Ever since 2014 a lot of people think that the full moscows are the only real moscows there are. Well, that's because they just don't know how the moscow started off. I've read those debates so often on forums on the internet. Nowadays, we call the former moscows half black or half grey and not moscow anymore. Well, maybe I'm still old school and that's why I'm still calling those half blacks and half greys moscow as well..If you're looking for a real full blue moscow female, be aware of it that she's the right one. Unfortunately, I've noticed that there are people who just put a half black female to a full moscow blue male. A real full moscow female has got only pigmentation in her fins. And sometimes a slight dark coloured saddle. This goes be same for full moscow black and full moscow green. Moscow red albinoThe full moscows come in a couple of body colours. One of them is the red version. And the one that got my interest is the albino version.This is a complete copy of the full red but with the significance of the eyes. Where the regular full red has black eyes, this version has got red eyes. Just like the regular version, this is a very attractive fancy guppy. These are born blonde and while aging the red will cover the body in total with the males. When it comes to the females, more pink till red will show up on the body. Still a good deal of the body will remain blonde. Also the dorsal of the females is a bit extended.Females of the regular full reds are more blonde than of the albinos. That's a specific difference between these two versions. An average gestation will take about 4 weeks and a brood will count between 20 - 50 fry.Also with this albino, it has to be mentioned that they are more sensitive in comparison to the regular full reds. Leopard delta metalheadI've acquired a small group of delta leopard metalhead guppies from my friend Kees de Jong. The ones I've started with were quite young. It took a while before the tail of the male grew out as a real delta tail. The females show some pattern in their dorsal and caudal. But their bodies are plain grey. The ones of my stock have beautiful fern build. Which is also preferable when developing a big tail (referring to the males). A more slender body in combination with a large tail, will cause a bent body at some point. For the tail is to heavy and it will cost such a guppy to move forward a lot of energy. Mostly this will end in a short lifespan. Fortunately, mine are more fern which is a good thing regrading the head of the fish. Albino koi guppy (Kohaku)Also a very interesting fancy guppy is the albino koi guppy. This strain has been created in Japan. Although, they already existed for much longer, I just saw them for the first time for real back in 2014 at one of the livebearer shows I've participated. Before that I just knew them from pictures. The albino koi guppy which I'm keeping and breeding concerns a kohako version (bicolor) and is blonde based. Although I haven't found out what the real origin (when it comes to genetics) of this strain happens to be, it does relate to the full red strain. The male does show a red pattern all over his body. Especially the upper part (saddleback, shoulder and head is red covered. The chest and the lower backside will show blonde. Of course, an ideal male would be having a blonde body with just red fins and a lipstick marking on the nose. And maybe just a slight red marking on the saddle. Unlike the full red guppy, the gonopodium won't show any red coloration.The females show a lot less red markings on their bodies. Very characteristic with females is the red nose. Such a marking on the nose or lips is called kuchibeni (which means lipstick in japanese just like they name koi with such a marking). And most females won't show any red dorsals but translucent ones or white.I do prefer this strain in comparison to the king koi guppy. The king koi guppy known for its lionhead doesn't appeal to me. King koi guppies are also known as "Ranchu guppies" and "Lion head guppies". With a goldfish such a head would be okay because of the way the body's build. But a slender fish like a guppy, such a deformity doesn't do a guppy any justice in my opinion. But that's a matter of personal preference.Above: A female king koi guppy. This tumorous (the hump on the head is in fact a tumor) variety also comes in other color varieties (picture taken by Tarzan78, member of Aquatic quotient forum).Tuxedo red koi guppyThe Tuxedo red koi guppy is a color variety of the regular Tuxedo red guppy. Only difference is the red nose or lipstick marking (kuchibeni). One other typical issue is that the coloration of the female's dorsal isn't always till red but can be partially red or white-bluish.In comparison to the albino koi guppy, the tuxedo red koi has got more contrast. The intensity of the dark bodied parts goes from dark grey to blue till black.And putting them in daylight, you'll be able to see a lot of blue shimmer... Even on the caudal penducle. Platinum koi guppy Another variety of the koi guppy is the platinum koi guppy. They come in grey and blonde based. In comparison to albino koi and tuxedo red koi, the males do have better red or orange coloration in their fins in comparison to the females. Especially the coloration of the caudal fin of the females may differ per individual.It's a very interesting variety because of the platinum body of the male. But also the pattern and coloration of each male specimen does differ no matter grey or blonde based. Above: A trio of grey based platinum koi guppies. Below: A blonde based male platinum koi guppy. Platinum white roundtailEver since the November 2016 I've started to focus on keeping and breeding platinum white roundtail guppies (also known as Snow White guppies). These blonde based guppies are mostly bred as being largetailed versions. But in general I do prefer shorttailed guppies. And so I've decided to focus on roundtail whites. Depending on the light used in a tank, they can show a bluish shimmer as well. The tip of the nose of the male will keep the blonde color. In some way, I'm not able to get that part covered in white as well. Nevertheless, it remains a stunning fancy guppy. In comparison to the delta tail platinum white guppies, the dorsal of this strain is kept shorter. Could be that in time that I'll be aiming on a somewhat extended dorsal. In general most males are roundtails but from time to time also some spadetails do occur. It's remarkable that there are two types of females within this strain. There's a total blonde bodied one with translucent finnage. And there are females that are blonde bodied bith white finnageIt's seriously one of the more challenging strains I keep. My goal is to manage to make real male red will whites out from them. For it will almost always be that there will be males that don't have a white nose.Yellow taxi glass belly Like all glass belly guppies, also these are translucent around the belly area for they are lacking pigmentation of the abdomen. Which means also that the pregnancy development can be followed optimally. This albino version does lack black pigment by all means.But besides a possible pregnancy also the internals like a clon can be seen through the skin (last mentioned goes for both genders of course).My own opinion is that they're not so prolific as most fancy guppies. But maybe that's something that just happens at my own place. Maybe soemwhere else they might be a bit more reproductive... In general most males of this strain are delatatailed males. But from time to time also swallow and ribbon males do occur like the male shown above.Japan blue lyretailJapan blue lyretails are as magnificent as their shorttailed relatives. The males can have doubleswords, a bottomsword or a topsword. The variation of the sword colour can range from blue, black, white, red or orange.Also the length or the width of the sword(s) can differ. Below a male with a short bottomsword is shown.But also endler influences are used with japan blue guppies like the picture below shows. The black bar is typical an influence coming from an endler bloodline.In 2015 one of my own japan blue lyretail (blue fin) entries for the Livebearer and Killifish Convention in Asperen (the Netherlands) won the third position (category fancy guppies).An entry of my japan blue lyretail (blue fins) at the international endler championship 2013 in Berlin (Germany) wasn't qualified being top 3 but it was being published in the International Guppy Fachjournal January 2014 as being a japan blue wingei variety.. Snakeskin (cobra) sharktailAs the name already suggests, this guppy strain has got cobra pattern on its body and atailshape of a shark's tail. To me this variety of a cobra fancy guppy is much more fascinating than a delta tailed one. But this is a personal preference of course...This strain is very prolific and for sure fast growers. Further on, they're quite hardy. The dot on both sides of the chest is a specific mark to this strain. Panda guppyAlthough panda guppies were already known for a longer period of time, they just became more popular back in 2012. Way before that period I only had the opportunity to purchase males and no females. A bit hard to breed the line without the right females. Fortunately, after a few years also females of this fancy strains were at hand. One of the reasons why I've started keeping them again. Another reason is the size of the males. I'm really fond of smaller guppies (btw, females tend to get the same size as a regular female guppy).Although, the name "panda" seems very logical because of the "black&white" combination, there are sufficient males which are almost fully black covered.The influence of pink and moscow is also noticeable when the male is younger before the black markings have fully coloured up. And also with most females there's a slight pink noticeable at the rear part of the body. And as the picture above shows, also somewhat pink on the head (not all females show this pink on the head). It's also the pink gene that will keep the body length short. But there's also a bigger version of the panda guppy. But that strain doesn't carry the pink gene. And the females of the bigger panda guppies are grey based with dark till black fins and saddle.And of course, the males of the bigger panda guppies are also grey based instead of pink.It's a genuine guppy and no endler hybrid! The commercial trade has called them "endlers" ever since that the endler hype is going on. Before the endler hype they were correctly labeled as being guppies. And again, it's the pink gene that keeps the body short...Most males also tend to have a blue shine on their body when light reflects on them. They're easy breeders once they're comfortable in their environment. Lutino pandaA panda variety which seems to be a bit more vulnerable is the socalled lutino panda. This variety is lacking melanophores and shows on a blonde or white body a white coloration. Also some dark pink and/or a bluish shine may appear in the fins and/or caudal penducle. Despite of the fact that this strain has been launched on the market as being lutino, it doesn't match the genetics. Besides pink, there's also blue in it. In my opinion naming it opal albino panda, would be a better choice. This would also match the intensity of the red eyes.Like most albinos and lutinos, these pandas are more vulnerable to fungus and other infectious diseases. But despite of the vulnerability, it's really worthwhile to keep this strain.Above: Two adult females. The left one is a white bodied female in comparison to the blonde bodied female (right).Below: Two adult males and an adult female.The first ones I've kept was back in 2016. Platinum panda blondeAnother panda variety is the socalled platinum panda blonde. This is a blond bodied species where only the males will show further coloration. The male shows black colored fins and a white platinum coloration which covers the blonde body.Males tend not to color up at the same pace. Some males do show already black fins as being fry. And most males will show color once they're juveniles. The males can show some green and/or blue on the caudal penducle. Below: A couple of blonde platinum pandas.Above: Males of different ages. The typical scale netpattern on top of a pink guppy female is also shown on these blonde females. Which shows as well that the pink gene is actually present.This variety has proven to be very prolific. Vienna emerald doublesword Vienna emerald guppies have their foundation decades back in old Vienna, Austria. Starting off as dalta guppies. Afterwards, swordtail varieties became more popular because of the body pattern became more prominent. For there was hardly pattern in the caudal with swordtail varieties. With the deltas, the pattern in their caudal happened to be so prominent, that the pattern on the body became less noticeable. Personally, I do prefer swordtail varieties instead of deltas. One of the typical traits of Vienna emerald guppies is the socalled meander pattern. Typically, present on both flanks or chest. This pattern looks like a joint pattern of waved lines. And yes, the other typical trait is the green on the caudal penducle. So, the name Vienna emerald is derived from to the location of origin and the green caudal penducle. Another trait is the peacock mark. This mark can be visible on the chest, shoulder, flanks or caudal penducle. That differs per male. But on blonde based ones, the peacock doesn't always shine through clearly. And with the socalled blonde based "bunt" (German for variegated) varieties, the peacock is mostly left out.The Vienna emerald guppy is one of my favorite (and in my opinion the most beautiful guppy) fancy guppies there is. Vienna emerald lowersword blonde In 2014 I've started keeping these blonde lowerswords after I've purchased a group from Frank Schenk (Fisch und Heim, Voerde in Germany)It took a reasonable period of time before they were reproducing themselves but after a couple of months, they started dropping fry. They do like clean water and a more frequent water change is preferable. They're really stunning fancies with a metallic shine all over the body. Features of yellow, green, orange or even red markings are present. Just like the lowersword als the dorsal is extended and with the yellow colour on the dorsal also some spots are shown.A true jewel indeed...Vienna emerald doublesword blonde The blonde doublesword version is almost the same as the lowersword variety. But mine are more golden. Overhere a couple of pictures of them.These doubleswords come in short swords and elongated swords. These blondes are the bunt variety. Filigree doublesword blondeDuring fall 2016 I've started keeping this strain. It's a remarkable stunning and doublesword guppy. For it also shows somewhat pink and a bluish shimmer. Pink is mostly present in the male's dorsal, two swords and the top of the body. Some females have clear fins and others have some slight bluish markings in both dorsal and caudal fin. And some pinkish on the female's saddle is present.They're quite hardy fish to keep and for sure prolific. Ritz lace DSAnother creation of japanese breeder Kenjiro Tanaka is the ritz lace guppy. This is a doublesword fancy guppy available as being gray or blonde based. The gray based version is also called Ritz green lace DS because of the green shimmer on its body; depending how the light is shining upon the fish.This strain seems very prolific and quite hardy. So, in general a very easy kind of guppy. In general I do keep both grays and blondes joined in one tank. This to keep the pattern wellbalanced on those blondes. Same thing with the ginga rubras.It's a very interesting kind of guppy when you look at coloration on the male's body with the metallic shine. Also the filigree pattern in both dorsal and caudal fin makes it a stunning fish. Big ear / Dumbo guppy / Elephant earWell, there are more names for this kind of guppy. It refers to their big pectoral fins. All dumbbo guppies carry the kalymma gene which is responsible for the large pectoral fins. Mostly those pectoral fins will be black but can have other colors as well. Even translucent. There are many color varieties. I've kept some of these guppies and they can be very colorful. At least they'll show a beautiful contrast.Saw the first specimens live when I was meeting up with David Teng from Singapore at the Marriot Hotel in Amsterdam back in spring 2014. Before I just knew them from videos and pictures.I won't describe them but show some overhere which I've kept. Below: A female dumbbo guppy.Above: A beautiful multi-colored platinum dumbbo male. Below: HB goldA cross between half black (grey based) guppies and gold guppies resulted in this HB gold guppy. At this point (2016) I've noticed that it seems still rare in Western-Europe (which will probably change within the coming year). For I had the impression that a similar specimen was already available for a reasonable time.Sometimes a regular half black still develops within this group. That will probably become less after a couple of generations.The tailshape per individual male does differ from a small delta till roundtail...

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