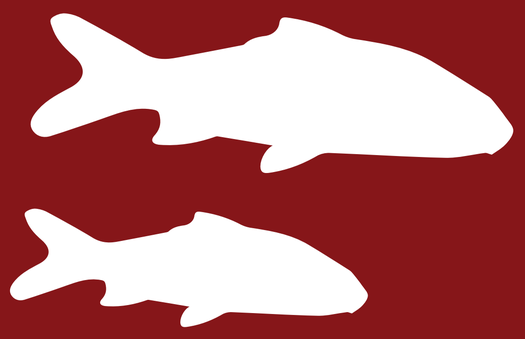


OTOCINCLUS

Otocinclus sp.

FLUVAL

Otocinclus are great additions to planted tanks. Most of the world's best aquascapers employ these tireless algae-eaters in their aquariums to help combat algae growth.

SKILL LEVEL

Moderate

Relatively hardy, but somewhat delicate when first imported. A thorough quarantine period is recommended. Needs a special diet.

DIET

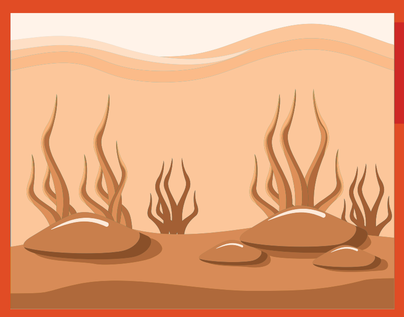
Herbivore

Feeds on algae and various micro-organisms, and will accept a variety of sinking pellets, tablets and other dried foods. Supplement its diet with cucumber, zucchini, and blanched spinach.

DISTRIBUTION

South America

Amazon, Orinoco, Paraná/Paraguay, Xingu and Tocantins River basins.



MIN. AQUARIUM SIZE

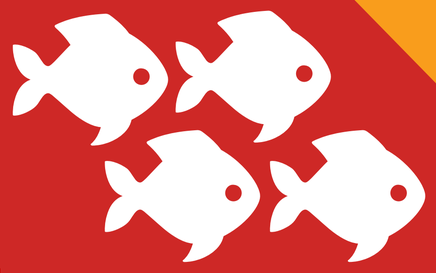
10 US Gal / 40 L

Best kept in planted aquariums with rocks and wood to provide cover. Lighting should be strong to encourage algae growth.

BEHAVIOR

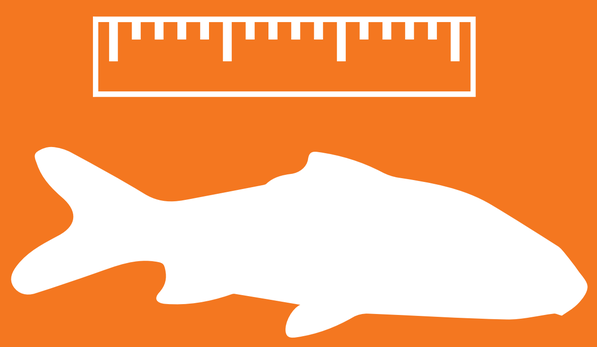
Peaceful

Timid - prefers a densely planted aquarium with an abundance of refuges. If comfortable, will spend its day grazing surfaces in the aquarium for algae.



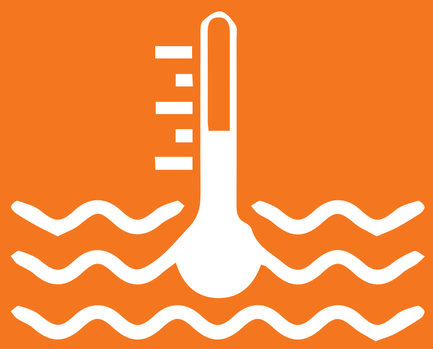
COMPATIBILITY

A social species, Otocinclus are best kept in groups. Ideal tankmates include small species of characins and anabantoids that are unlikely to bother them.



MAX LENGTH

2" / 5 cm



WATER

Temp: 74-80°F / 23-27°C
pH: 6.0-7.5
Hardness: 1-12 dH