Archerfish



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Description

The Archerfish is one of the most fascinating species in the aquarium world, known for its ability to shoot jets of water to knock down insects and prey from above the surface. They are peaceful but should be kept with similarly sized tank mates. These fish are surface feeders and do best with a diet of floating pellets or floating sticks, live insects, and frozen foods like bloodworms or brine shrimp. A secure tank lid is essential, as they may jump. Typically found in brackish mangrove estuaries. The archerfish (spinner fish or archer fish) form a monotypic family, Toxotidae, of fishknown for their habit of preying on land-based insects and other small animals by shooting them down with water droplets from their specialized mouths. The family is small, consisting of seven species in a single genus Toxotes.

The Archerfish is also known as the Banded Archerfish and comes from small rivers and streams across Asia. It has a triangular shaped body that is primarily silver in color.

Archerfish are remarkably accurate in their shooting; an adult fish almost always hits the target on the first shot. They can bring down insects and other prey up to 3 m (10 ft) above the water's surface.This is partially due to their good eyesight, but also to their ability to compensate for the refraction of light as it passes through the air-water interface when aiming at their prey. They typically spit at prey at a mean angle of about 74° from the horizontal but can still aim accurately when spitting at angles between 45 degrees and 110 degrees.

Product Gallery







