

A Guide to Goldfish Resources

Finding information on goldfish has never been easier, but with so many places to go for information, getting good, accurate results often seems difficult. The following article will attempt to develop a listing of places to go to get authoritative information on goldfish.

1. Magazines and periodicals:

- a. The *Goldfish Report*, produced by the goldfish Society of America. *The Goldfish Report* is published bi-monthly by the Goldfish Society of America. It is included in the cost of membership, which is \$25 per year for U.S. residents, \$30 for Canada and Mexico and other countries. An optional \$10 email membership is also available. *The Goldfish Report* is the only publication in the U.S. which features goldfish-only articles. The quality of the material submitted is good and the pictures first-rate.
- b. *Water Gardening Magazine*, published by Greg and Sue Speichert. This magazine is devoted to water gardening, and contains a monthly column on goldfish by Hanson Han-Shek Man, who is the author of *Goldfish in Hong Kong* (see below). Hanson is one of the foremost authorities on goldfish, and his columns are entertaining and knowledgeable. In addition to Hanson's column, there is a monthly column on koi, written by Bob Brudd, which is equally informative and entertaining. The combination of the goldfish and koi articles, along with the pond and plant tips that can be gained from this magazine make it a highly recommended addition to your library.
- c. *Aquarium Fish Magazine* – This magazine has a section on Ponds and Pond Fish which is edited by Stephen Meyer. Stephen also writes a number of articles on goldfish and koi, all of which are well researched and well written. This is a good resource for general pond and goldfish information.
- d. *Tropical Fish Hobbyist* – This is the original monthly journal for the tropical fish industry, and the leading publisher of fish-related books. The magazine has occasional articles on goldfish and ponds, and the quality of the articles is very good. The managing editor, David Boruchowitz, has written several books on koi keeping. This is a good reference for an occasional article on goldfish and pond keeping.

2. Books

- a. *Goldfish, a Complete Introduction*, Robert Mertlich, 1987, TFH Publications. Robert Mertlich was Chairman of the Goldfish

- Society of America for many years, and wrote this introductory book to goldfish care and keeping. Although written as an introductory volume, this book contains information that is useful to any level hobbyist. This book is difficult to find in commercial bookstores, and online resources such as Amazon.com or Alibris should be consulted to obtain the book.
- b. *Goldfish Guide*, Dr. Yoshiichi and Herbert Axelrod, 1991, TFH Publications. If you can afford to get only one or two books about goldfish, then this is the one that you should buy. It contains a wealth of information on goldfish, as well as some excellent photographs. This book may also be difficult to find in commercial bookstores, and is easier to find online.
 - c. *Goldfish in Hong Kong*, Hanson Han-Shek Man, 1993, Urban Council of Hong Kong. When this book was first made available in the U.S., it caused quite a stir, due to the beautifully photographed pictures of goldfish. The pictures are breathtaking, but please don't skip the writing, since the book contains a great deal of very useful information on goldfish. This is also one of the books that should be purchased if you are on a limited budget. The work is more remarkable when you consider that Hanson wrote the book, took the photographs, and had the book published – quite an achievement!
 - d. *Chinese Goldfish*, Li Zhen, 1990, Tetra Press. Another beautifully photographed book, with excellent commentary by Li Zhen. This book highlights goldfish raising methods in China, and has a good section on the development of goldfish varieties – highly recommended.
 - e. *Chinese Goldfish*, 1987. This book in Chinese with English subtitles in some places. Unfortunately, I can't read Chinese, so I can't supply the name of the author or publishing house. This is primarily a picture book, and what pictures it contains! Perhaps no other book portrays the Chinese fascination with creating new varieties better than this book. If it can be imagined, the Chinese can make a goldfish to bring it to life.
 - f. *Goldfish Breeding and Genetics*, Joseph Smartt and James H. Bundell, 1996, TFH Publications. The definitive book on goldfish breeding by a leading authority on genetics. This book might seem to be too technical for the average goldfish hobbyist, but only a small percentage of the book is devoted exclusively to genetics. The majority of the book deals with goldfish varieties, management, etc. Many TFH books tend to reuse the same pictures, but this book uses new photo stock that is quite good.
 - g. *Fancy Goldfish, a Complete Guide to Care and Collecting*, Dr. Eric Johnson, DVM and Richard Hess, photos by Fred Rosenzweig, 2001, Weatherhill. Dr. Johnson, Richard Hess and Fred Rosenzweig combine their talents to produce a very good book on goldfish collecting, diseases, and photography. Along

with *The Goldfish Guide*, and *Goldfish in Hong Kong*, this book should form the basis of your goldfish library.

- h. *Goldfish Varieties and Water Gardens*, William T. Innes, 1947, Innes Publishing Company. This book is one of a number of similarly titled books on goldfish by William T. Innes. The first authoritative guide to goldfish published in the U.S. The book combines excellent advice with line art drawings and photographs of goldfish. While many years have gone by since this book was written, the advice is still sound. This book, along with others bearing similar titles has been out of print for several years. Alibris and Amazon should be consulted for copies of the book.

3. Online Resources

There are so many online resources that it's difficult to list them all. Each of the magazines listed above have their own web sites, which can be found by most search engines. In addition, they are listed below:

GFSA - www.goldfishsociety.org

Water Gardening Magazine - <http://www.watergarten.com/>

Aquarium Fish Magazine - <http://www.aquariumfish.com>

TFH - <http://www.tfhmagazine.com>

Goldfish-specific sites are listed below, and are based on sites that I personally visit. Of course, there are many more sites than can be listed here, so crank-up your favorite search engine, and look-up goldfish related sites.

Vermillion Goldfish Club - <http://geocities.com/greenngoldsg/index.html>

Goldfish Links - <http://www.goldfishlinks.com/>

Canadian Goldfish Society - <http://www.canadiangoldfish.com/>

Dandy Orandas - <http://home.columbus.rr.com/dandyorandas/>

Fish Corner (Gunn) - <http://www.fish-corner.com/>

Glimmering Goldfish - <http://www.goldfishinfo.com/>

Koko's Goldfish World - <http://www.kokogoldfish.com>

Russell Taylor - <http://www.geocities.com/rwt/>