

The BIG Problem

Many people in the UK enjoy keeping fish at home. Advances in both knowledge and technology mean that more species than ever are being imported and sold as pet fish.

Over recent years this has led to an increase in the number of people asking public aquariums to re-home their fish.

The reason being, their fish had grown too BIG for their tank. In most cases people were not aware how large their fish could get!

Through this campaign we hope to make people more aware of potential problems and how to avoid them!

The logo for 'BIGFISH' is displayed in a bold, white, stylized font. The letters are thick and blocky, with a slightly irregular, hand-drawn appearance. The 'I' and 'S' have unique shapes, and the 'H' is particularly wide. The logo is set against a dark blue rectangular background.

The BIG Survey

A survey was recently conducted by renowned author Peter Burgess to discover which fish had become **BIG** problems.

From the results a Top Ten **BIG** Fish list was compiled, based on the fish most commonly offered to public aquariums.

The results showed that over 1,000 **BIG** fish outgrow their tanks every year.

Whilst the majority of these fish are freshwater, marine fish and sharks can also become **BIG** problems.



BIG FISH

The BIG Issue!

Unfortunately, public aquariums can very rarely help to re-house a **BIG** fish.

Although aquariums may seem to have plenty of space, the displays were designed specifically for the species and numbers that are already in them.

Introducing a pet fish into a public aquarium is subject to a number of issues including feeding limitations, adaptation to new environment and bullying.



BIGFISH

The logo features the word "BIGFISH" in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The letters are slightly shadowed and appear to be floating above a dark blue background. A white silhouette of a fish is integrated into the text, with its body forming the letter 'I' and its tail extending to the right, pointing towards the end of the word.

What can YOU do?

- Always do your research! Read hobbyist books and ask your retailer before buying.
- Never buy on impulse. If you don't know how big a fish is going to get check first.
- Think about the fishes requirements now and as it becomes a fully grown adult.
- Take note of the top ten '**BIG** problem fish' Do you really have room for one of these?
- Avoid **all** Shark species. Even the smallest shark requires more space than the average home tank can provide.

BIGFISH

True or False?

“A fish will only grow to the **size** of the **tank** it is kept in.”

FALSE!

A fish will grow to the size nature intended!

Fish kept in tanks that are too small die prematurely.

BIGFISH

MARINE BIGFISH

This **TOP TEN** illustrates some families of marine fish that are regarded as being too big for the average home aquarium.



Emperor Angelfish
(*Pomacanthus imperator*)

Up to 40cm
in length



Clown triggerfish
(*Balistoides conspicillum*)

Up to 50cm
in length



Porcupine puffer
(*Diodon histrix*)

Up to 65cm
in length



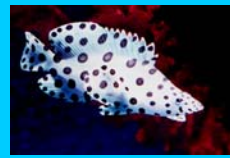
Snowflake moray
(*Echidna nebulosa*)

Up to 75cm
in length



Lionfish
(*Pterois sp.*)

Up to 40cm
in length



Panther grouper
(*Cromileptis altivelis*)

Up to 70cm
in length



Batfish
(*Platax orbicularis*)

Up to 50cm
in length



Golden trevally
(*Gnathanodon speciosus*)

Up to 120cm
in length



Lipstick tang
(*Naso lituratus*)

Up to 45cm
in length



Parrot fish
(*Scarus sp.*)

Up to 100cm
in length

Do you really have room ?

SHARKS

BIG FISH

Many popular shark species require a huge amount of swimming space, making them an unsuitable choice.



Marbled catshark
(*Atelomycterus macleayi*)

Up to 60cm
in length



Wobbegong
(*Orectolobus sp.*)

Up to 150cm
in length



Zebra shark
(*Stegostoma fasciatum*)

Up to 230cm
in length



Epaulette shark
(*Hemiscyllium ocellatum*)

Up to 110cm
in length



Bamboo shark
(*Chiloscyllium sp.*)

Up to 120cm
in length



**Bluespotted
Ribbontailed Ray**
(*Taeniura lymma*)

Up to 35cm
in width



Blue spot Ray
(*Dasyatis kuhlii*)

Up to 35cm
in width



Round stingray
(*Urobatis jamaicensis*)

Up to 76cm
in length



Electris Ray
(*Torpedo sp.*)

Up to 150cm
in length



Horn
(*Heterodontus sp.*)

Up to 100cm
in length

Please be responsible in your choices!

FRESHWATER BIG FISH

The **BIG FISH** survey revealed the **TOP TEN** freshwater fish that were frequently offered to public aquaria were:

1



Black Pacu
(*Piractus brachypomus*)

Over 1m
in length

2



Piranha
(*Pygocentrus nattereri*)

Up to 35cm
in length

3



**Pangasius
Catfish**
(*Pangasius sp.*)
Up to 3m
in length

4



Pleco
(*Hyostomus plecostomus*)

Up to 50cm
in length

5



Oscar
(*Astronotus ocellatus*)

Up to 35cm
in length

6



Giant Gourami
(*Osphronemus goramy*)

Up to 70cm
in length

7



Silvershark
(*Balantiocheilos
melanopterus*)

Up to 35cm
in length

8



Redtailed Catfish
(*Phractocephalus
hemiliopterus*)

Up to 135cm
in length

9



Silver Dollar
(*Metynnis hypsauchen*)

Up to 18cm
in length

10



Arowana
(*Osteoglossum bicirrhosum*)

Up to 120cm
in length

Do you really have the room ?