

American Goldfish Association



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Thoughts from a Goldfish Guru

Dave has been a frequent contributor of articles for various goldfish magazines over the years. Dave has successfully bred and raised many varieties of goldfish over the years, and has sent the following musings on goldfish peduncle structure.

Rarely mentioned when reviewing the quality of a particular goldfish is the peduncle. Yet the peduncle is an extremely important aspect of any goldfish variety. The strength and size of this part of a fish's anatomy influences both forward movement and the way the fish displays its caudal fins.

The importance of the peduncle first "registered" with me when I was a teenager in Illinois in the 60's. My best and only goldfish friend went to California and brought back a magnificent bluescale Fringetail, I believe from Dr. Cohen's strain. This was actually the best goldfish I have seen to this day. The fish had a huge Fringetail that was scalloped on the inner sides of the caudal lobes. Perfect shinny blue color, no green or brown spots, (no matter how sellers describe bluescales for sale these days, a bluescale with brown or green spots is an inferior fish). What made this particular fish so special was its strong peduncle resulting in its caudal fins being carried high like a flag behind its body, no drooping. This was one "flashy" fish.

So how strong should the peduncle be? Strong enough to contribute to great forward movement, especially important in Ranchu and Lionhead. And strong enough to display caudals to their full potential. Certainly most veils could benefit from a stronger peduncle. A fish can mirror its variety standard but unless it can swim and display its caudal "attributes", it can lose in a show to a fish that perhaps does not mirror the standard quite as well but shows better, again more "flashy".

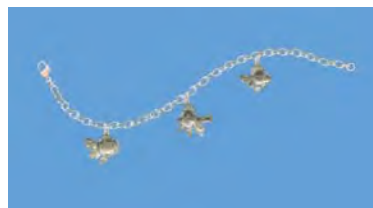
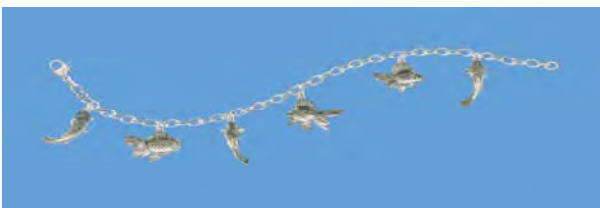
From a breeder's viewpoint, this is an extremely difficult area to improve, (veils prime example). So if you come up with a fish excelling in this characteristic, consider it as a future breeder even if it is not perfect in other ways.

And on a mostly unrelated tangent, we crossed that bluescale with our only other good fish, a Red-capped Oranda. Visions of bluescale Fringetail with great red caps danced in our naive eyes. And of course you guessed it, all offspring were orange with finnage not as good as the bluescale parent. Obviously orange is dominate. I guess if things were easy, the hobby would not be as interesting.

Dave Linnemayer

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North American Veiltail Presentation -

The North American Veiltail Association is one of two groups sanctioned by the AGA that has formed to deal with specific varieties of goldfish. The other group is the American Ranchu Society. The following presentation was presented in March by Peter Ponzio to group members.

The history of the Veiltail is somewhat controversial.

You see, some people think that Veiltails were developed in the Orient.

Some other people think that Veiltails were developed in the U.S.

So, what's the verdict?

Veiltails were:

- a. Either developed from a cross between Ryukin and a Fantail, and bred to remove the hump
- b. A cross between Ryukin and a Telescope, and bred to remove the hump and protuberant eyes
- c. Were a natural mutation from the Fantail
- d. Were a natural mutation from the Ryukin
- e. Were a natural mutation from a Telescope

If I had to take a guess, I'd say that Veiltails have Telescope and Ryukin bloodlines

I'd also guess that the variety known as the Veiltail is an American fish, but that "veil tails" were developed in the Orient

Here's my reasoning:

"Veil tails" are seen on many varieties of fish, including:

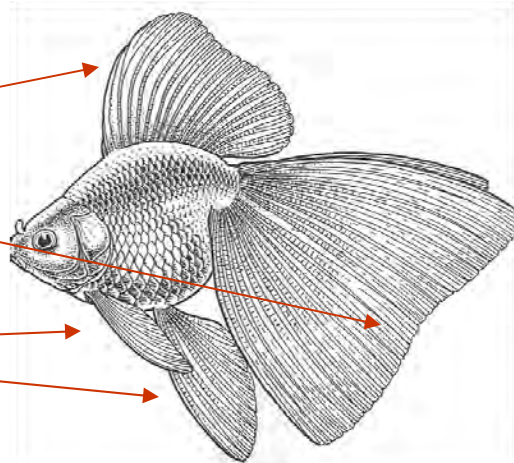
- Telescopes/Moors
- Oranda
- Ryukin
- Phoenix
- Long-finned Ranchu (although very infrequently)



North American Veiltail Presentation -

The Veiltail as a variety is a unique fish, which have unique characteristics.

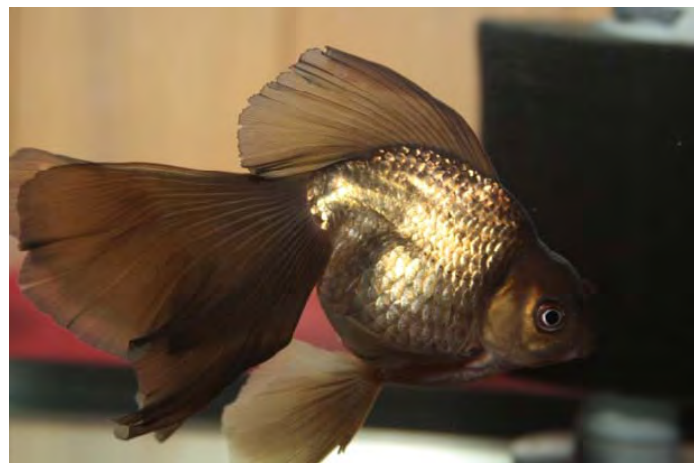
Here's a line drawing from Merlin Cunliffe, which illustrates an ideal Veiltail:



Note the high, rounded dorsal fin, and the squared-off tail fin

Note the length of the pectoral and ventral fins

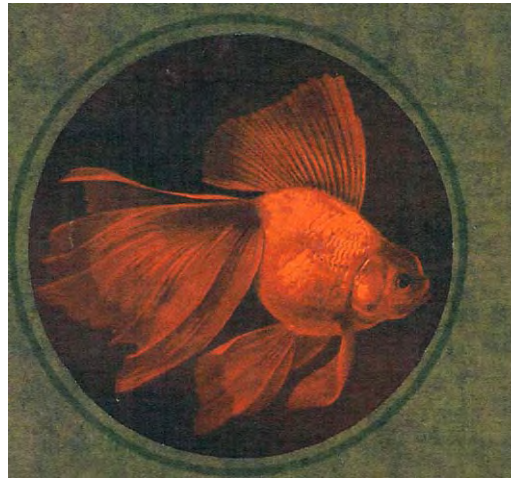
No other variety of goldfish have fins that are as distinct as these; not even the “veil tail” types that we see on Telescopes and Orandas





North American Veiltail Presentation -

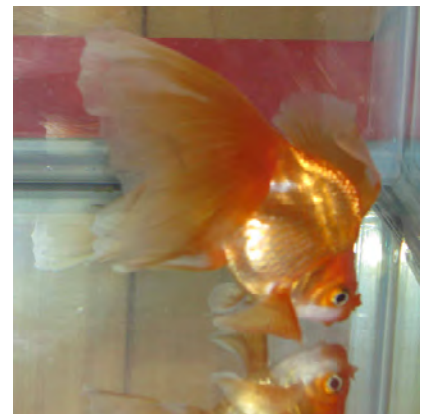
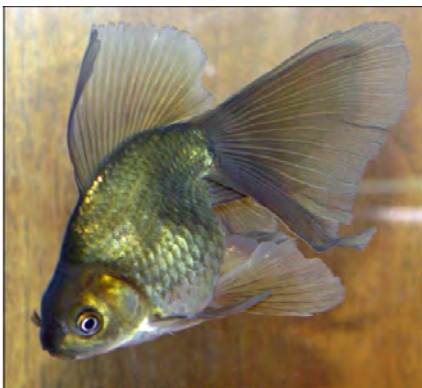
As this illustration from William Innes the U.S. at the turn of the century, and Veiltail is not an exaggeration. By the of the Philadelphia Veiltail Association, Goldfish Association, which led to the Okay, so what's next? How about a defini-known as the Veiltail? Here's the defini-issued in 2009: The Veiltail is a round anal, ventral and pectoral fins. The dorsal of the depth of the body and should be the caudal fin, which in the best speci-is often the length of the body to 2 times The distinguishing feature of this fish is flow around the fish as they swim, giving is gliding in the water. The body is like a ball, and be very compact.



points out, the Veiltail existed in Merlin's depiction of an "ideal" way, this fish was the "mascot" which became the Philadelphia GFSA, which led to the AGA. nition or standard for the variety tion from the AGA Standards bodied fish, and possesses paired fin is usually $\frac{3}{4}$ or more carried fully erect, and mens is completely straight, the length of the body. the finnage; the fins literally the impression that the fish round, and should look almost

Veiltails have a body size of 5 to 6 inches; the body shape should be round, with an arch to the back. The presence of a hump indicates that the fish is a cross between a Veiltail and a Ryukin. Since these crosses are neither a true Veiltail, nor a true Ryukin, they should be marked down when judging. Alternatively, Veiltail/Ryukin crosses can be entered in the "other" category in a fish show, where they can expect higher placement. So, from this definition, we can see several things:

1. The AGA definition takes into account the distinct variety of the Veiltail
2. The definition recognizes that crosses of Veiltails and Ryukin have occurred.
3. The AGA definition tacitly recognizes that fish with "veil tails" occur





North American Veiltail Presentation -

Well, what about these other fish you call “veil tails;” do you have pictures of these fish?



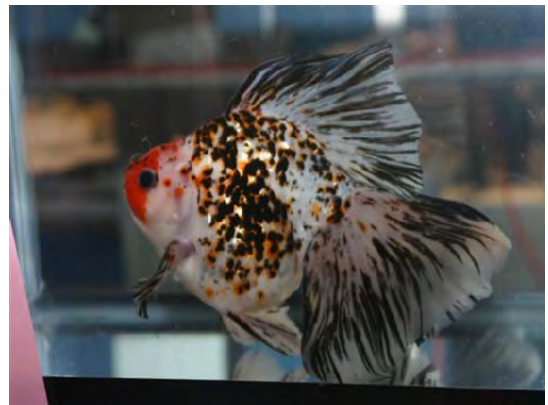
Wait a minute, these are “Petticoat Telescopes,” aren’t they? Yes, they are; unfortunately, naming goldfish is not a science. It’s more like a marketing exercise.



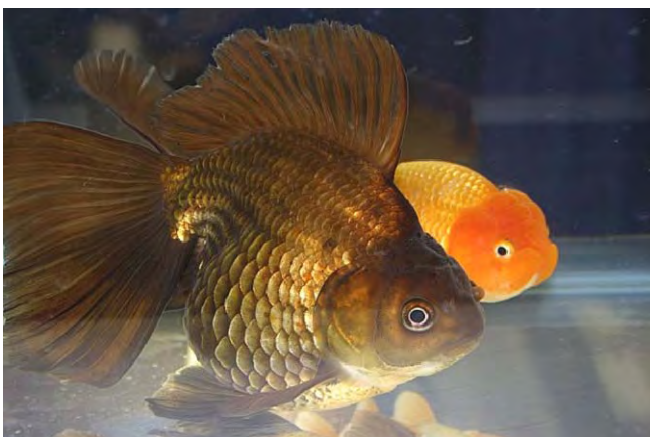


North American Veiltail Presentation -

Okay, so how about these Veiltail/Ryukin crosses that you were talking about? What are these?



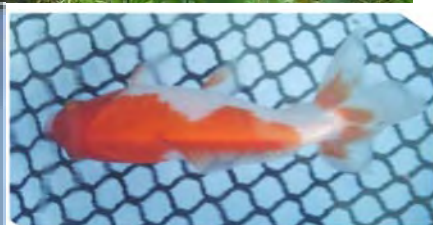
These fish have characteristics of both a Veiltail and a Ryukin (look at the hump on both the red and bronze fish)





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North American Veiltail Presentation -

This seems awfully confusing; what gives? It's not that bad. Really.

A Veiltail is a variety, probably developed in the U.S. at the turn of the century.

A "veil tail" (note the small letters and two words) refers to a fish with long, flowing fins, usually possessing an extremely tall dorsal fin and "square cut" tail fin.

The Veiltail variety can be judged by itself, but is usually grouped with the Ryukin/Fantail category in most shows.

Fish which exhibit "veil tail" characteristics are usually exhibited in the category for the underlying variety. For example, an Oranda with "veil tail" characteristics is shown in the Oranda category.

Are there exceptions to this rule?

Yes, in the case of a Veiltail/Ryukin cross.

These fish can be shown in the Ryukin/Fantail category or the "Other" category.

Where will the fish place higher?

Generally speaking, the fish will do better in the "Other" category, since there are so many competitive Ryukin exhibited in the U.S. (the Ryukin now the most popular show fish in the U.S.)



There is a rumor going around that there is a strain of Matte Red Veiltails that was developed several years ago. Is there any truth to this rumor?

It's not a rumor, but true. A line was developed in the U.K. by John Parker. John sent some to Al Foster, who maintained the line for years (I had some about twenty years ago – they were the most beautiful fish I've ever owned. Unfortunately, the fish died).

Sadly, both John and Al had the line fail. Dave Manley, aka the "Mad Scientist" is working on a line of Matte Red Veiltails. I am sworn to secrecy on his breeding techniques, but I've seen the prototypes and they are pretty amazing.

Speaking of Dave, there's also a rumor that he's working on single-tail Veiltails. Any truth to this rumor?

Grasshopper, grasshopper, never doubt the abilities of the "Mad Scientist." Oh yes, he has them, and he's almost ready to release them. There's only one problem—I have no idea what the hell we're going to call these things—as if the whole concept of Veiltails and "veil tails" wasn't complicated enough!



Goldfish on the Run

We are a major goldfish distributor in Southeastern, Pennsylvania. We have been in business for 22 years. We are very knowledgeable about our goldfish.

We have a large variety and carry many types for your selection. Our fish are imported from China, Japan, Hong Kong and Singapore.

Gold fish are Ornamental fish that are pets, they can be kept in a tank or pond. Some grow very large. Gold fish can grow to about 18" or about 10 lbs which is rare. Many fancy varieties are, Blackmoor, Bubble Eye, Calico, Fantail, Lionhead, Oranda, Pearlscale, Pom-pom, Ranchu, Ryukin, Telescope-Eye. Just to name a few.

Gold fish are popular in ponds. They are small and inexpensive, colorful and hardy. We want to provide you the best quality tropical fish.

My good friend Fred Rosenzweig was helping me design and create my tanks and ponds. He was a big part in introducing me to the right people.



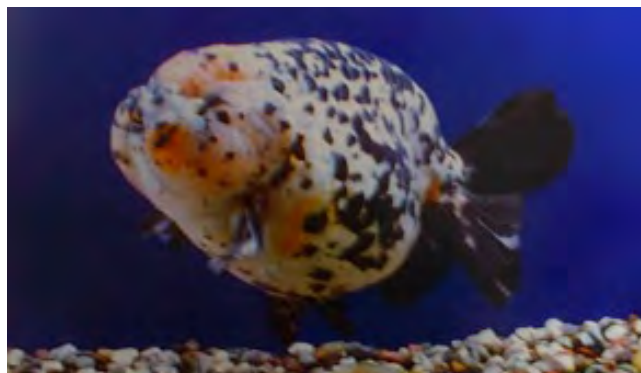
Original goldfish medallion, struck by the Philadelphia Aquarium Society



The Goldfish Connection is a proud sponsor of the American Goldfish Association, providing funding for shows, awards and educational opportunities to goldfish hobbyists. The Goldfish Connection updates and maintains one of the longest-running goldfish-specific sites on the web, located at: www.goldfishconnection.com.

We feature articles on goldfish care, maintenance, varieties, and our always-popular goldfish auction. We also offer a large selection of food (our Pro-Gold is one of the best-selling foods on the market), as well as medications, filters & accessories, books, test kits, pond supplies, UV sterilizers, and water conditioners.

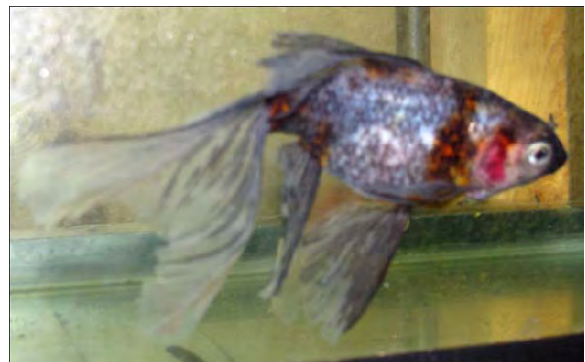
If you're serious about goldfish keeping, please visit us at: www.goldfishconnection.com.

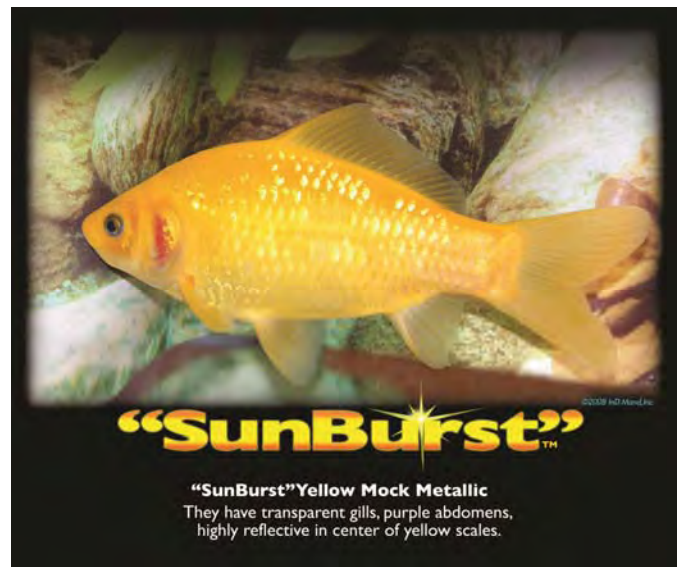




North American Veiltail Presentation -

Here are some examples of Dave's single tail "Veils"





Be the first in your area to own one of these beauties! Contact the Goldfish shop at www.thegoldfishshop.com



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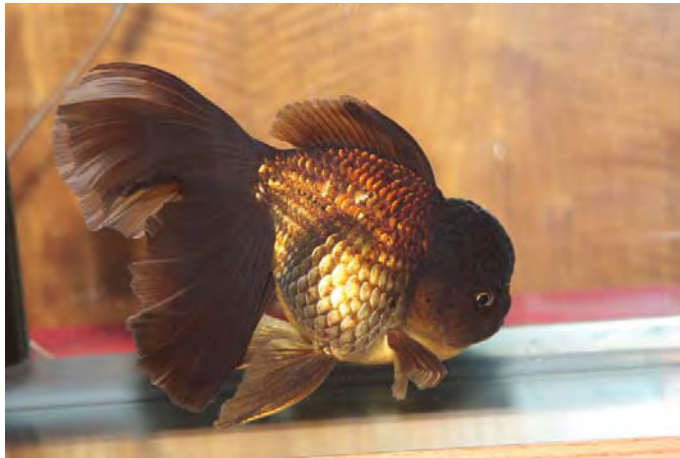
“Enjoy the art of keeping living jewels in a pond”





AGA Annual Fish of the Year—We Have a winner!

Each year, members of the AGA select the “Fish of the Year” from the Grand Champions of each show sanctioned by the AGA. Presented here are the fish that won the Grand Champion Award at fish shows held across the country in 2009. AGA members are entitled to vote for the fish they believe to be the best fish in the 2009 calendar year. Be sure to look for your ballot, which will be sent to you soon via email.



1st Place—Grand Champion, Northwest Koi & Goldfish club, owned by Lauren Griffith



2nd Place—Grand Champion, Midwest Pond & Koi Society, owned by Bay Bateman

Continued on page 16



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Contact Lisa Smith at 888-204-3273 or lisa@omegasea.net for discount pricing for AGA members



AGA Annual Fish of the Year



Third place—Grand Champion MAKC, owned by Art Lembke

Congratulations to everyone who participated in this contest, and to all those who entered goldfish in show in 2009. We hope you will attend one of our sanctioned shows in 2010.

2010 Goldfish Shows

Club Name	Location	Starting Date	Ending Date
Greater Louisville Koi & Goldfish Society	6806 Briscoe Lane, Louisville, KY	5/28/10	5/31/10
Hawaii Goldfish and Carp Association	Honolulu, Hawaii	6/11/10	6/13/10
Northern Midwest ZNA	Season's Gardens, Indianapolis, IN	6/18/10	6/20/10
New England Water Garden & Ornamental Fish Show	Mallory Arena, West Springfield, MA	6/26/10	6/27/10
Midwest Pond & Koi Society	Darien Sportsplex, Darien, IL	7/9/10	7/11/10
Northwest Koi & Goldfish Show - 30th Annual Show	World Forestry Center, Portland, OR	7/31/10	8/1/10
Atlanta Koi Club	Coastal Pond Supply, Atlanta, GA	9/17/10	9/19/10
MAKC Koi & Goldfish Show	Carroll County Ag Center, Westminster, MD	9/24/10	9/26/10



Best wishes to the American Goldfish Association !!!



8.5-9" Calico Ranchu



9" Longfin Broadtail Ryukiran



8.5" Red/White Broadtail

Dandy Orandas

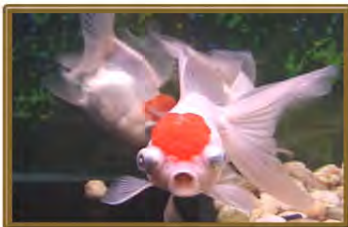
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All Dandy Orandas Goldfish undergo a full Quarantine of at least four weeks. This includes complete exams and microscopy of each fish. We do this to ensure that only the healthiest, strongest, disease-free fish are sold to our customers.

Dandy Orandas is the Only company to offer a virtual showroom of current fish on DVD video. The video allows you to view each fish from multiple angles. It also is better than a picture because you can see how well each fish swims, which is extremely important when selecting a true, quality Goldfish. The video allows you to choose the exact fish that you want.

DVDs are free. There is a \$5 charge for S&H. We also have a new online auction hosted by the Goldfishconnection. A new showroom of fish is posted every two weeks.

Pics are just a small sample of fish imported by Dandy Orandas.



8" DragonEye Redcap Oranda



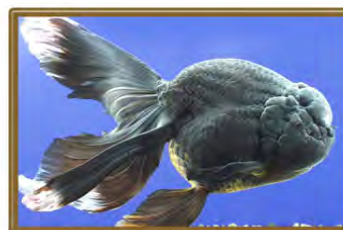
8.5" Chocolate Oranda



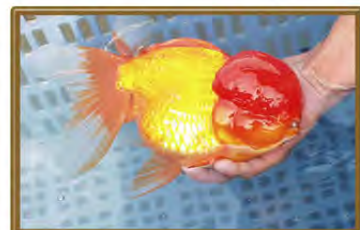
8" Red/White/Black Ryukin



7.5" Pure White Ryukin



10" Longtail Black Ranchu



10" Red Oranda

Call 614 252 0690, or visit dandyorandas.com for more info



AGA Membership—Pass it On!

American Goldfish Association
Membership Application

(Please Print)

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

E-mail address (required for newsletter): _____

Phone: _____

Club Affiliation (if applicable): _____

Years of goldfish experience: _____

Varieties raised or bred (check each variety separately):

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Common | <input type="checkbox"/> Pom Pom | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comet | <input type="checkbox"/> Ranchu | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shubunkin | <input type="checkbox"/> Lionhead | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fantail | <input type="checkbox"/> Bubble Eye | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ryukin | <input type="checkbox"/> Celestial | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pearl-Scale | <input type="checkbox"/> Telescope | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oranda | <input type="checkbox"/> Veiltail | |

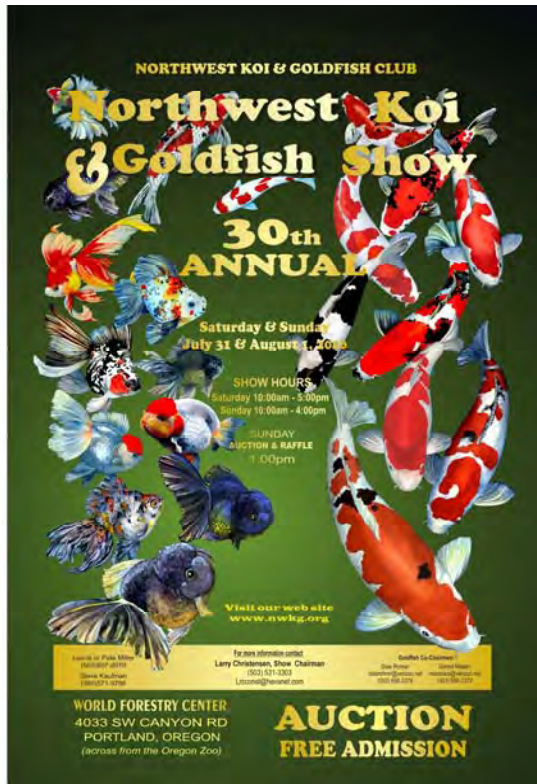
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