

JBL

Cichlids

correct feeding for
a good husbandry

Vorsprung
durch Forschung
Ahead through research
L'avancée par la recherche



www.JBL.de



Dear Cichlid-friend,

We have produced this brochure in order to make easier for you to give your cichlids the right food and care for this species. With about 2.000 varieties of cichlid, all types of eating habits are represented here: from plant-eaters to omnivorous species to pure predators. Giving the right food makes sense, as the wrong food will be excreted by the fish undigested (or partially digested). Incorrect feeding is proven to lead to increased water pollution. Clean (unpolluted) water free of ammonium/ammonia and nitrite is a basic requirement of successful aquarium-keeping – special water qualities are often only essential for breeding.

Wishing you continued pleasure from this fascinating group of fish!

Your JBL Research Team

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Feeding in a community aquarium

If predators and plant-eaters are kept together in one aquarium, the aquarium-keeper is faced with the question of which food to give. It is important that both types of food are taken into consideration. Observations made in Lake Malawi showed that the plant (aufwuchs) –eaters also like to eat fish protein! They devoured dead fish within seconds (see JBL Expedition South Africa/Malawi:

www.jbl.de). However, this was an exception to their normal diet. Care is only needed with some special types of food such as red mosquito larvae also Tubifex, which are not tolerated at all by some species (e.g. *Tropheus*) and can even lead to death!

Water values

Many Central American cichlid hardly place any high demands on special water conditions, except that ammonium and nitrite should not be measurable. The same species can often be found in widely varying types of water. In South America the water is often soft (GH/KH < 5 °) with acidic (5-6) to slightly acidic (6-6.9) pH-levels. Although this is not important for keeping these fish, it is often vital for breeding. For cichlids from the African Rift Valley lakes, Lake Malawi and Lake Tanganyika it is important to know that the carbonate hardness (KH) is higher in both of these lakes than the total hardness (GH), as the lakes are fed by soda springs which increase the KH but not the GH. Here the rule also applies: regular changes of water are more



helpful than “dabbling around with the water” to achieve a certain quality. Nevertheless, these cichlid also display brighter colours and a higher rate of offspring if the natural water quality is copied as closely as possible.



Recommended Food:
JBL Grana, JBL NovoGranoColor



Small predators under 10 cm Central and South America

Recommended water values:
KH 4-6 °, pH 6-7

Temp.:
25-28 °C

Recommended products:
Osmosis system
(to reduce water hardness)



JBL Tropol (for tropical water conditions)



JBL CO₂ system
(for pH 6-7)



Flag cichlid
(*Laetacara* species)



Nannacara anomala
(*Nannacara* species)



Dwarf cichlid
(*Apistogramma* species)



Ram cichlid
(*Microgeophagus ramirezi*)



Chessboard cichlid
(*Dicrossus filamentosus*)

Recommended Food:

JBL NovoGrand, JBL NovoStick M, JBL GranaDiscus, JBL GranaCichlid, JBL NovoFil



Medium-sized predators 10 – 20 cm

Central and South America



Discus



Demon earth-eater
(*Geophagus* species)



Keyhole cichlid
(*Cleithracara maronii*)



Thorichthys meeki



Flag cichlid
(*Mesonauta* species)



Archocentrus species



Aequidens species



Archocentrus multispinosus



Angelfish
(*Pterophyllum scalare*, -altum)



Recommended Food:
JBL NovoStick XL, JBL NovoTab



Large predators 20-40 cm Central and South America

Recommended water values:
KH 5-10 °, pH 6-7,5

Temp.:
25-26 °C

JBL Tropol (for tropical water conditions)



JBL CO₂ system
(for pH 6-7)



Oscar
(Astronotus species)



Crenicichla species



Uaru
(Uaru amphiacanthoides)



Large Vieja species



Herichthys carpintis



Recommended Food:

JBL NovoColor, JBL GranaCichlid, JBL NovoTanganjika



West and Central Africa Africa



Victoria mouth brooder
(Haplochromis species)



Red cichlid
(Hemichromis species)



Tilapia species
(omnivorous and herbivorous)



Purple cichlid
(Pelvicachromis species)



Emerald cichlid
(Pelvicachromis taeniatus)



Lionhead cichlid
(Steatocranus casuarius)



Steatocranus tinanti



Teleogramma brichardi

Recommended water values:
KH 4-6 °, pH 6-7,5

Temp.:
25-26 °C

Recommended products:
Osmosis system
(to reduce water hardness)



JBL Tropol (for tropical water conditions)



JBL CO₂ system
(for pH 6-7)





Recommended Food:
JBL NovoTanganjika, JBL NovoTab



Predators

East Africa - Lake Tanganyika

Recommended water values:
KH 8-20 °, pH 7,5-9

Temp.:
24-26 °C

Recommended products:
JBL AquaDur Malawi/
Tanganjika

(for the correct water hardness:
KH higher than GH)



JBL pH-Plus
(to increase the pH level)



Julidochromis marlieri



Fairy cichlid
(Neolamprologus brichardi)



Spotfin goby cichlid
(Tanganicodus irsacae)



Neolamprologus similis



Telmatochromis bifrenatus



Tanganyika humphead cichlid
(*Cyphotilapia frontosa*)



Ophthalmotilapia species



Triglachromis otostigma



Paracyprichromis species



Recommended Food:

JBL Spirulina, JBL NovoMalawi, JBL NovoRift, JBL NovoFect



Grazing Cichlids East Africa - Lake Tanganyika

Recommended water values:
KH 8-20 °, pH 7,5-9

Temp.:
24-26 °C

Recommended products:
JBL AquaDur Malawi/
Tanganjika

(for the correct water hardness:
KH higher than GH)



JBL pH-Plus
(to increase the pH level)



Tropheus species /
coloured varieties



White-spotted blunthead cichlid, juvenile
(*Tropheus duboisi*)



White-spotted blunthead cichlid, adult
(*Tropheus duboisi*)



Tropheus species

The largest exporter of Malawi fish puts his trust in JBL food!

Stuart Grant's († 2007) fish station has the longest tradition and is the largest on the whole of Lake Malawi. From here the famous cichlid are sent throughout the world. The JBL Team met Stuart Grant and his team during the 2006 JBL Expedition and left some food samples, which had been taken along for underwater feeding trials, with the fish-catchers at the station. The station's fish-keepers were so impressed that, despite the cost of the airfreight from distant Germany, they now feed their fish with JBL food until they are transported. The JBL food range came out top in every comparison with other types of

food which have been tried in the past. Since changing to JBL, the improved resistance of the cichlids has reduced losses in transport!





Recommended Food:

JBL NovoTanganjika, JBL NovoTab, JBL NovoStick M



Predators

East Africa - Lake Malawi

Recommended water values:
KH 5-15 °, pH 7,5-8,5

Temp.:
24-26 °C

Recommended products:
JBL AquaDur Malawi/
Tanganjika

(for the correct water hardness:
KH higher than GH)



JBL pH-Plus
(to increase the pH level)



Kaiserfish
(Aulonocara species)



Kaiserfish
(Aulonocara species)



Humphead
(Cyrtocara moorii)



Nimbochromis linni



Fuscotaeniatus
(Nimbochromis fuscotaeniatus)



Electric blue
(Scianochromis fryeri)



Placidochromis electra



Venustus
(Nimbochromis venustus)



Malawi eyebiter
(Dimidiochromis compressiceps)



Copadichromis species



Labidochromis spec. "yellow"



Nimbochromis livingstonii





Recommended Food:

JBL NovoMalawi, JBL Spirulina, JBL NovoRift, JBL NovoFect



Grazing cichlids

East Africa - Lake Malawi

Recommended water values:
 KH 5-15 °, pH 7,5-8,5
Temp.:
 24-26 °C

Recommended products:
 JBL AquaDur Malawi/
 Tanganjika

(for the correct water hardness:
 KH higher than GH)



JBL pH-Plus
 (to increase the pH level)



Blue mbuna
 (Labeotropheus species)



Pseudotropheus lombardoi
 (all Pseudotropheus species)



Malawi zebra mbuna
 (Maylandiaspecies)



Golden mbuna
 (Melanochromis auratus and related species)



Petrotilapia species



Elongate mbuna
 (Pseudotropheus elongatus)

Recommended Food:

JBL NovoStick M, JBL NovoStickXL, JBL NovoGranoColor



Predators/Omnivores

Asia & Bred varieties



Etroplus suratensis

Recommended water values:

KH 4-8 °, pH 6-7,5

Temp.:

24-28 °C

Recommended products:

Osmosis system

(to reduce water hardness)



JBL Tropol (for tropical water conditions)



JBL CO₂ system

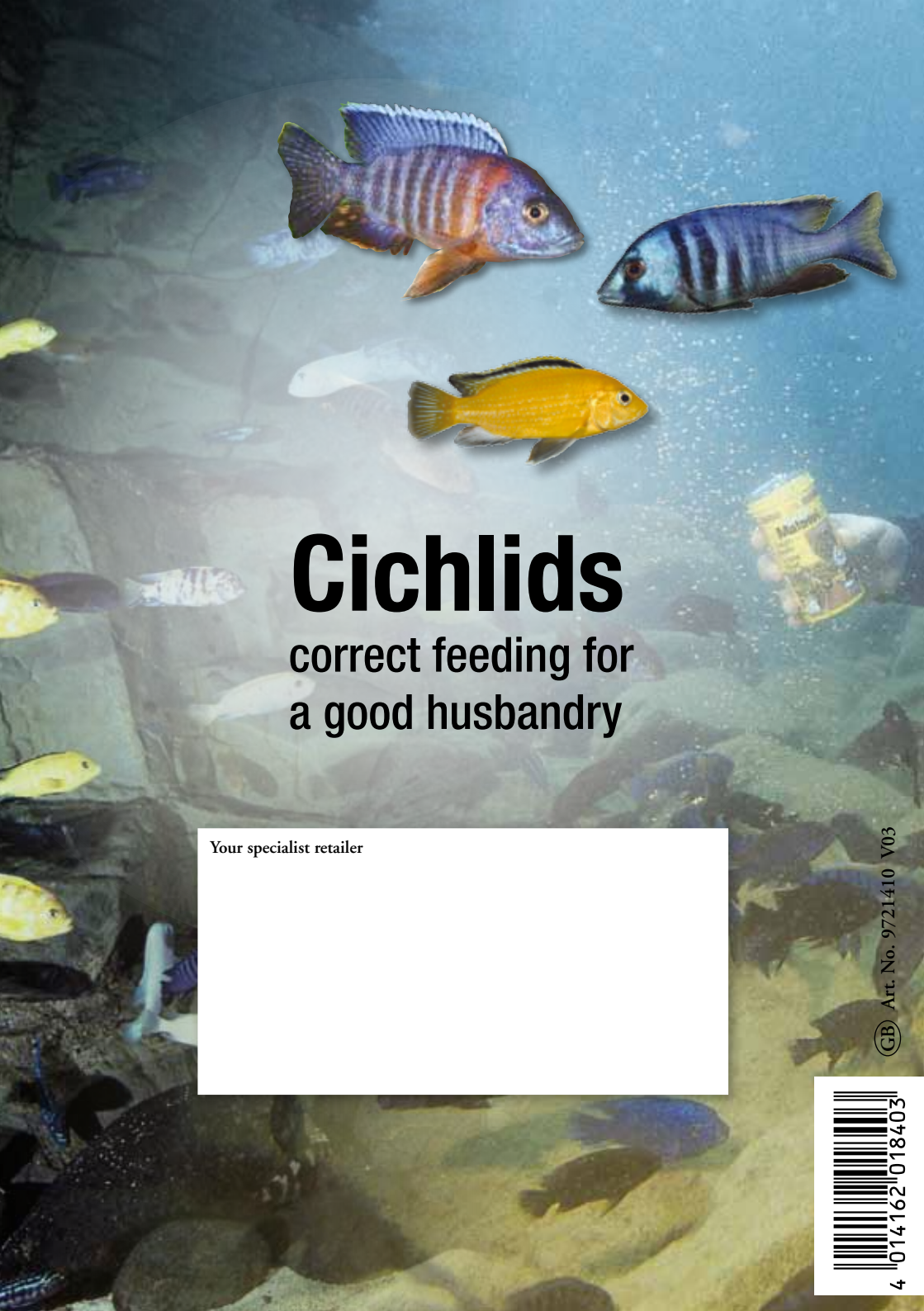
(for pH 6-7,5)



Etroplus maculatus



Flowerhorn cichlid
(bred variety)



Cichlids

correct feeding for
a good husbandry

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