



## Angelfish ( *Pterophyllum scalare* Varieties )

Order: Perciformes - Family: Cichlidae



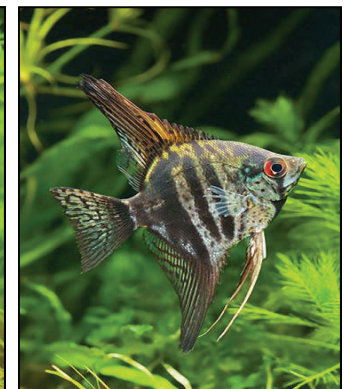
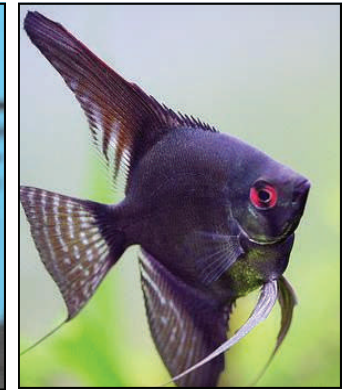
Type: Tropical

**Description:** *Pterophyllum scalare*, the species most commonly referred to as angelfish or freshwater angelfish,[8] is the most common species of *Pterophyllum* held in captivity. Its natural habitat Amazon River basin in Peru, Colombia, and Brazil, particularly the Ucayali, Solimões and Amazon rivers, as well as the rivers of Amapá in Brazil, the Oyapock River in French Guiana and the Essequibo River in Guyana. It is found in swamps or flooded grounds where vegetation is dense and the water is either clear or silty.[9] Its native water conditions range from a pH of 6.0 to 8.0, a water hardness range of 5 - 13 dH, and water temperature ranging from 24 to 30 °C (75 to 86 °F).[9] It was originally described as *Zeus scalaris* in 1823, and has also been described by several different names

**Max. Size:** In an aquarium with the right conditions, they arrive at measure 15 cm. tall by 10 cm. long.

### Common Phenotypes:

- **Silver (+/+)** The most commonly pictured form, also referred to as "wild-type", does not contain any dominant color genes and at most a single dose of any recessive genes. Has silver body with 4 vertical black stripes. The stripes will fade (usually when under stress) and darken (usually when breeding) with mood.
- **Gold (g/g)** Gold is one of the hardest and most attractive strains. Some of these will develop an intense orange crown. Gold is a recessive trait, like blue eyes in humans.
- **Zebra (Z/+ or Z/Z)** A Zebra is a Silver with extra stripes; this is a very popular strain.
- **Black Lace (D/+)** / Zebra Lace (D/+ – Z/+) This is a Silver or Zebra with one copy of the Dark gene. This results in very attractive lacing in the fins. It is considered by some to the most attractive of all angelfish varieties.
- **Smokey (Sm/+)** This is a variety with a dark brownish grey back half and dark dorsal and anal fins.
- **Chocolate (Sm/Sm)** This is a Smokey with more of the dark pattern. Sometimes only the head is silver.
- **Halfblack (h/h)** Halfblacks are Silvers with a black rear portion. A Halfblack can express along with some other color genes, but not all. The pattern may not develop or express if the fish are in stressful conditions.
- **Sunset Blushing (g/g S/S)** The Sunset Blushing has two doses of gold and two doses of Stripeless. The upper half of the fish exhibits orange on the good ones. The body is mostly white in color, fins are clear. The amount of orange showing on the fish can vary. On some the body is a pinkish or tangerine color. The term blushing comes from the clear gill plates found on juveniles. You can see the pinkish gill underneath.
- **Koi (Gm/Gm S/S) or (Gm/g S/S)** The Koi has a double or single dose of Gold Marble with a double dose of Stripeless. They express a variable amount of orange that varies with stress levels. The black marbling varies from 5%-40% coverage.
- **Leopard (Sm/Sm Z/Z) or (Sm/Sm Z/+)** The Leopard is a very popular fish when young, having spots over most of their body. Most of these spots grow closer together as an adult so it looks like a chocolate with dots on it. (Smokey x Zebra)
- **Blue Blushing (S/S)** This is a wild-type angelfish that has two Stripeless genes. The body is actually grey with a bluish tint under the right light spectrum. An iridescent pigment develops as they age. This iridescence usually appears blue under most lighting.
- **Silver Gold Marble (Gm/+)** This is a Silver angel with a single Gold Marble gene. This is a co-dominant expression of Silver and Gold Marble, so you see traits of both.
- **Ghost (S/+)** A fish that is heterozygous for Stripeless. This results in a mostly silver fish with just a stripe through the eye and tail. Sometimes portions of the body stripes will express.
- **Gold Marble (Gm/g or Gm/Gm)** This is a gold angel with black marbling. Depending on whether the Gold Marble is single or double dose, the marbling will range from 5% to 40% coverage.
- **Marble (M/+ or M/M or M/g or M/Gm)** Marble expresses with much more black pattern than Gold Marble does. The marbling varies from 50% to 95%.
- **Black Hybrid (D/g or D/Gm)** Cross a Black with a Gold, and you get Black Hybrids. It is a very vigorous black that may look brassy when young. They do not breed true.
- **Pearlscale (p/p)** Pearlscale is a scale mutation. The scales have a wrinkled, wavy look that reflects light to create a sparkling effect. Pearl develops slowly, starting at around 9 weeks of age. It can be inhibited by stressful conditions. It is recessive, requiring both parents to contain the allele. It looks best on light colored fish like Gold, Gold Marble, Albino, Silver and Zebra. It's difficult to see on dark fish and blushing angelfish.
- **Black Ghost (D/+ – S/+)** These have the same description as a Ghost, with a darker appearance due to the Dark gene. They are very similar to a Black Lace without complete stripes. Ghosts generally have more iridescence than non-ghosts.
- **Albino (a/a)** Albino removes dark pigments in most varieties. Some, like Albino Marble will still have a little black remaining on a percentage of the fish. The eye pupils are pink as in all albino animals. The surrounding iris can be red or yellow depending on the variety of Albino.



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