



NEWSLETTER: APRIL 2018

So the new koi year has officially begun! April means that it was time for the AGM which was held on Sunday 15th at the usual venue; Collingham Memorial Hall. We welcomed some new members to the club which is always great to see. The Committee met and was disbanded and then new committee members voted in. We enjoyed a talk from Ann and Richard at Saki-Hikari about their specialised food range. It is also great to hear that Hikari will again be sponsoring our upcoming Photo Show. For those of you who are new or never entered the show, it is a great experience and you may be pleasantly surprised at what you could win!

2018 Committee appointments:

Chairman: Jim Shaw

Vice Chairlady: Laura Scaum

Secretary: Sue Dixon

Treasurer: Sue Dixon

Events Organiser: Paul Dixon

Membership: Sue Dixon

Advertising/Sponsorship: Pete Scaum

Raffle: Mandy Shaw & Sue Dixon

Newsletter: Laura Scaum

The last year has been a successful one overall, where members or sponsors have left they have been replaced by new ones. Sponsors have increased by two.

Please keep using the forum and use the banners to direct you to the dealers. The more active we are the more appealing it is to potential and existing sponsors.

Upcoming Events 2018

- **Saturday 12th & Sunday 13th May** - YKS Photo show weekend.
- **Sunday 20th May** - First Super.
- **23rd & 24th June** - BKKS National Koi Show.
- **Sunday 8th July** - Midlands Koi Club visit us.
- **Saturday 21st & Sunday 22nd July** - YKS weekend away - Details to be confirmed.
- **Sunday 19th August** - YKS Photo Show BBQ Presentation.
- **Saturday 25th & Sunday 26th August** - North of England Koi Show.
- **September 16th** - Potteries Koi Club come to us.
- **Saturday 22nd & Sunday 23rd September** All England Koi Show
- **October 21st** - Last Supper.

MEMBERSHIP: Renewals are now due.

A note from the Chairman.

I would just like to say how pleased I was with the attendance at this year's AGM, it was great to see such a good turnout followed by a very interesting presentation and generous raffle.

Last year was a good year for our club with more sponsors and members on board. We have a fantastic blossoming relationship with Hikari who have provided exceedingly generous prizes and support for our club.

Last year we had some great trips and events which was finished off with another good attendance for the Christmas dinner.

I hope all YKS members are aware they are welcome to all the events we arrange throughout the year which are mostly subsidised by the club or free. Please take every opportunity to join in on the fun and make the most of your membership.

This year has started off where we finished last season; with more new members joining (Looking forward to another good year). If you know of anyone looking to join a club, please point them in our direction.

Thanks to all the committee for last year and a warm welcome to Pete and Mandy in joining the new committee.

I hope everything is going well now we are well into spring and the temps are starting to climb.

Jim

Saki-Hikari® Hikari

The diets championship koi are raised on

Our first meeting of the year was kicked off with a brilliant attendance. There were plenty of bums on seats. Ann and Richard from Hikari came to give a talk on their food range. They very generously brought some bags of food for the raffle and a mug and bag for the members.



The next range is the Probiotic foods. These have been blended with high quality ingredients and their "Hikari-Germ" friendly bacteria. This bacteria activates once in the koi's gut, it helps by improving the digestion capability and supports the koi's own good bacteria. The range includes Saki-Hikari **Balance** (around £160/15kg) which is as it says a balanced diet for temps of 11°C or more. Available in floating and sinking pellets. Saki-Hikari **Growth** (around £185/15kg) for temps of 16°C or more, it promotes growth without the increased fat deposits on internal organs. It is available in sinking and floating pellets. Saki-Hikari **Colour** (around £235/15kg) for feeding over 15°C. It is rich in pure cultured Spirulina Zeaxanthin which promotes vivid colours of the reds, however it does not negatively impact on the Shiroji. It is only available in floating pellets. Saki-Hikari **Pure White** (around £100/5kg) contains extracts of "Pickled Japanese Apricot" and ground sesame



There are two ranges of food that Hikari produce. One variety is aimed at the pond owner who keeps a mix of fish including koi. This range is more budget friendly for those fish keepers who don't tend to show their koi. This does not mean that the food is of poor quality, Hikari still use quality ingredients for these foods. This includes: Hikari **Friend** (around £45/10kg) as a daily maintenance diet. Hikari **Staple** (around £60/10kg) which is high in vitamin C to help promote the immune system. Hikari **Wheat-Germ Formula** (around £90/10kg floating) for feeding at lower temperatures of 5°C or above, it is also good for helping to improve the Shiroji. Hikari **Gold** (around £100.00/10kg) for enhanced reds and immune system support. Hikari **Hi-Growth** (around £40/2kg) only available in jumbo pellets, for feeding at temperatures above 20°C.



seeds, which help to bring out a snow white shiroji. The recommended feeding regime is between 8 to 12 weeks. Any longer than this and it may impact on other colours. It can be fed at temperatures of 12°C or more. It is only available in floating pellets. Finally Saki-Hikari Multi-Season (around £235/15kg) can be fed at temperatures 5°C or above. It is highly digestible so ideal for feeding all year round especially when temperatures are low. This food also contains colour enhancing Spirulina. Their food has been fed to major koi show winners over 14 years.



Members Pond of the Month: Laura & Pete Scaum



The pond was completed in February 2017 so has been running fully for over a year. It is 4782 Gallons. There are 2 Spindrifter BDs fed by Hi-blow and EA air pumps and a widemouth skimmer, these run to an Oase Proficlear Premium Drum, 1x module with fluidised Hel-X and x1 module with 100 Litres Siporax. One outlet runs via a Blue Eco 320W to a 4 tier Bakki shower with 80kg BHM. The second outlet runs via a Superfish 20000 to an Oase Biotec UV, through a Duratech 19+ ASHP then splits to two midwater returns. There is a Big Blue dechlorinator for trickle in/out of pond and QT. The QT is gravity fed to an easypod, pumped via a superfish 20000 variflow through a 70w UV, Inline heater the splits to feed a

mini shower that holds 50 Litres siporax. The other return goes straight into the tank.

How did you get into keeping koi? Laura: My dad had a pond in the garden when I was little which he had koi in. He also has a big reservoir where people occasionally dumped their unwanted fish in there. Now that is where any of my "not quite right" koi go

if I can't move them on. Koi have always fascinated me and that interest has grown over the years. I didn't

realise at the start how

much goes into keeping them healthy! Pete: Had an interest in marine and tropical fish. He was dragged into the hobby blind and not realising what it would entail. He tends to do the fixing, repairs and improvement work which he is very good at.



What would you change?

We have plans to eventually add a protein skimmer and possibly go down the RO route. We have very hard water in York with a TDS of 250+.



What is your favourite Koi?

That's a tough one, Development wise our Asagi has grown to a good size and has a lovely clean head, good body and deep blue/grey scales. The Hi is in the right places too and nicely balanced.

What has been your best koi keeping experience?

Joining the YKS and getting the pond finished! It took 2 years to complete to this stage.

What has been your worst koi keeping experience?

Having to battle skin flukes for well over a year. Losing a koi we got from Absolute that jumped out less than a week after it went in. That was gutting.

What do you feed the koi? A mix of Hikari wheat-germ, Hikari Pure white (Currently), JPD growth pellets and a Colour enhancing food.

What varieties do you have? Pond: 1 Asagi, 1 Chagoi, 1 Tancho, 1 Tancho Showa, 1 Goshiki, 2 Goromo, 4 Showa (1 Doitsu), 1 Doitsu Sanke, 2 Ochiba (1 Gin Rin), 3 Kohaku (1 Gin Rin), 1 Kujaku, 2 Shiro Utsuri. QT: 2 Sanke, 2 Kohaku. There are 24 koi in total.



The first of its kind, presented by the South East Koi Club over the weekend of March 24th and 25th. The Young Koi Show was a new show aiming to break up the winter gloom and give us something to look forward to when the weather is still cold and damp. Unfortunately I was unable to

attend this event. The South East Koi Club have kindly given me permission to use their photographs for this article.

The show was held indoors (rightly so, a bit chilly in March!) at the Kent County Show Ground, home to the All England Koi Show (which we have to look forward to later in the year). I'm sure the Judges had a challenge with choosing the winners. The structure was similar to that of the usual show with five class categories;

Size 1 = 15 - 25cm **Size 2** = 25 - 35cm **Size 3** = 35 - 45cm **Size 4** = 45 - 55cm **Size 5** = 55 - 65cm



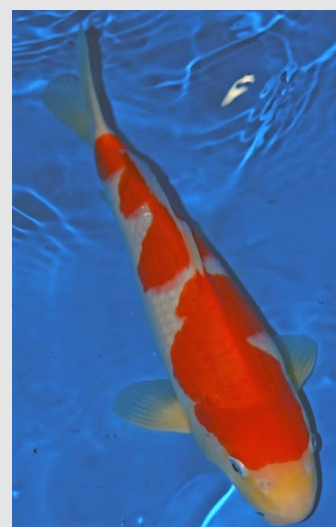
Grand Champion. Size 5.
Owner: Paul Williams



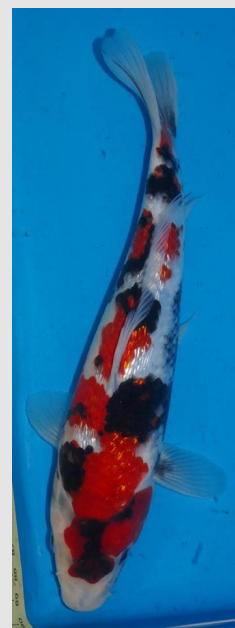
Size 4 Champion
Owner: Michael Preston



Size 3 Champion
Owner: Jason Smith.



Size 2 Champion
Owner: Barry Thompson



Size 1 Champion
Owner: Jason Smith



FOCUS ON..... Fish Lice



Perhaps not one of the more common parasites but this little beastly can have a serious impact on koi health. They are sub-classified as “*Branchiura*” with over 150 species in this group. There are three categories of fish lice, their scientific names are “*Argulus foliaceus*”, “*Argulus coregoni*” and “*Argulus japonicus*”. Lice are classified as crustaceans and are the largest of external parasites in the UK that can infest fish. In rare cases they can be introduced through infected

water and fish or transported on the feet/feathers of wading birds or aquatic wildlife like frogs/toads/newts.

Symptoms

Infected fish will flash in order to try dislodge the parasite. In severe cases affected fish may become lethargic and fall victim to secondary bacterial infections due to tissue damage. If gills are affected this can be fatal to the host fish.

Identification

In it's adult stage it is visible with the naked eye and can reach up to 10mm, there is no need for a microscope. Juveniles are much more difficult to see but will be easily seen on a skin mucous scrape.



Lifecycle.

Females lay eggs on any hard surface, they can lay up to 2000 eggs at a time. The sheer volume of eggs is the first problem as infestations can quickly develop. Eggs are laid in strings of two to six rows with each brood containing up to 400 eggs. They are protected by a jelly like substance which makes it difficult to kill the eggs. Hatching takes place approximately 25 days after being laid where the temperature is around 15°C. Eggs will not hatch in temperatures below 10°C but they are able to lay dormant until warmer weather arrives. Development of the larval “nauplii” and “*metanauplius*” stage is also dependant on the temperature and takes place while in the egg. As *Argulus* are a crustacean species they must “shed” their hard skins in order to develop. After hatching they must find a host fish within six days otherwise they will die. *Argulus* are able to swim as soon as they have hatched. Once a host has been found they develop

continued.....

further and hatch into the next stage which begins feeding on the host fish. There can be up to ten development stages depending on which species of Argulus it is. It can take approximately 100 days to complete its life cycle.

When feeding, Argulus releases a chemical into the tissues that prevents blood clotting and makes it more

free flowing. At the same time it also releases a pheromone that is like a dinner bell, attracting other lice to the same host. This is often why one fish can have many parasites infesting it and why the damage can be so great.



Treatments

For a mixed pond containing sturgeon, orfe, rudd or other sensitive fish; individual **salt baths** may be effective. This will not affect the eggs though so repeat salt baths would be required. Alternatively the removal of infested fish into a quarantine facility for a number of weeks may help with infestations. Removal of hosts from the affected pond would mean there is no food for the parasite to feed off so it would die.

Where Argulus is visible the affected fish can be sedated, each Argulus may then be manually removed using tweezers. Be sure to clean the areas where the parasite has been removed using roccal or iodine (tamodine/povidine) and then using a cotton bud, dab malachite green to the affected areas.

Lice-Solve: Contains Emamectin 1.4%. Ensure UVs are turned off and carbon filters removed or bypassed. Add extra air. Not to be used with orfe, rudd, sturgeon, sterlets or small bream. Follow up treatment one month after to ensure developed eggs are killed.

4 grams treats 1000 litres (220 Gallons), 10 grams treats 2500 litres (550 Gallons), 100 grams treats 25000 litres (5500 Gallons).

Masoten: 1 gram per 395 litres (87 Gallons) when 18.3°C and over, weekly treatments for 4 weeks. For temperatures 18.2°C and under use 6/8 grams per 4546 litres (1000 gallons).

Dimilin: may be another option.

Salt: Argulus can resist salt up to 3.5% so its use may not be adequate.

References: <https://www.koisale.com/fish-lice.html>
<http://what-when-how.com/animal-life/subclass-branchiura/>
<https://www.fish-treatment.co.uk/freshwater-lice/>
<http://www.pond-life.me.uk/fishhealth/argulus>
<http://www.nationalfishpharm.com/articles/argulus.html>
<http://www.koiquest.co.uk/argulus.htm>

Warning/Disclaimer: Medications are used at your own risk and it is your responsibility to calculate dosages accurately according to your pond volume. Check parameters prior to any treatments being administered.