



















The accurately-named algae-eater is often seen nibbling on algae and other small micro-organisms that grow on the surface of submerged logs, rocks and plants.

Adult size: 15cm

2. THREE SPOT GOURAMI Trichopodus trichopterus

When looking at this fish side-on, it looks like it has 3 spots, one by the tail, one halfway up the body, and then... its eye is the third 'pretend' spot!

This adaptable species can be found in all types of freshwater habitats, even rice paddy fields.

Adult size: 13cm

3. **ODESSA BARB**Pethia padamya

This small fish species is endemic to only a few locations in Myanmar. Its scientific name comes from the local language where 'padamy' means 'ruby'. The vibrant red stripe appears only on the males, who are usually smaller than the females. When breeding, they scatter their eggs far and wide with the hopes they land somewhere safe and hidden.



Not to be confused with the larger tinfoil barb, this small, orange-finned barb fish can be identified by the checkered pattern on its scales. This schooling fish is endemic to creeks, rivers, and lakes in Sumatra.

Adult size: 5cm

5. INDONESIAN TIGER PERCH Datnioides microlepis

This spectacularly striped and appropriately-named, carnivorous fish feeds mostly on smaller fish which it catches with an explosive extension of its mouth-parts, sucking-in and engulfing the unsuspecting prey in the blink of an eye.

Adult size: 40cm



6. PEARL DANIO Danio albolineatus

This fish varies greatly in appearance and habitat choice across populations from Myanmar, Thailand, Southern China and Cambodia. It is likely that this one species is actually several species of fish!

Adult size: 6cm

7. PEARL GOURAMI Trichopodus leerii

This fish is named for the small, pearl-like spots that cover its entire body creating an entrancing, iridescent shimmer in the water. Males are territorial, building and defending a large floating nest of bubbles among vegetation into which eggs are corralled during spawning. The male will guard 200-300 eggs for the 1-2 days it takes for them to hatch.

Adult size: 11cm

8. ASIAN AROWANA Scleropages formosus

Known in parts of Asia as the dragonfish, this majestic, rare fish even has a scientific name relating to the mythical dragon. 'Scleropages' describes its large, hard, leaf-like scales, while 'formosus' means beautiful or handsome. This carnivorous hunter of lowland swamps and rivers dines mostly on smaller fish and invertebrates but occasionally amphibians and even small birds and reptiles.

This species cares for its eggs and young in its mouth! After courtship and spawning the male scoops the fertilised eggs into his mouth and keeps them safe there through incubation, hatching and even for 1-2 months afterwards as tiny vulnerable fry—and never eats a single one!

Adult size: 90cm (that's almost 1 metre!)

9. TINFOIL BARB Barbonymus schwanefeldii

Named for their metallic, tin-looking scales that reflect the light as they swim together in large schools. This species is an egg scattering species, a female can produce several thousand eggs per spawning.

Adult size: 35cm

10. HARLEQUIN RASBORA

Trigonostigma heteromorpha

A small pink fish with a black triangle on the back half of the body. It can be found in streams and shallow rivers, and when breeding this fish hides its eggs from predators by sticking them to the underside of plants and other objects.

Adult size: 4cm

11. CLOWN LOACH

Chromobotia macracanthus

This bottom-dwelling fish has small barbels around its mouth used for touching and tasting. It makes clicking sounds using special teeth in the back of its throat.

Adult size: 30cm

12. NEON DWARF RAINBOWFISH

Melanotaenia praecox

Endemic to the lowland forest streams of Papua, it is one of the smallest of the aptly-named rainbowfish group. Males will compete aggressively over spawning females, circling furiously, brightening their iridescent colours and nipping at each-others fins.

Adult size: 8cm

13. TIGER BARB

Puntigrus tetrazona

Thought to be endemic to the shallow waterways of Sumatra's lowland forests. Males squabble constantly for female attention and are therefore rarely seen in stable groups.

Females are known to lay up to 500 eggs in a single spawning, but any that don't settle into hidden crevices will get cannibalised by their voracious parents!

Adult size: 8cm

14. SUNDA GHARIAL Tomistoma schlegelii

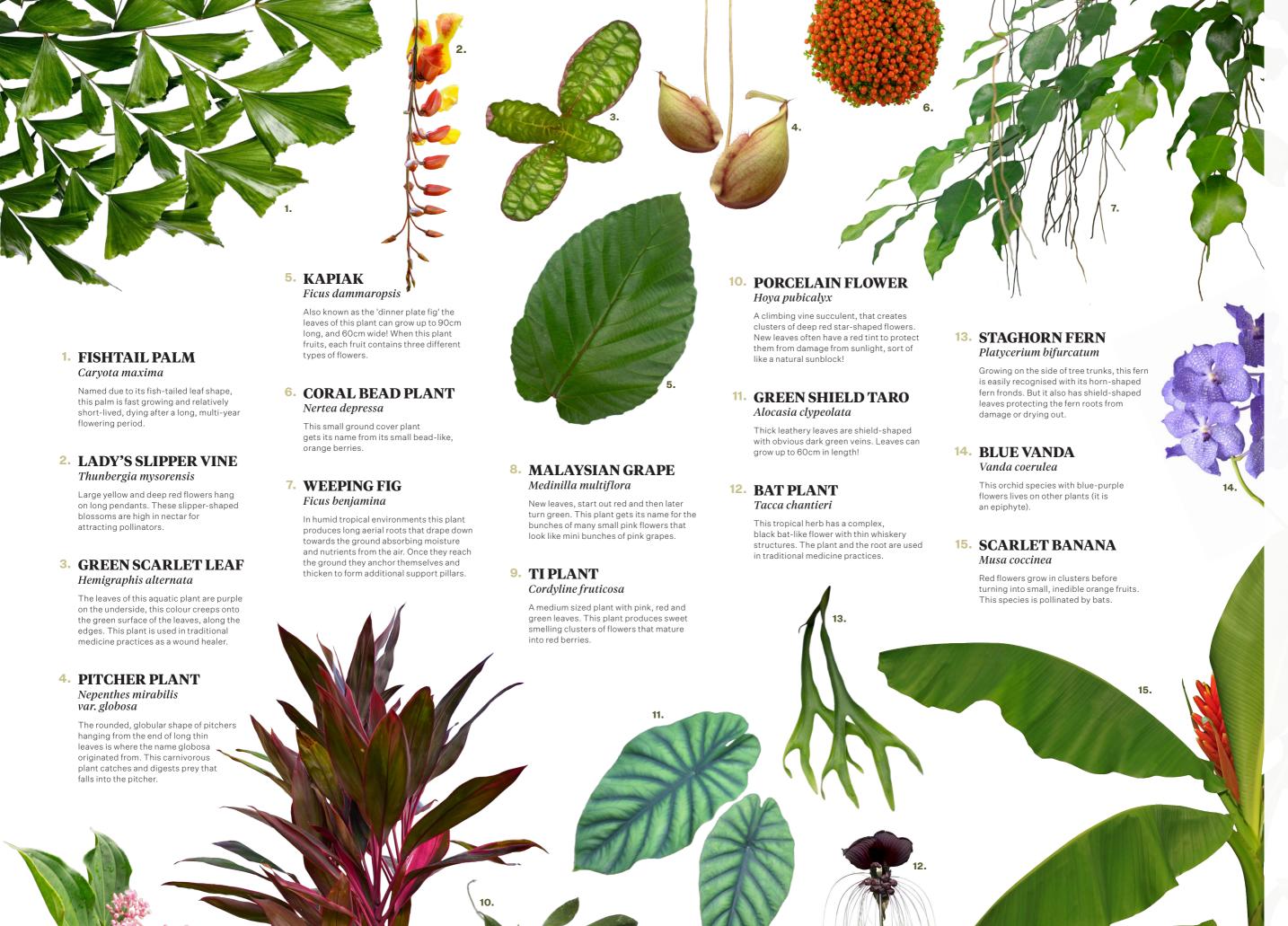
Perhaps the most enigmatic of crocodilians, the Sunda gharial is both mysterious and extraordinary.

They are one of the largest of the crocodilian species, but Sunda gharial are rarely seen in the wild due to their secretive nature and the dense lowland forest habitat.

They have the longest skull of any crocodilian, the largest eggs and, when hatched the youngsters are left to fend for themselves.

Adult size: 500cm (that's 5 metres!)





This tropical Swamp Forest is hot, humid, and at times wet, just like the swamp forests of Indonesia!

70-90% humidity

hot, hot...
It's warm in here!

about our animal and plant specie