



Huber's Livebearer (*Alfaro huberi*)

Order: Cyprinodontiformes - Family: Poeciliidae



Also known as:

Type: Tropical/ Freshwater; pelagic - Livebearer

Origin: Central America: southern Guatemala through Honduras to Nicaragua. *Alfaro huberi* has however not been found in Costa Rica; as far as science knows it only inhabits the part of Central America that stretches from southern Guatemala to Nicaragua. As mentioned above Alfaro huberi is a Central America species found in Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua.

Description: Huber's Livebearer (*Alfaro huberi*), is a livebearer from the family Poeciliidae. The species name – huberi – was given in honor of Dr. Huber. The genus derives its name from zoologist Dr. Anastasio Alfaro of the National Museum in Costa Rica. Alfaro huberi was first described by Fowler in 1923 and placed in the genus Priapichthys. Hubbs would later move the species to the genus Furcipenis, before Bailey placed it in the genus Alfaro in 1963.

Physical Characteristics: It has a row of knife-like scales along its bottom edge between the anal fin and the tail. As well, these huberi were chubbier and somewhat more colorful than the cultratus. The scales on the upper body were edged in black and the back lower half of each fish was a golden-yellow.

Size:

- **Max length :** 5.0 cm TL male/unsexed
- **Female:** reach a length of 7 cm (almost 3 inches)
- **Males:** normally stay smaller than 5 cm (almost 2 inches).

Color Form: Orange / Sliver / Black

Sexual Dimorphism:

Lifespan:

Behavior: Non-migratory; Inhabits clear, fast-flowing waters

Habitat: You can find this livebearer in clear streams along the eastern coast.

Diet: *Alfaro huberi* eats all kinds of food, from flake food to freeze-dried products and live food. Daphnia will be highly appreciated.

Breeding: Internal (oviduct); internal live bearers. It can take some time before a male Alfaro huberi develops male characteristics, but eventually you will be able to tell the sexes apart by looking for a gonopodium. Once a couple has started to spawn, you can expect them to spawn every 5 weeks or so. The fry can be fed crushed flake food and microworms. Since they are somewhat bigger than Guppy fry, newly hatched brine shrimp can also work. Keep the water quality high to ensure rapid growth. It is better to feed several times per day instead of just once or twice.

Aquarium Setup: Alfaro huberi appreciates a densely planted aquarium. Alfaro huberi is a somewhat shy fish, and keeping it in a barren aquarium will make it even shyer. Keeping the aquarium well planted is therefore important.

Minimum Tank Size: 10 Gallon

Care Level: The aquarium has to have a secure lid, because Alfaro huberi is a skilled jumper.

Water Conditions: The pH range in this environment is 8.0 and the dH range 5. The water temperature normally stays between 24 and 28°C.

- **Temperature:** 75-82°F (24-28°C)
- **pH:** 6-8
- **Hardness:**

Swimming Level: .

Compatibility / Temperament:

