

Zebra Apple Snail – *Asolene spixi*

By John Moyles

Zebra apple snails are an interesting snail from South America. They have a nice yellow shell with dark bands.

They are mostly nocturnal and bury themselves in the substrate during the day and come out at night to eat. They make good scavengers and will eat uneaten food as well as algae. I also round off their diet with romaine lettuce, zucchini and blanched sweet potato.

Cuttlebone is also available at all times so they can develop strong shells. These snails have also been known to eat pest snails and their eggs but they also eat some plants so caution should be used when putting them in a planted tank.



They do best in warmer water (70° to 78° F) but can survive, while dormant, cooler water (60° to 68° F).

They lay their eggs on the side of the glass underwater in a gelatinous mass. In a large enough tank, they will leave their eggs alone but may eat them in a smaller tank.

Zebra apple snails have an interesting mode of locomotion. When they are on the glass, I have witnessed them move like an inchworm instead of their usual glide.