

Redtailed Splitfin

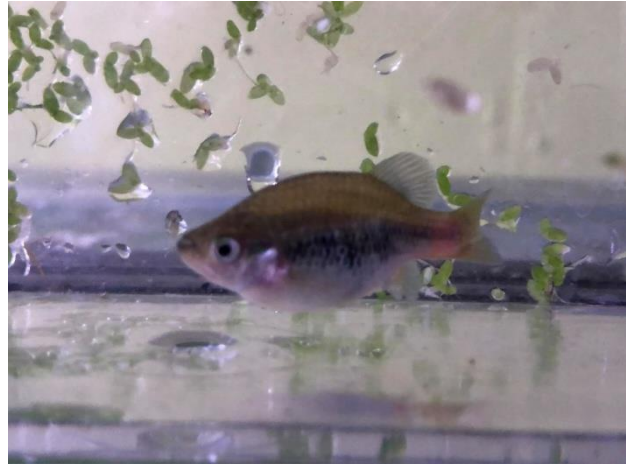
Xenotoca doadrioi

By John Moyles

Xenotoca doadrioi is a livebearing fish in the Goodeidae family from Jalisco, Mexico. This small colorful fish was considered a variant of the species *Xenotoca eiseni* until 2016, they were classified as its own distinct species.

However, by that time, *X. doadrioi* had already been driven from half its range and is at risk of extinction in the remaining locales due to irrigation and introduced species.

For this reason it has been classified as CEN (endangered) by the CARES organization.



They are easy to keep, I keep my colony in a 10-gallon tank with floating plants like hornwort. They eat prepared foods readily in addition to live California blackworms and a variety of frozen foods. Make sure to offer plenty of vegetable based foods as too much animal protein in their diet has been known to cause bloat. They like cooler temperatures (60°F to 75°F) and do not require a heater.

Males show brighter colors. They have a bright orange band on the tail and a blue iridescent sheen to the body. Females are brownish. Females become noticeably pregnant and should be separated into a breeder net or tank in preparation for birth. They give birth to large fry that like to rest on the surface of the tank for a few days. Once they become active you can add them back into the main tank.