

*Xiphophorus alvarezi*, Dolores



Dolores, female



Dolores, male

Strain code: DL

Phenotypes scored: Sword color orange (or).

Introduction:

This stock of *X. alvarezi*, Dolores, was derived from fish collected by Donn Rosen, in the late 1960's and early 1970's. This stock is maintained as an inbred line.

The Dolores stock is found naturally in the Rio Dolores system. The males are characterized by a bright red flush below the lateral line, extending from the operculum to the caudal fin. Males carry a Y-linked gene for orange sword color. Females also carry this gene, but do not express the trait.

Sex determination / sexing:

Sex determination in DL is WY / YY (Kallman and Bao, 1987). This species can be sexed at about 3 months of age. Maturation can be expedited in males by growing them at low densities.

Scoring:

Sword color is scored on a black background with a microscope. Males can be scored when sexually mature, and color may become more apparent with age.

Stock maintenance:

At least 4 to 6 matings should be established for each generation. A larger number of matings is required to compensate for low production numbers and biased sex ratios. Reciprocal crosses or brother sister matings can be used, which ever is available.

Stock source:

Prof. Klaus Kallman, the New York Aquarium, 5/12/93.