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## Prospects of ornamental fish culture in Nagaland

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Nowadays ornamental fish keeping is one of the most popular hobbies in the world. The growing interest in aquarium fishes has resulted in steady increase in aquarium fish trade globally. The trade with a turnover of US \$ 5 Billion and an annual growth rate of 8% offers a lot of scope for development. The top exporting country is Singapore followed by Hong Kong, Malaysia, Thailand, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Indonesia and India. Majority of the indigenous ornamental fish trade in India is from the North Eastern states and the rest is from Southern states. The economic importance of ornamental fisheries has been recognized by many developing countries for employment generation and livelihoods. India's share in ornamental fish trade is estimated to be Rs 158.23 lakh which is only 0.008% of the global trade. The major part of the export trade is based on wild collection. The domestic market in India is mainly based on domestically bred exotic species. Nagaland is endowed with hill streams and rivers which harbor endemic fish fauna including ornamental fish. Nagaland has a richness of natural resource such as suitable climate, natural rivers and traditional experience in the culture of fishes so farmers can readily culture ornamental fishes. Nagaland has a great variety of colorful indigenous ornamental fishes and has been found that aqua-systems contains as many as 118 endemic fresh water ornamental fish biodiversity constituting 79.19% of total fish inhabitant. Ornamental fish species of Nagaland may be broadly grouped into non-classified (48 species) and classified (70 species) categories constituting respectively 40.68% and 50.32% of total ornamental fish species germplasm. This paper discusses present status of ornamental fish culture in Nagaland and its future prospects.

## **Biography**

Nchumbeni Humtsoe obtained her PhD Degree from the University of Mumbai, India and completed a course on "Professional Planning and Development Programme in fisheries" from CIFE, Kolkata, India. She is specialized in fish nutrition and feeding technologies. She attended several conferences both at the National and International level and had presented and published research papers. She was one of the Keynote Speakers during the 6th Global Summit on Fisheries & Aquaculture held at Osaka, Japan and 9th International Conference of Fisheries & Aquaculture held at Rome Italy during the year 2017. She had represented scientist team from India and attended 7th Indo-Pacific fish Conference at eld at Taiwan during the year 2005. She had published several articles on health and environmental issue. She is a competent researcher and can work well in a team with good communication skill and tackle any challenges positively. She is a life member of Indian Fisheries Association since 2008 and life member of Nagaland Fisheries Technical Association and currently working as Fishery Inspector in the Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources, Government of Nagaland, India.

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