

# Dive Log Asia

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## PRO SHOP

### New Nikonos Guide From Jim Church

Underwater photography teacher and writer Jim Church has a new book out that offers 227 pages of up-to-date guidance on the latest Nikonos RS technology, the SR series series including the SB104, as well as getting the most out of your Nikonos V. In addition to the standard subjects, Jim Church's Essential Guide to Nikonos systems covers other

topics such as moving subjects and focus tracking, buoyancy control and equipment balance, and camera maintenance. Available at bookstores and dive centres, it can also be ordered directly from the publisher, Aqua Quest Publications, P.O. Box 700, Layton Valley, NY 11560 USA. Tel: (1-516) 759-0476, Fax: (1-516) 759-4519.

### Asian Aquarium Trade Impacts California Marine Life

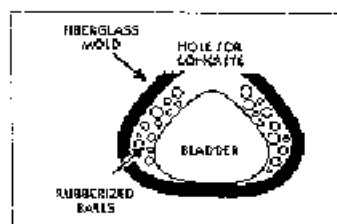
The booming marine aquarium market in the States has had tragic consequences for Western Pacific coral reefs. The indiscriminate use of cyanide to collect tropical fish has decimated coral reefs in the Philippines and other areas, fuelled by the insatiable demand of Western aquarium owners.

Nova California group, Costa Entures, claims that the problem has spread in the opposite direction. The brilliant orange Garibaldi, a member of the same Danacofish family which includes species found throughout the Pacific, as a juvenile exhibits striking blue spots on a golden-orange background. These colours are highly prized by Asian collectors as bringing long

lives declining. However, commercial collection of the beautiful fish is now legally prohibited, and continues at other locations in California. Hall's estimates that 95% of the Garibaldi's collected are exported to Japan, Taiwan and Hong Kong.

Even worse, the juvenile Garibaldi's are claimed to die in the warm Asian tropical tanks they are placed in, as they thrive only in cooler California waters. As the environmental arm of DEMA, Ocean Futures is working to have laws passed so that the Garibaldi will be officially protected from collecting until scientific studies can evaluate how consistent operations impact their population. We can only hope that Asian aquarium owners can be educated to understand

### Artificial Reefs Sink In The States



Sooner or later you may find yourself floating over a lush coral reef and not realize its base is entirely man-made! The Reef Ball Development Group Ltd has created new artificial reef systems using the environmentally safe new concrete Reef Ball. Each roughly spherically shaped unit can contain a fermentable, reusable air bladder, allowing the Reef Ball to be floated to its deep site, and then precisely positioned underwater. The Reef Balls Around the Nation programme works with reef builders, government officials and private organisations to help enrich the marine environment.

*Special Agents Wanted*

### A Tough C.M.A.S Gear Bag

EMBAL/EMPEX of Belgium announces a dive gear bag constructed from nearly impregnable 1200 denier nylon. In blue, black or grey, with or without the C.M.A.S logo, it is 75x35x37cm, and features 3 pockets, one of which is waterproof. It also features straps for carrying over