

Snow trout

Snow Trout, also known as Himalayan Snow Trout, is a freshwater fish found in the high-altitude streams and rivers of the Himalayas, particularly in India, Nepal, and Bhutan. This fish is a popular game fish among anglers due to its beautiful appearance and challenging nature.

The Snow Trout has a slender and streamlined body that is adapted to living in fast-flowing, rocky streams. Its body is covered in silvery scales that reflect the light and give it a shimmering appearance. It has a small mouth and sharp teeth that it uses to catch and eat small fish, insects, and other aquatic creatures.

This fish is a cold-water species that prefers water temperatures between 10 to 20 degrees Celsius. It is found in high-altitude streams and rivers, often in remote and difficult-to-reach locations. It is a popular target for sport fishing, but due to its fragile habitat and slow growth rate, it is also a threatened species.

Serial Number	Characteristics	Description
1	Common name	Snow trout
2	Scientific Name	Schizothorax richardsonii
3	Colour	Brownish-grey back with silver sides and belly
4	Average length in m	0.3 – 0.6 m
5	Average weight in kgs	0.5 – 1 kg
6	Found in river systems of India	Found in Himalayan rivers and streams in northern India

7	Habitat	Cold, clear, and fast-moving waters with rocky or gravelly bottoms, at elevations ranging from 1,000 to 4,000 m
8	Any special characteristics	have anti-inflammatory properties

Features

Snow trout, also known as Himalayan snow trout or snow trout salmonid, is a species of fish that is found in high-altitude freshwater streams and lakes in the Himalayan region. Here are some details about their appearance and physical characteristics:

Color: Snow trout have a silver-gray body with a darker shade on their dorsal side. They may also have a slight pinkish hue on their belly.

Average weight: The average weight of a snow trout is around 1-2 pounds, but they can grow up to 6-8 pounds in weight.

Physical characteristics: Snow trout has a slender and streamlined body, with small scales and a small head. They have large eyes, which help them to see in the dimly lit waters of their habitat. They have small, sharp teeth in their mouth, which they use to feed on insects, small fish, and crustaceans.

Snow trout is a cold-water species and prefers water temperatures between 10-15°C (50-59°F). They are a popular game fish and are prized for their delicate flavor and fighting ability. They are also an important food source for the local people living in the Himalayan region.

Uses

Snow trout fish is a popular food item in many parts of India, especially in the northern regions.

Snow trout fish is commonly consumed as a food item in many parts of India. It is often prepared in a variety of ways, such as grilled, fried, or curried. It is believed to have medicinal properties in some traditional Indian medicine practices. It is said to have anti-inflammatory properties and is used to treat various ailments.

In some areas of India, snow trout fishing is a popular tourist activity. Tourists come to fish for snow trout in rivers and streams in the Himalayan region.

Snow trout fish is mainly consumed in the northern regions of India, especially in the states of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, and Uttarakhand. It is also consumed in some parts of the northeastern states of India, such as Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim. In these areas, snow trout is often considered a delicacy and is highly valued for its taste and nutritional properties.

Lifecycle

The life cycle of snow trout fish in commercial farms typically involves the following stages:

Snow trout breeding usually takes place in the winter season, when water temperatures are low. Mature male and female snow trout are selected and placed in a breeding tank. The fertilized eggs are then collected and incubated in a hatchery.

After about 3-4 weeks, the snow trout eggs hatch into fry. The fry are then transferred to a rearing tank, where they are fed a special diet of zooplankton.

After about 3-4 months, the snow trout fry grow to a size of around 2-3 inches and are called fingerlings. They are then transferred to larger tanks where they are fed a diet of commercial fish feed.

The snow trout fingerlings are reared in the larger tanks for about 1-2 years until they reach a marketable size of around 6-8 inches in length. During this stage, the fish are fed a high-protein diet of commercial fish feed.

When the snow trout reach the desired market size, they are harvested from the tanks using a net or other suitable equipment. The harvested fish are then transported to the market for sale.

Overall, the life cycle of snow trout in commercial farms typically takes around 2-3 years from the breeding stage to the harvesting stage. The specific details of the life cycle may vary depending on the particular farming practices used by the farmer or aquaculturist.

Habitat

Snow trout are found naturally in the rivers and streams of the Himalayan region, which is located in the northern part of India. The Himalayan region is home to many large river systems, including the Indus, Ganges, and Brahmaputra, as well as their tributaries and other smaller rivers.

The snow trout (*Schizothorax* spp.) is a cold-water fish species that is well-adapted to the high altitude, fast-flowing rivers and streams of the Himalayas. It prefers clear, cool waters with rocky bottoms and moderate to high levels of dissolved oxygen.

In the wild, snow trout populations are often found in the upper reaches of the rivers, where the water is colder and more oxygenated. They are known to migrate upstream during the

breeding season when water temperatures are low.