## THE GOLDFISH BOWL

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## Molly spot



This condition is not exactly a disease, but describes a reaction by some fish to unsuitable water conditions. In aquarium culture, we are mostly accustomed to seeing this condition with the various Molly livebearer fish. The black varieties are particularly vulnerable to the problem, and show it most clearly. Mollies like a certain amount of salt in the make-up of the water chemistry. Bearing in mind they prefer brackish water conditions, and they can live in full-strength sea water, it is not difficult to understand why they often have a problem acclimatising to water without any added salt content. The affected fish appear to shimmy uncomfortably and without much energy, and the body will show tiny fungus like tufts that are frequently mistaken for white spot, and wrongly treated. Salt water baths will help to alleviate the symptoms, but the addition of some salt to the aquarium provides a lasting remedy.