



THE GOLDFISH BOWL

everything for the fishkeeper...

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Swim bladder



Infection of the swim bladder is a common ailment suffered by the globular-bodied fancy goldfish varieties, although it may affect any fish that has a swim bladder. The condition is often associated with dry-food feeding. The dehydrated nature of any dry food means it will swell significantly once it is exposed to fluid. So the fish will eat what it can easily ingest until its appetite is sated. But the ingested goodwill then swell to some extent once it has entered the digestive system. With fancy goldfish having their internal organs under some pressure already from the spherical shape, the added distortion created by the swelling food can affect the working of the swim bladder. This will usually be a temporary condition, relieved once the fish has excreted the faecal waste from the digestive process. This will cause the fish to bob up to the surface, unable to comfortably swim on an even keel every time it is fed on this dry food diet. But often the condition becomes permanent, so the fish remains unable to operated the “ballast” system of its swim bladder.

If you've identified this disease on your fish, please call us and we will be happy to talk through treatments with you.