

By Dr. Reginald Lawrence

This rare marine angel from South East Africa is seldom seen in the aquarium trade as it is found in protected areas, around Inhaca Island, Mozambique, between Kosi Bay and Aliwal Shoal in South Africa. Due to these protections, this fish requires proper collection permits and is only occasionally available in the aquarium trade.

Latitude: 33 degrees min. \sim 26.9 degrees max. Longitude: 27.9 degrees min. \sim 32.9 degrees max. Seawater depth: about 210 feet / 70 meters. Seawater temperature: about 69° F / 23° C. Maximum total length: about 8 1/2 inches / 21 cm. The collection of this species, off Mozambique, for the aquarium trade is unregulated at present. Due to the rarity and restricted range of this species, further research is recommended on the harvest levels and other potential species threats.

The Tiger Angel has been recorded swimming in rocky offshore reefs with abundant sponge growth. This fish lives alone, or in small groups consisting of a male and several females. Its diet consists of sponges and tunicates. Apolemichthys kingi has been kept in captivity in Japan at 75° F / 24° C. They were fed a variety of foods, primarily Hikari® Seaweed Extreme™ and Mini Algae Wafers™ which are excellent choices for maintaining optimal health and natural colors. ◆

