Companion Fish for Discus Aquariums

The following recommendations for companion fish, which are suitable for discus fish aquariums (water temperature of 28-30°) are kindly provided by Mr. Adrie Baumann (2013 LIVE Aquascaping World Champion). Mr. Baumann takes great pride in his beautifully aquascaped aquarium, which he has stocked with our **STENDKER** Discus Fish.

We think that not much beats a beautifully aquascaped aquarium featuring our discus fish. To us, this is **"perfection – the crowning glory of freshwater aquariums"**.
By choosing suitable "cleaner fish", e.g. Thai cleaner fish, you will even have a "team of cleaners" who will remove algae and look beautiful doing so.

Companion fish also enjoy eating our discus food. However, we nonetheless recommend additionally feeding them with a little dry food. Please also observer our recommendations on aquarium sizes for companion fish.
LINK: Ideal Aquarium Conditions
Please keep only smaller Siluridae species with our discus fish.

You can also have your discus aquarium professionally designed and set up at: (LINK BAUMANN).

We recommend that you first test new companion fish for bacterial compatibility in a quarantine aquarium **(LINK: Bacterial Compatibility).**

Please purchase **all discus fish, companion fish and plants from the same retailer. Purchase them at the same time (or in as short a time span as possible), as fish and plants purchased later can introduce diseases and new bacterial strains to your aquarium.** To avoid endangering your fish stock, we recommend: **purchasing enough fish initially and avoiding adding any new fish later.** This will save you a great deal of trouble and will avoid the risk of introducing diseases.

Exception: If you have opted for our STENDKER discus fish, you can introduce further fish from our hatchery, of different sizes and colours, at any time.

Suitable companion fish for discus aquariums
(a small selection of suitable companion fish is provided below):

Continued: suitable companion fish for discus aquariums:
- Cockatoo dwarf cichlid (Apistogramma cacatuoides)
- Zebra pleco (Hypancistrus zebra)
- Three stripe corydoras (Corydoras trilineeatus)
- Oto catfish (Otocinclus macrospilus)
- Sterba's cory (Corydoras sterbai)
- Blackline penguinfish (Thayeria boehlkei)
- Rosy tetra (Hyphessobrycon rosaceus)

- Reddish log sucker
- Gara rufa (also known as the doctor fish)
- Siamese algae eater (Crossocheilus siamensis)
- Ram cichlid (Microgeophagus ramirezi)
- Black neon tetra (Hyphessobrycon herbertaxelrodi)
- Black phantom tetra (Hyphessobrycon megalopterus)
- Lemon tetra (Hyphessobrycon pulchripinnis)
- Redstripe apisto (Apistogramma hongsloi)
- Golden tetra (Hemigrammus rodwayi)
- Roter Neon (Paracheirodon axelrodi)
- Gelber Kongosalmler (Alestopetersius caudalis)
- Blauer Kongosalmler (Phenacogrammus interruptus)
- Adolfs Panzerwels (Corydoras adolfoi)
- Agassiz' Buntbarsch (Apistogramma agassizii)
- Blehers Rotkopfsalmler (Hemigrammus bleheri)
- Fahnen-Kirschfleckensalmler (Hyphessobrycon erythrostigma)
- Gestreifte Saugbarbe (Garra cambodgiensis)
- Goldstörwels (Sturisoma aureum)
- Hexenwels (Rineloricaria fallax)

Aquarium cleaner fish (Siluridae/ Catfish) can also perform a useful cleaning function in your discus aquarium. Ensure that you select **smaller Siluridae species**, as Siluridae which grow to more than 15 cm / 6 inches may "nibble" the discus fish, which is, of course, undesirable.

Neon fish swarm, consisting of approx. 30 – 50 fish
Butterfly Cichlids (pair), approx. 2 – 3 pairs
Dwarf Cichlids, approx. 6 fish
Siluridae (small, also known as Catfish), approx. 6 fish
Amano shrimps for algae removal
For the **Butterfly Cichlid** pairs, please provide a coconut half or a small stone ledge in your aquarium as a hatchery for breeding. (One half coconut (with an entrance hole) or one stone ledge for each pair) Butterfly Cichlids display beautiful pairing and brood care behaviours.

(All information is provided without guarantee)