

# GENETICALLY MODIFIED ZEBRA DANIOS



GM *Danio rerio*



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**Do you have these unusual red/pink danios?**

**Do you know someone who does?**

**Please help MAF Biosecurity New Zealand find these fish by ringing the freephone: 0800 80 99 66.**

Because they are genetically modified, these particular red/pink danios are illegal in New Zealand. Some have been sold through pet stores and websites. MAF Biosecurity New Zealand is working to recover the fish and humanely put them down.

**Breeding or keeping these GM fish for private aquariums is against the law.**

It is an offence under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (HSNO) to keep GM danios for aquarium use. However, prosecution is a measure of last resort reserved for cases of serious or deliberate flouting of the Act and the priority in this instance is getting rid of the GM fish.

**Only danios are affected - no other aquarium fish will be put down.**

MAF Biosecurity New Zealand will follow up reports to the 0800 number with a visit to humanely euthanase the fish with a fish anaesthetic.

All danios at a location will be inspected, but not all will need to be destroyed. Where danios are suspected to have been crossed with GM danios (even if they do not display the characteristic bright colour), they will need to be seized because of the risk they could carry the modified genes.

**Please help maintain the good reputation of the aquarium fish community and help MAF Biosecurity New Zealand in this important work.**

**To report GM danio fish call 0800 80 99 66**