

## Arowana Bites Tail

Written by Administrator  
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*I keep a superred, 30 cm in length. But my arowana often bites its tail. What I'd like to ask:*

1. *What has been the cause of arowana biting its tail?*
2. *What should I do to overcome it? Can it be cured?*
3. *What should I do to arouse arowana's appetite?*

*Kurniawan North Sumatera*

### **Anton Saksono:**

1. Biting tail is a form of arowana's reaction against parasite. If there are parasites attaching on the tail, arowana will try to surmount it by biting the tail. As a result, the tail will be torn. It can get worst when the bite damages the tail until only the fin cartilage can be seen. Anchor worm and louse are two kinds of parasite that usually attached on fish tail including arowana's.

2. It is easy to overcome it. First thing to do is the examine the tail of arowana. If you find a parasite, pluck the parasite out using tweezers then burnt it to prevent it from proliferating. Thereafter, change 50% of the aquarium water and also the filter with the new one to completely remove any parasite that left behind. Then, put in abate as prescribed dose on the packaging, antibiotic, and salt into the aquarium water. Alternatively, put Sumatera barb *Puntius tetrazona* into arowana aquarium either as predator or likely be a new host for anchor worm. The habituation of biting tail will eventually stop when the arowana has been free from parasites.

3. To arouse appetite, put arowana in a bigger aquarium. Use also a filter with large capacity in accordance with aquarium size. Install a small pump to add water current and aerator to enhance dissolved oxygen content in the water. Change 50% of aquarium water every two days and feed the arowana with living feed of small size such as cricket and rice field frog.\*\*\*