

New hybrid fish to hit Manipur market soon

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IMPHAL, Nov 12 - A new hybrid fish, named Nylon Togra, is expected to appear in the menu of the traditionally fish loving Manipuris soon.

The hybrid was produced following crossbreeding of Nylon Ngamu (*Glossogobius giuris*) and Mirgal (*Cirrilinus mirgale*) at a private fish farm at Mayang Imphal, about 25 km south of Imphal.

“The hybridization happened all of a sudden at our farm in 2004, involving a male Nylon Ngamu and a female Mirgal”, says Khaidem Swami Meitei (29) who owns the Mayang Imphal Awang Leikai fish farm. “We are attempting to produce it for the general consumption but it will take some time,” he added.

Swami has distributed some Nylon Togra fingerlings to Nungba areas in Tamenglong district and Tora in Ukhrul district on an experimental basis. He said the hybrid fish, which is similar in looks to the Mirgal carp, was displayed at the farmers’ fair at Lamphelpat in Imphal on Monday.

The new hybrid is said to be healthier and tastier than Mirgal carps and a full grown fish of the variety weighs up to 1 to 1 ½ kilograms within 2 to 2 ½ years.