

HOW TO DETERMINE CHERRY SHRIMP'S GENDER

- It is quite important, especially if you want to become a serious breeder.



Things to keep Keep In mind

- The ratio of males and females is important for breeding.
- Separate the males from each other.
- It is crucial to know how many female shrimps are there in the tank.



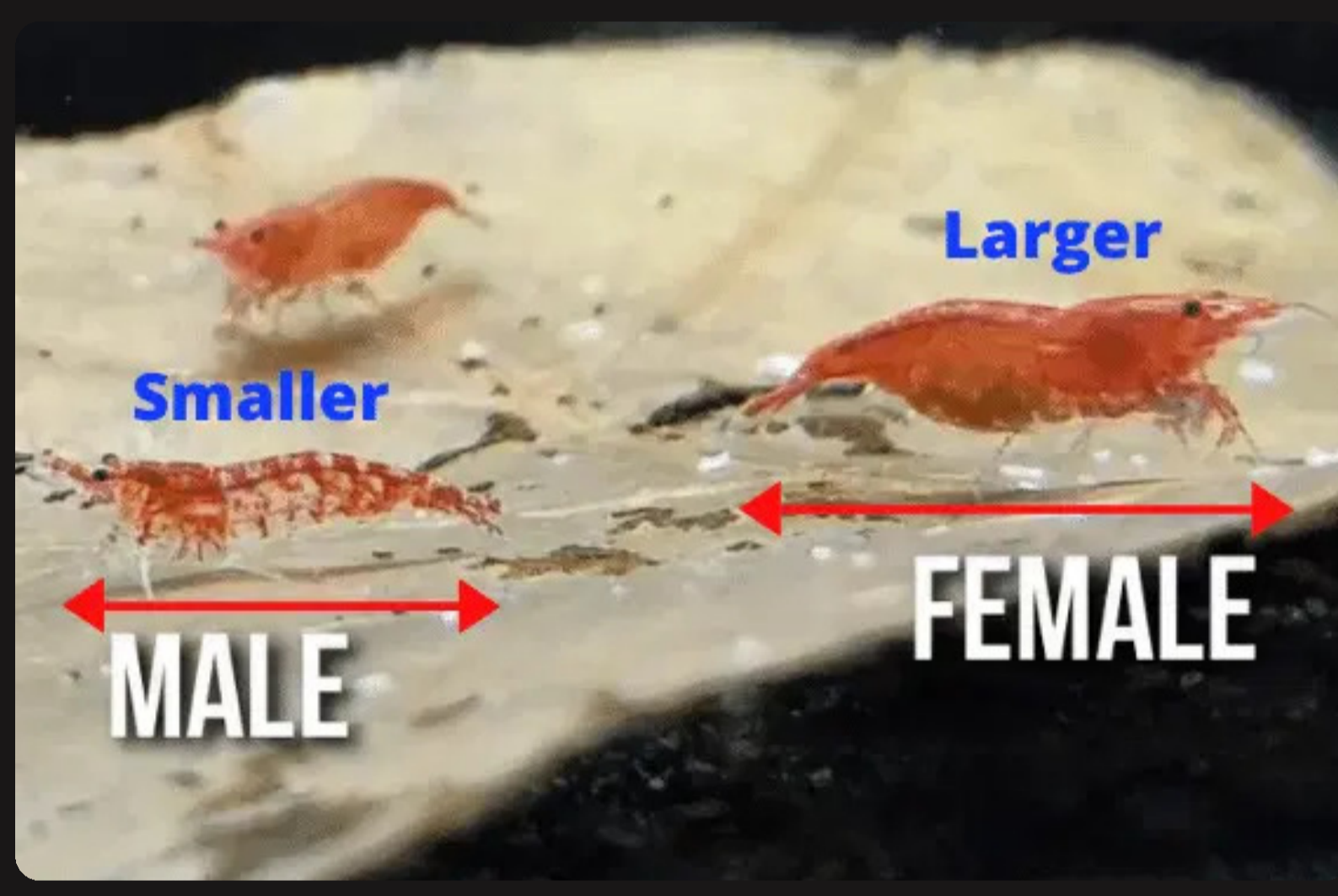
Male Cherry Shrimp	Female Cherry Shrimp
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Males don't have a saddle. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Females have a clear saddle.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smaller in size. Typically three-quarter of an inch. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Larger than the males. About 1.5 inches when sexually matured.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not as colorful as the females. Have lots of transparent blotches around the body. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More vibrant and intense color.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The belly is straight or triangular shaped. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The belly is rounder and larger in order to hold eggs.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first, second as well as the third scales sit next to each other. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The second scale sits on top of the first and third scale.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The third set of antennas (facing upward) is longer in males. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The third set of antennas are shorter in females.

7 Ways To Identify Cherry Shrimp Gender



Saddle and Eggs

- Female cherry shrimps have a saddle in their body whereas males don't.
- In the first picture, you can see the saddle quite clearly. It is circled red. This is 100% female.
 - In the second picture, there is no saddle. However, there are eggs in the belly. So, you can clearly see it is a female
 - In the third picture, there is neither a saddle nor eggs in the belly. So, it is clearly a male.



Size

This is also a very reliable and easy method to determine the gender of cherry shrimps. Females are generally larger than males.

- One thing to be noted, this method is only applicable when the shrimps are adult and sexually matured. You can't rely on this method if the shrimps are baby.



Color

The female cherry shrimps have a brighter and more intense color than the males. However, there are a few limitations to this approach.

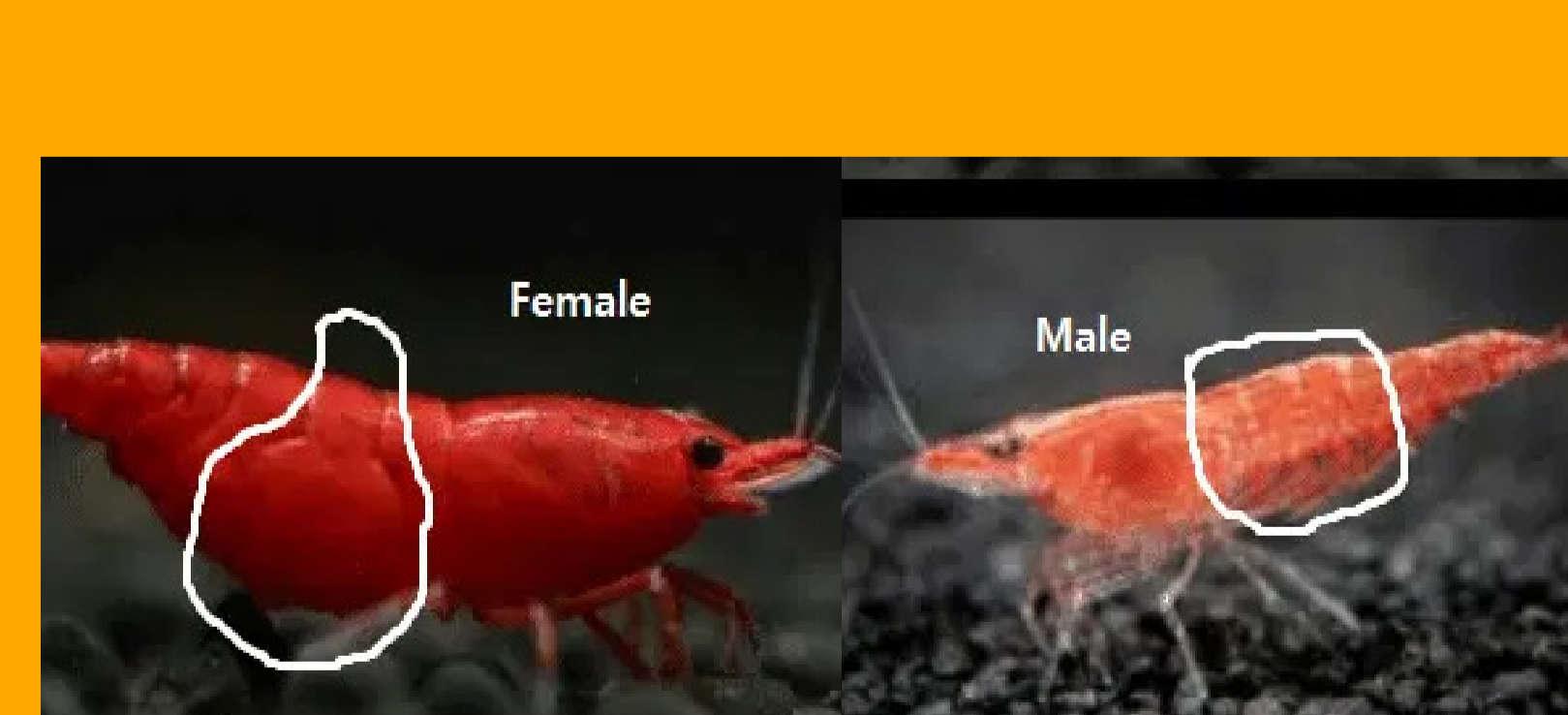
1. Under a stressful condition, the females can lose color.
2. This method is not applicable to all the shrimp grades. A higher grade male shrimp will definitely have a brighter color than a lower grade female shrimp.



Belly & Back Curve

Female cherry shrimps have a rounder and bigger belly and male have a more straight.

This area is also known as the undercarriage. The curved shape of the undercarriage also adds an extra layer of protection for the eggs. Once the female gets berried for the first time, her belly gets rounded permanently.



Exoskeleton Shape

In the case of female cherry shrimps, the second scale is larger and rounder. But in the males, the second scale has a straight shape.

Also, in the females, the second scale looks like it sits on the top of the first and third scale. In the males, the 3 scales sit next to each other.



Antennas

The female cherry shrimps have a longer third set of antenna than the females.

This means, the antennas that are located at the end of rostrum facing upwards, is longer in the males than the females.



Behavior

Male cherry shrimps are generally very active and agitated compared to the females. The females are more peaceful and slow-moving. Also, during the mating season, the males behave restlessly around the females. They might also fight with each other in order to mate with a single female.