

AMAZON 2008

The trip this year was to the Aqua Boa Amazon Lodge houseboat. After a two hour charter flight from Manaus and a three hour boat ride from the Lodge we arrived at our home for the next six days.



We figured we were about fifty miles from the Lodge in a much smaller part of the river that had much less fishing pressure since the houseboat only holds six anglers in their private air conditioned accommodations. Plenty of power was available from the generator which was located away from the houseboat so noise was not noticeable.



The food was much better than the Lodge last year. The new owner, Lance, from Switzerland, has made many improvements that add to the comfort of the guests. Fatima and Erica cooked for the guests and the entire crew and put on quite a spread at each meal.



The peacock bass was excellent. (These were fish that were so deeply hooked that they would die, so, we put them to good use)



Even the piranha was good cooked over an open fire.



Now, for the fishing. First, we had to have an anchor as the wind blew pretty hard all the time.



The first day, with only one hour of fishing, yielded 8 lb, 12 lb and 13 lb peacocks. We didn't even count the numerous small fish that hogged the flies.



On the second day we had a great afternoon! In 2-1/2 hrs of fishing we caught 6 lb, 7 lb, two 8 lb, 9 lb, 10 lb, two 12 lb, 13 lb, and three 14 lb peacocks.



We were stuck on 14 lb fish for several days until Rex caught the “big boy”, an 18 lb peacock in the “assu” color phase. This was the largest fish caught all week.



To get “on the board” the fish had to be 10 lb or over. Our final count was twenty seven (27) fish 10 lbs or over. Our final day of fishing was capped off with two 10 lb, a 12 lb and two 15 lb fish. A number of these large fish were caught on a popper fished with a sinking line. It was quite a sight to see these large fish blast the popper on the surface.



Herb and his arawana, the no tail fish that jumps like a tarpon.



Rex in his bag. A familiar sight as he looks for something.



We also had some “companions” with us as we fished. We had to get the fish in fast sometimes.



Some wildlife shots. Leopard catfish in lower picture.





At the end of the trip, only one rod was still working. The other three are in pieces. Back to Sage again after another battle with the peacocks.



For the end of this report, one more shot of the big fish. Please take note of the big “hump” that characterizes the larger fish.



The view from our houseboat---Peacock Mountain.



