

Lion Queen Mako Showa– Development of a Masterpiece

by Momotaro Koi Farm

In an effort to better understand our Mako bloodline Showa, we would like to introduce this photo set of one of our best Showa produced here at Momotaro Koi Farm. This koi was produced by pairing a Mako-line Kohaku female with our best Momotaro produced male Showa. This parent female Kohaku was selected for her outstanding body shape in hope that her offspring would resemble that bodytype but with Showa coloration.

As a tosai this koi had one of the best red patterns as well as a standout, strong type of body. After her initial winter indoors she was released into a mud pond for raising for the summer. After harvesting and keeping in concrete for a month or 2. the first picture of her was taken as a 63cm two-year old. At this point her body was one of the best compared to her siblings and perhaps even the best of all the fish produced at the farm that year. Her red and white were also outstanding but showed the potential to develop further. Her sumi was very sparse but showed hints of its future positioning. She was entered into our winter auction that year as a nisai.

The next year, 2010, this koi was kept in the 1500ton concrete pond all summer. She was a great eater growing to 77cms by the fall/winter of her third year. By this time her sumi had shown itself to be of good quality in addition to her great white and red coloration. The sumi pattern on the head developed very much as did the sumi between the second and third beni markings at her tail end. By this time we knew this fish had the pattern potential for serious koi shows throughout the world.

In the spring and summer of 2011, this showa was kept indoors in a 70 ton pond in our new house. To our delight, she grew to 84cm by November as her sumi pattern came together as hoped for. The pictures of this fish do not show the height of the body top to bottom nor can we see just how contrasting the colors are. In November of 2011 she went to the ZNA All Japan Koi Show and did very well winning Best in size 85cm as well as Best in Variety Showa. This koi has the potential to be champion in Japanese koi shows in the future. The development of her sumi pattern on the head and around the dorsal fin area should be exciting to watch in the coming years.

2 years	3 years	4 years	6 years
			
63 cm	77 cm	84 cm	99cm

This is the kind of Showa we are trying to produce with the Mako Bloodline Showa - a Showa with a great body and greatly contrasting, long-lasting colors.

(This was written by Momotaro before Lion Queen's win as a 6-year old)