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Wild zebrafish are found in habitats with a variety of vegetation, substrates and water flow rates.





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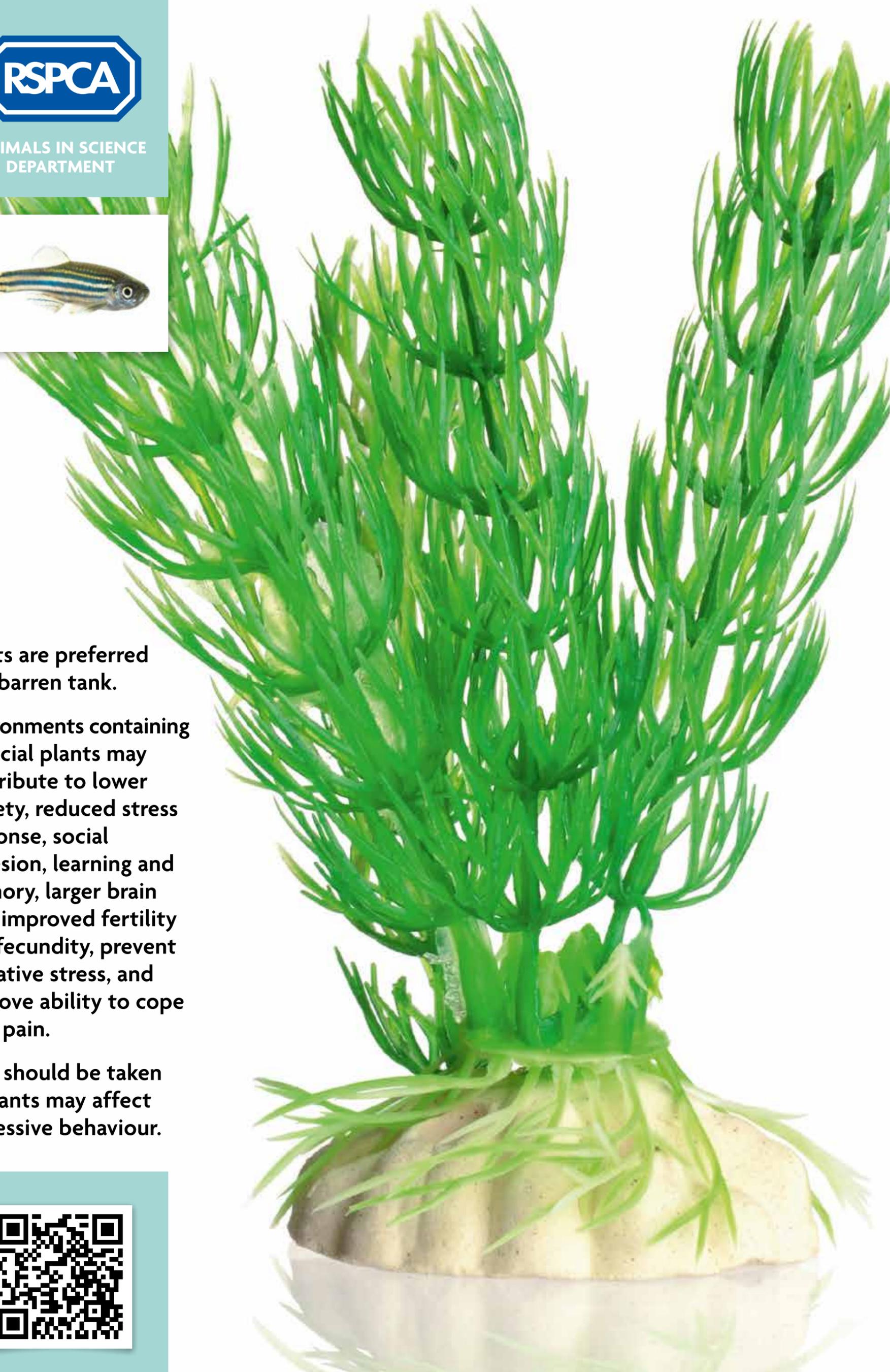
**Plants are preferred
to a barren tank.**

**Environments containing
artificial plants may
contribute to lower
anxiety, reduced stress
response, social
cohesion, learning and
memory, larger brain
size, improved fertility
and fecundity, prevent
oxidative stress, and
improve ability to cope
with pain.**

**Care should be taken
as plants may affect
aggressive behaviour.**



SCAN QR CODE FOR A FULL LIST OF REFERENCES





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Gravel, sand, or even an image of gravel is preferred to a barren tank.

Environments containing substrate may contribute to lower anxiety, reduced stress response, larger brain size, larvae survival, prevent oxidative stress and improve ability to cope with pain.





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Tanks with shelter and structure are preferred to barren tanks.

Structured environments may contribute to lower anxiety, reduced stress response, increased exploration, improved learning, larger brain size, and improve ability to cope with pain.





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Live food likely provides
short-term enrichment
by stimulating natural
predatory behaviour.





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Group housing is preferred and contributes to lower anxiety and faster recovery from stress. More information is needed on preferred group sizes.

Aggression may be high in small groups of zebrafish (<6 individuals) so caution should be exercised and animals carefully monitored.

Where fish need to be housed alone or in pairs, using clear perforated barriers to maintain visual and olfactory contact and providing other enrichment such as plants, can help reduce stress.

