

TrueNute Fake Fish-Ammonium Sulfate Fishless Cycling-System Maintenance



Thank you for your purchase of our TrueNute FAKE FISH. Instructions for use are as follows.

Fishless Cycling

These instructions are based on a 200-gallon system, so please adjust to fit your needs.

Add 5ml or about 1 teaspoon of ammonium sulfate to your system water, allow it to circulate for about 1-2 hours and test the water for ammonia. You want to get up to 3PPM of ammonia in the system to attract and feed the bacteria that you need to convert ammonia into nitrite. Record the amount of ammonium sulfate you added and the resulting level of ammonia in the system and either increase or reduce the amount of ammonium sulfate you use. If you have not reached 5PPM you will need to add more until you do reach 3PPM. Be sure to record everything you do, as you will need this information in order to maintain 3PPM over the course of the next few weeks.

After you reach 3PPM, you are set to attract your bacteria and start your colony that will drive the system.

Every day, you need to check the ammonia levels in the system and add the appropriate amount to maintain 3PPM. You will also want to start checking for nitrite after a few days, and again record everything you do along with the levels.

As nitrite starts to show up in the system, the next batch of bacteria will start to colonize the system to convert nitrite to nitrate. At this point, you will be adding the same amount of ammonium sulfate on a daily basis, but you may or may not see the ammonia levels reach 3PPM, this is normal. After several weeks, you may or may not have a spike in nitrite, again this is normal, and with no fish in the system, you need to take no special action. However, after the nitrite falls off to close to 0PPM you are ready to introduce fish. Congratulations, your system has cycled.

Very important, please go ahead and add plants to your system on day one, you

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can use our seaweed extract to feed them a bit of nitrogen until nitrate shows up in the system. Remember to record everything you do along with the dates and times.

System Maintenance

If you have harvested your fish, you need to supply nitrate to the system to keep the plants going. What most people forget is that you also must supply ammonia to the bacteria colonies to keep them alive during the absence of fish. The bacteria will be fine for several days as they use the remaining ammonia from the fish, and even after it is all gone, they will survive several more days without ammonia. So, after a few days of no fish, you will want to add ammonium sulfate to give the bacteria something to eat until you get new fish. Start out with a teaspoon of ammonium sulfate daily, and be sure to check your levels of ammonia, nitrite and nitrate before you dose and record what you find. The levels of nitrate will tell you if you need to increase or decrease the amount of ammonium sulfate being added. Try to maintain between 10PPM and 80PPM of nitrate for the plants.

**Do not get your ammonia above 5 PPM. Let us know if
you need a reliable test kit.**

If you need help,

Website: www.trueaquaponics.com

Email: trueaquaponics@gmail.com

Text us at 214-489-2311

Again, thank you for your order, and **Get Your Grow On.**

Roger & Terri