



Fish Friends Troubleshooting

Tank Troubleshooting Guide

Problem: Ice has formed around the coils.

Solution: Coil freeze-ups are often due to poor setting of the thermostat or non-submerged temperature probes. Re-adjust the thermostat using a screw driver. Check the temperature probe and ensure it is in contact with the water.

Problem: Cooling system is not running.

Solution:

1. This may be due to a burned-out fuse or a tripped circuit breaker. Push the reset button on the cooling unit or replace a fuse if necessary.
2. Some older units have an on/off switch. Be sure it is in the 'on' position.
3. Be sure the unit is plugged into the wall.
4. Test the wall outlet to ensure it has not tripped a breaker.
5. Screening around the cooling unit may be plugged. Vacuum the screening on the cooling unit to allow for better air flow to the unit.

Problem: Pump and/or filter not running.

Solution:

1. Be sure the unit is plugged into a wall or cooling unit outlet.
2. Be sure the outlet has not tripped a breaker.
3. The unit may have de-primed itself during a power outage. Fill the unit to the top with water.
4. Screening around intake pipe inside the aquarium needs cleaning to allow water into the unit.

Problem: On first use of the year, the unit does not cool well.

Solution: Vacuum the air screen, clean the coils thoroughly, and check that fan is working properly.

Problem: Condensation has formed on the outside of the tank.

Solution: Temperature differences between the room and the water in the tank can cause condensation. Increasing the water temperature in your tank may solve this problem as long as you remain within the allowable temperature range for the fish. Also, large numbers of people in airtight rooms can cause condensation. Opening some windows may reduce the problem.

Problem: Newly hatched fish are being drawn into the mesh screen on the pump.

Solution: Adjust the filter speed to 'slow'. Refer to pump instructions.

Biological Trouble Shooting Guide

This guide is intended to help you deal with problems that may arise with the eggs and fry during the Fish Friends program. Sometimes fish get sick and die and it is good to know why this is happening and what you can do if anything to correct the problem and reduce the number of dead fish.

Problem: Dead eggs.

Solution: Eggs turn white when dead. It is important to remove dead eggs immediately. If dead eggs are left in the tank a fungus may develop on them. This fungus looks like white cotton. The egg eventually looks like a little cotton ball. This fungus can attack nearby live eggs and kill them. So again, it is important to remove the dead eggs.

Problem: Fungus on fish.

Solution: Sometimes the cotton like fungus attacks live fish. If this happens, you should remove the infected fish or give them a salt bath. (Contact HRAA for salt bath instructions)

Problem: Fungus on the bottom of the tank.

Solution: It should be removed immediately.

Problem: Premature hatch.

Solution: Hatching can occur basically any time after the eggs have eyed. The causes for premature hatch are not clear, but it seems that once the fish hatch, they continue to develop as if they were still in the egg shell.

Problem: Fish dying.

Solution: Not every fish that is hatched lives. If they all did, then we would be overrun with them. If you notice one or two fish dead in your tank, not to worry. If you notice many per day then you have a problem. Something may have been introduced to the water that is killing them off.

Questions to ask are:

1. Were the fish healthy and eating well before this happened?
2. Are the fish behaving like they are trying to escape from the tank (ie. get away from the problem?)
3. Is the water cloudy or have a bad smell?

These are all signs that a substance has been added to the water. Try changing the water in the tank or plan to release the fish ASAP.

Any of the following can have a major impact on your fish – strong detergents, hand lotion, chlorinated tap water.

Check for foreign objects such as pennies, which can kill the fish.