

## Information Sheet No. 17

### Aquarium Water Quality

The following is a guideline for your aquarium:

- ✿ **Temperature:** 68 - 93° F (20-33 °C), *Optimal:* 27 - 29 °C
- ✿ **Salinity:** 30 - 37 ppt, *Optimal:* 32 - 36ppt
- ✿ **pH:** 8.0 - 8.8, *Optimal:* 8.0 - 8.4
- ✿ **Ammonia:** 0.1 - 0.5 ppm
- ✿ **Dissolved Oxygen:** 5.0 - 8.0 ppm
- ✿ **Calcium:** 352 – 506 mg Ca/L (when using a sand substrate)
- ✿ **Alkalinity:** around 120 mg/L as CaCO<sub>3</sub> for salt water

### Aquarium Maintenance

- ✿ Siphon the old food out of the tank as often as needed, otherwise the ammonia levels may be too high.
- ✿ Keep an eye on the ammonia (nitrate, nitrite) levels in the tanks the first week after adding the conch to the tank. You may see a spike in the ammonia levels, at which time you should do a 100% water change on the tank.
- ✿ Make sure the filter stays clean and is free of debris or old food.
- ✿ Be sure that the air/water flow is reaching all areas or sections of the tank
- ✿ Complete partial or full water changes as needed, but it is suggested that you maintain a regular schedule.
- ✿ Check salinity on a regular basis, as you may need to add some fresh water if there is a lot of evaporation.

### Trouble Shooting

- ✿ **My conch aren't eating.** They may be stressed out. Check the ammonia, temperature, or salinity of your tank and complete a water change if necessary. Always siphon out old food. Reduce the amount of food or feed every other day.
- ✿ **My water is cloudy.** Check to make sure the air and water flow are present throughout the entire tank. Adjust accordingly. Complete a water change.
- ✿ **My conch died.** Unfortunately, sometimes this happens. I would recommend purchasing a few extras so you can replace them, if you have an extra aquarium to hold them in.