

The maintenance of a tank is one thing that I think is essential because 'prevention is better than cure', and when we are 'emergency' desperate actions are very difficult to prove decisive

Even though a tank tidy and really started requires minimal intervention, this does not mean that there are activities to do regularly.

Then:

EVERY DAY:

Spend just 10 minutes of your time for the observation of aquarium. Given that it is very nice, your behavior will be useful to understand the health status of the tank, the temperature within the correct values, the behavior of fish and their way of eating. Warning: The behavior of your other guests is the first symptom of their health, be careful. When feed, be careful not to exceed: everything that is not eaten it before it touches the bottom (if it is feed 'Sinking' will be lost, your fish will not eat more - of considering catfish or other fish from the bottom) and the excess will raising the level of pollution in the tank.

Make sure that everyone eats, not only the largest (and sometimes overbearing), sprinkle or two pinches you in different parts of the tank, so that everyone can find 'their' space to 'nibble' a bit of food . The daily observation is also important to ensure that there are no fish (sometimes

unfortunately it can happen) dead on the bottom, perhaps hidden behind a plant or a tree trunk. Avoid leaving water in the ruins: the decomposition produces toxic substances in general and greatly increases the level of pollution, to the detriment of all inhabitants. If the fish is small, and the tank-mates sufficiently large or aggressive, it could be eaten directly, but the larger specimens should always be uplifted because organic residues still remain very dangerous for the biological balance of your pool. If you have many plants, the daily observation will also be dedicated to the removal of dead leaves, observed status of the plants, the color of the leaves - for example - can provide lots of information on their health and overall balance in the tank.

EVERY WEEK:

Cleaning the fund is very important in this area: disconnect the electrical contacts before you put your hands in the tank (I always say that but I am not the first to ever do so), and cleaned using a special tool (if you sell on the Internet of all kinds, I prefer those with battery) the organic material that is deposited between the grains. Operations of this type may be difficult or impossible to limit, if you have chosen a fine sandy bottom (this usually not recommended for the characteristics of lack of oxygen that has), because only in this case raised a huge cloud without reaching a particular purpose. Especially if you feel inexperienced, the weekly check may also be an opportunity to test the water chemistry. Use the appropriate reagents for sale in shops for aquarium. Eliminate - if necessary - algae that may have formed on the walls of the tank. Be careful to use as a tool: the magnets often scratch the glass because of the material - almost imperceptibly - it sticks between the inner magnet and the glass. Often the best solution is 'use your hands' and a rag made from Perlon wool (the one used for the filter).

If you'll be doing regularly to clean the wall, certainly will not get in those situations where action is needed with scrapers, knives or tools like that. If you are not experienced, avoid the use of such tools and let it do it who can!

EVERY MONTH:

We arrived in time to do a water change! Your hosts, depending also on the capacity and quantity of fishes (and the same size) that are hosted in the tub, dirty, and therefore progressively pollute the water in which they live. Amount of excess food, rotting leaves not removed, do the rest. Furthermore, especially in the summer months, the water change will compensate for more frequent natural phenomenon that is called evaporation. Prepare always water in advance, and bring the temperature of what you take away from the tank. Although the chemical characteristics should be the same, unless you want to (specifically) to change any value, even in this case the change should never be abrupt, change the values in small increments. A standard water change, then in a state of normal operations can achieve a 20-25% of the total volume of the aquarium. Check the electrical contacts, which are all in order and there are no infiltrations and / or humidity in the vicinity of wires and cables. You can also - this time - to remove any deposits that may have formed on the tubes, with vinegar or similar products. Do not use toxic substances / chemicals that may fall into the tub!

EVERY YEAR:

Reasoning with this time frame is perhaps a bit 'too much, but it is certainly the opportunity to replace fluorescent tubes (neon). Whether T8 or T5, their life - understood as emission of the light spectrum for optimal plant - is limited. Usually after a year worsened the characteristics of the emitted light so that plants will suffer greatly. In some cases it can even reach to the

formation of algae in the tank (and sometimes we do not explain why). The lights that you are going to install will have the same characteristics as the previous ones, where a change could be observed on plants of the changes and how they grow. Also check the ventilation system and the state of the underlying membrane. **ATTENTION:** always take pains to install a check valve on the hose that goes from the air to the porous tub! In the case of (for example) a power failure, water could go back and - for the principle of communicating vessels, if the aerator is positioned at a lower level of the tank - flooding the entire house!

Even the circulation pumps in the filter must be disassembled, inspected and cleaned. Replace the materials of mechanical filter (be careful not to remove those of the party if you want to share biological almost from scratch with the maturation of your tank), and if you need to remove (eg blocked because) the materials of biological filter, do it carefully since care to leave a certain amount in the tank. Raising (and cleaning up afterwards) these materials, remove all the bacteria that play off that very important and delicate task in the aquarium, providing clean water to those conditions that are essential for your fish. If you need to rinse, do so at least the water taken from the tank, which has a bacteria that can ensure minimum maintenance of the flora present in the material that you are 'cleaning up'. Also check the thermostat, often a defective heater / crazy cause in 24 to 48 hours, the death of all your fish. Always remember to disconnect (just the plug!) The heater during the summer, and whenever the tank temperature rises above the level at which the heater was set. Similarly, remember, the arrival of the first cold, on again.

Although it may seem many and difficult, those that I listed are the actions 'base' for the sound management of the aquarium and - consequently - the health of your fish. With a little practice, you will find everything to do with perseverance I have listed without even realizing it! After all, a spa treatment is also fun and interesting, besides giving a lot of satisfaction!

aquarium maintenance

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