

AQUA DRAGONS FAQ

Are they really alive?

Yes, the *Artemia salina* (which is the scientific name for what we call Aqua Dragons) are live organisms and they need you to care for them. We have another resource called [WHAT ARE AQUA DRAGONS? – BASIC INSTRUCTIONS](#). You can use this resource to find out more about the creatures and learn how to take care of them.

What temperature should the water be?

The ideal water temperature range for hatching is 21 to 27°C. It is important that the water is at this temperature in order for your Aqua Dragons to hatch and during the first delicate week of life. You could put the tank under a lamp to warm the water if you are concerned about the temperature. Ask an adult to help you with this. After a week the Aqua Dragons become stronger and the water temperature can be between 17 and 30°C.

How many Aqua Dragons should hatch?

A difficult question; it depends on the water, the temperature, the number of microscopic eggs that were in the packet, so could be between 10 and 50.

Do I have to change the water?

No, the water has a special pH and salinity level that is established by the contents of the eggs sachet. So don't change the water! However the water does evaporate so you can fill up, slowly using room temperature bottled spring water in small quantities each time. Do not use tap water.

How do I oxygenate the water?

We recommend that you shake the water before adding the eggs so that it is oxygenated well from the start then begin using the pipette to oxygenate the water. Squeeze and release the pipette to let air into the chamber. Put the pipette tip in the water and then squeeze again to blow the stored air into the water. Repeat this for 30 seconds every few days.

How often should I feed my Aqua Dragons?

The amount you feed should correspond to the number of Aqua Dragons you hatch. If you have only a few Aqua Dragons, feed every 4-5 days. If you have a large hatch of 20+ Aqua Dragons feed every other day.

Do Aqua Dragons like sunlight?

Yes they love it, just make sure you don't leave them in the direct sun where the water would overheat!

Do Aqua Dragons bite?

No... actually they don't have a mouth; they eat through their wings which work like gills.

How long do Aqua Dragons live?

Each Aqua Dragon can reach adult hood at one month and can live for up to 90 days, however if you care for them well you may see that they reproduce so you could have life in the tank for much longer.

How big do Aqua Dragons grow?

Up to 20mm but this may take up to two months.

What do I do if one of the dragons dies?

When an Aqua Dragon dies it will float down to the bottom of your habitat and slowly biodegrade. In effect they become part of the habitat so it is not necessary to remove them.

I see a dead Aqua Dragon at the base of the tank, what do I do?

It could be an Aqua Dragons exo-skeleton which they shed at various stages in their life cycle. Alternatively, sadly, it could be that one of your Aqua Dragons has died..the life cycle includes death.

Initially I had lots of hatchlings but now I am left with just a few adults?

Not all the Aqua Dragons that hatch will survive into adulthood, otherwise we'd be overrun! It's normal and natural for many to hatch and for only some to make it through to adulthood.

Some of my Aqua Dragons seem to have a very long tail; why?

Actually just like with fish, this is the excrement that sometimes forms a string.

What is that black line across my Aqua Dragons body?

It is a digestive tube full of food. Everything is alright.

I can see two Aqua Dragons swimming together, what's happening?

They are mating; you will notice the male is below and grasps the female with some antenna that sprout from his head. They may stay like that for a few days.

The water is dirty, what do I do?

This is normally due to over-feeding. Stop feeding until the Aqua Dragons have had time to process all the food in the tank. It could take a week or so for the water to become clear again but the water won't become bad, because it is salty.

Can Aqua Dragons live in my regular fish aquarium?

As they are small, regular fish will eat them, so do not introduce them into your home aquarium.

I have lost the instruction book, what should I do?