

# EDITORIAL

I'm overwhelmed. Our mailbox is overflowing. Our phone has not stopped ringing. Almost everywhere **MARINE AQUARIST™** was available, it was entirely handed out. A projected three month supply was gone in a few weeks. Has **MARINE AQUARIST™** tapped into people's passion or what?

In the last few months, a lot of my friends have heard me say that this has been one of the most exciting projects in my 20+ years of being involved with marine aquariums. The eagerness of aquaculturists, dealers, and hobbyists world-wide to be part of the **MARINE AQUARIST™** team was well beyond our wildest dreams.

Marine fish and reef aquarium keeping represent one of the world's most civilized pastimes. When traveling around the world, one does not have to speak many languages to have positive communication and intense eye contact with fellow marine fish keepers.

Our second issue of **MARINE AQUARIST™** takes us to Taiwan to see the development of saltwater aquarium keeping and more. ♦

Michael Del Prete. Editor

# Stay in the kitchen, take the heat. Controversial Topics.

A tremendous amount of mail was received regarding some problems identified in the marine aquarium business described in issue Vol. 1 No. 1 of **MARINE AQUARIST™**. Other problems were identified by readers and we were asked for our help. The only way obvious problems can be corrected is with everyone's cooperation and effort.

Some of the offending topics recognized are: Little or no quarantine of marine fish by importers or dealers. Marine salts with advertising and packaging claims that are inconsistent with their contents. Reef additives formulated in kitchens or garages that do not list contents and/or are sold with paper labels. Low cost bio-balls or media of inferior or inappropriate designs. Books authored by people pushing their own line of goods. Hobbyist magazines that accept advertising for untested items and suppress information that can only help their readers. All these topics share one negative trait...they can harm our aquarium pets, take the fun out of aquarium keeping and ruin our investment.

## QUARANTINE: The start of success.

One of the problems with marine fish keeping is disease. Fish fall prey to sickness when stressed and/or placed in aquariums with poor water quality.

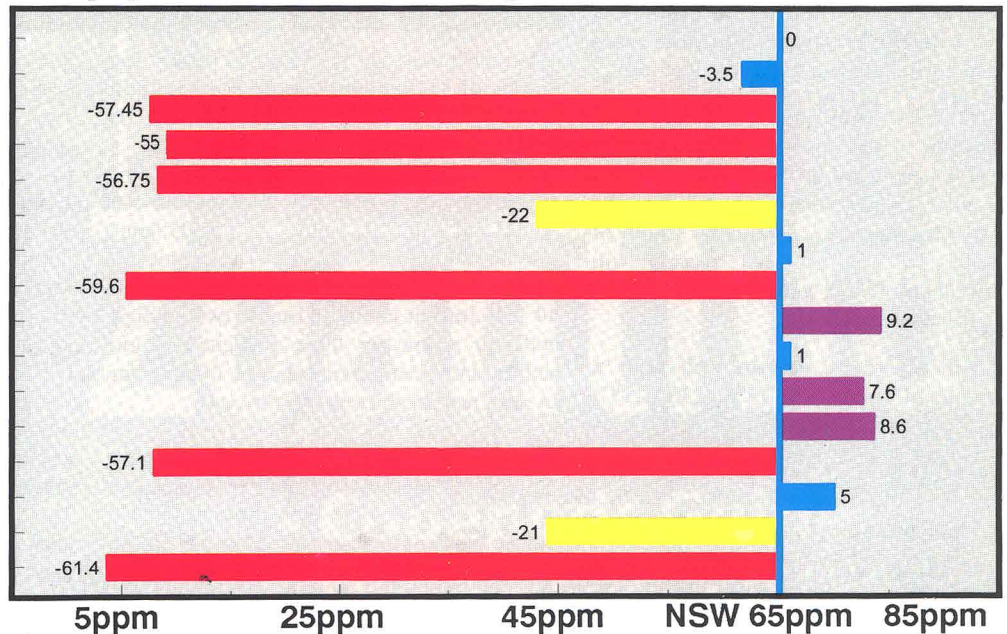
Fish are shipped from the collecting site to importers. This is a 10 to 40 hour air trip for fish in a poly bag with very little water. These fish are sold, again bagged and shipped via air to dealers within hours to a couple of days after their initial arrival. Dealers are eager to satisfy their customers' demands for these fish. I know of only a few stores that quarantine fish prior to sale.

New marine fish should be quarantined and observed for a minimum of three weeks. If fish develop Cryptocaryon irritants, oodinium (white spot or velvet) treat with **1 DROP™** Cu So<sub>4</sub> (copper sulfate). **1 DROP™** has proven to be an excellent medication to control disease in quarantine, hospital or sick tanks. Remember, copper sulfate cannot be added to any aquarium with invertebrates. ♦

## Bromide (Br) in natural seawater (NSW) is 65 parts per million (PPM)

It is believed by researchers that there may be a synergistic relationship between bromide and iodide. Bromide is a minor component in synthetic seawater or marine salts and should be added in the proper amount and forms at the time the formula is manufactured. The proper amount of bromide can be used with the proper amount of ozone without negative effects.

NSW	65 ppm
BIO-SEA®	61.5 ppm
Coralife®	7.55 ppm
Coral Sea™	10 ppm
Deep Ocean	8.25 ppm
Forty Fathoms®	43 ppm
hW	64 ppm
Inst. Ocean®	5.4 ppm
Marine Art	74.2 ppm
Marine Env.®	66 ppm
New Ocean	72.6 ppm
Red Sea	73.6 ppm
Reef Crystal®	7.9 ppm
Sera	70 ppm
Tropic Marin®	44 ppm
Ultra Marine	3.6 ppm



■ Proper amount is 60 to 70 ppm.

■ Deficient: Less than 80%. Less than 13 ppm.

■ Very Low: Less than 30%. Less than 45.5 ppm.

■ High: More than 10%. More than 71.5 ppm.

All samples of marine salts tested were hydrated with deionized water at 25°C / 77°F and mixed to 3.5% dissolved solids [specific gravity of approximately 1.026] for equal comparison. Deionized water is used as a control because tap water varies in composition from location to location world wide. Salts were mixed to approximately 1.026 S.G. because this is the world standard for measuring natural seawater.

Bromide was tested with AOAC procedures. Test results for Bromide are from the University of Missouri, a U.S. Government prime contract testing laboratory, Environmental Trace Substance Research Center, Dept. for Environmental Science and Technology and Anresco, Inc. an independent third party laboratory that prepared the S-15™ Report that contains this information. ® & ™ =Registered Trade Marks.