

# PRO 2084

## Artificial Incubation of Electric Blue Ram eggs



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## **1. Introduction**

Artificial incubation of fish is hatching eggs which are separated from brooders by providing controlled environments. Usually egg laying fish tend to eat their eggs when they have met with terrifying events. Therefore most of the situations eggs of egg layers like Angels incubate artificially. But this may be disadvantageous in certain situations.

Developing embryos and larvae have very delicate nature therefore a great care must be taken to provide them with proper incubating and hatching environment.

Electric blue rams stick their eggs on a flat substrate in the aquarium. Therefore it is easy to remove the egg slate and subject to artificial incubation.

## **2. Breeding Electric Blue Rams**

Blue rams are quite expensive fish. Therefore breeding Blue Rams can earn a good profit.

After introducing a compatible pair they might spawn within a week period.

Breeding requirements:

- Glass tank
- 40 L water
- A flat substrate
- Environmental conditions
- Nutritious food varieties

## **3. Environmental conditions**

Ammonia = 0 ppm

Nitrite = 0 ppm

Chlorine = 0 ppm

Temperature = > 25 °C

Salinity = 0 ( But they can thrive and breed in 1-2 ppm salinities)

## **4. Ram feeding**

Mosquito larvae

Blood worms

Tubifex worms

Beef heart

Artemia

Electric blue rams stick their eggs on a flat substrate in the aquarium. Therefore it is easy to remove the egg slate and subject to artificial incubation.

## **5. Procedure for artificial incubation**

- Condition a clean glass aquarium with 40L of water for 24 hrs. This is used for artificial incubation unit.
- Aerate this tank thoroughly ( at least 2 air lines).
- Add 2L of water to a clean container and immediately transfer the egg slate in brooders tank to that.
- Then add about 1L of water in the conditioned tank slowly in to the container with egg slate.
- Keep the egg slate on the container for about 5 minute.
- Then introduced the egg slate to the conditioned tank.
- Set air stones closer to the eggs on the slate.
- Add about 0.5 mL methylene blue to the tank to prevent fungal infections.



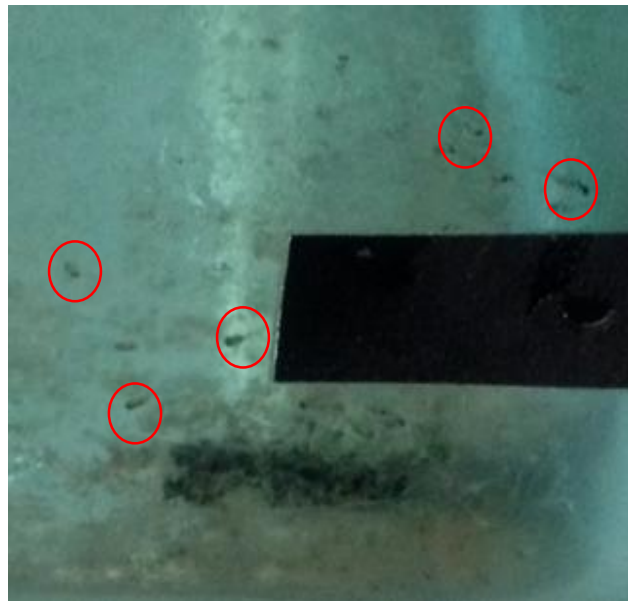
*Figure 1: eggs on the slate*



*Figure 2: Eggs in the artificial incubation tank*

## 6. Observations

	Artificial incubation	Natural incubation in Tank87	Natural incubation in Tank 88
No of eggs on the slate	368 $\pm$ 5	About 300	About 300
Slate introducing date for AI	2016/2/25	Eggs laid on 2016/2/25	Eggs laid on 2016/2/25
Eggs hatching date	2016/ 2 / 27	2016/ 2 / 27	2016/ 2 / 27
Fry free swimming date	2016/2/ 29	2016/2/ 29	2016/2/ 29
No of fries	about 100	About 200	About 100



*Figure 3: One week old fry*