**How To Get Rid Of Nitrates In Your Water Fish Tank?**

Keeping up the level of anything within a threshold value is significant, and so is the level of nitrate in the water tank, which is home to your fish. Therefore, it is crucial to keep certain things in mind to avoid the increase of toxicity in the fish tank and **reduce the nitrate in the fish tank**.

## **How To Get Rid Of Nitrates In Fish Tank**

### **Change of water from the fish tank**

The most critical element to keep your fish tank free from nitrates is, continuous change of water from the tank, although it is not good to pour the water out of the tank. Nitrates are toxic to fish, but in every sense, they need to be present in the tank with a certain amount, and with that amount, they are not harmful to the fish.

One can change almost 40-50% of water, often people suggest to go for 25-30% of water every two weeks if you have got a big fish tank, never pour too much water out of the tank, this will ultimately lead to harm the fish somehow, and that is not even required, changing particular amount is just fine to keep the level of nitrate as less than 20ppm. But we suggest that reducing of almost half the amount of water will be beneficial and lead to residue of very less amount of nitrate which is good, even if you remove just 25% of water then by adding the freshwater you will get at least 20 ppm of nitrates, on the other hand, if you choose the 40% removal idea then there is a chance of getting it reduced to 5ppm in a very less time which is indeed beneficial than 20ppm.

### **Addition of plants inside the fish tank**

Plants, they are one factor which is suitable for every living being, be it human beings or animals. Get some plants inside your fish tank as they will help to control the level of nitrate in your water tank. Although the plants also give away nitrates, on the other hand, they are very good at consuming nitrates which will eventually help you maintain the balance of nitrates in your fish tank and not conserve **high nitrate in a fish tank.**

### **Cleaning of filters of the fish tank**

Make sure your filters are very clean, you can either opt to clean them neatly or replace them with a new one. Be it filters, the small container, sponge or anything which is associated with the filter and cleanliness of the fish tank, please clean them very often. They are one primary source of nitrates in the fish tank because what if the water is changed regularly. Still, the filters aren't cleaned or removed; they will ultimately cause toxicity inside the water due to remaining materials present in themselves. Therefore, it is essential to keep the tank and water clean to **get rid of nitrate in the water tank.**

### **Balanced pH in the fish tank**

Adjustment of pH is significant as well, as this will help the fish to avoid the well-known "pH shock" since it is hazardous to the fish, so it is crucial to keep things in mind before removal or addition of water inside the fish tank. You can either add baking soda to raise the level of pH or add any other material which is available in the market to just lower down its level.

### **Feeding your fish**

Each one of you knows that there is an age-old saying, “excess of everything is bad,'' here as well this saying is applicable, never feed your fish too much as this will lead to more release of faecal matter, then ammonia and further decomposition into nitrite and nitrate.

Some people own a fish tank yet they consider the safety of fish when there is an increase in the amount of ammonia or nitrite, seldom do they care about nitrate, yes, nitrates although aren't lethal to the fish yet they are harmful in other ways and can be hazardous if not taken care of.

Nitrate is something obtained during the decomposition of ammonia, as there is a presence of wastes such as faecal matter, food materials, bi-product of fish wastes, organic matter decomposition which is responsible for the release of ammonia inside the fish tank, and further, it is converted into nitrate by nitrifying bacteria, and this is known as nitrification.

There are two things which should be kept in your senses while thinking of **fixing the nitrate in the fish tank**. The first one is Nitrate SHOCK, and the other one is Nitrate POISONING. Both are inter-related yet different from each other, let us consider the former one first, what is "nitrate shock"?

It is a level when fishes inside the tank are in contact with some significant level of nitrate; it can be in very high amount or very low, both aren't good in any sense. On the other hand "nitrate poisoning" is something when there is a rapid increase in the level of nitrate, the reason can be anything like overdosing the fishes, or even getting too many fishes inside a fish tank, both are evenly responsible for the **high rate of nitrate inside the fish tank.**

There are several symptoms which can be observed during the rise of nitrate level in the fish tank; they are:

* High respiration rate: This can be seen if you minutely find the gill movement of fishes inside the tank if they are continually moving it then they are having a problem with respiration, which mostly happens when the fish are in contact with a high level of nitrate for at least 24 hours.
* Disorientation: There will be no coordination among the fishes, the way they move and swim effortlessly during ordinary times will not be seen, as they will look fatigued or tired.
* Appetite loss: No longer they will come near the good or will be interested in it even if it is near to their mouth. You can easily observe this behaviour if you keep track of their food and appetite. They will most probably ignore the food and will stick to a corner.
* Lay in the bottom: One significant sign which will be visible if your fish tank is poisoned with nitrate. The fishes won't prefer moving inside the water; instead, they will just lay at the bottom to avoid swimming.

It would be best if you kept in mind that whenever there is a rise in the level of nitrate the fishes will show these signs and symptoms, not every fish but many of them, and often there is seen that fishes die due to lack of a better environment for them inside the fish tank. One can never survive in a place which is toxic for them, even if it's just a fish, also though they are living to be. Therefore, this toxic environment anyhow manages to kill the fish if not observed and treated wisely.

### **Treatment**

Changing the water in the fish tank can be an immediate treatment. But first, take a quick nitrate check, it is very crucial to do so at this time of emergency, by checking the nitrate level you'll have an idea of how much increment has been occurred. Then cleaning of water, not just a considerable amount of water to be thrown away from the fish tank but rather go for multiple times water change, some amount of water but after time to time. Also, keep a track on feeding your fish since they should not overfeed, this is one major reason for an increment of nitrate as more they will eat and more will be the waste products out of them. This treatment measure is beneficial to **treat the nitrate in the tank.**