

# Ammonia Test

## Description:

Ammonium ( $\text{NH}_4^+$ ) passes into aquarium water through the bacterial breakdown of food and plant remains which contain protein and also by being excreted directly by the fish. Although ammonium is an important plant nutrient, ammonia ( $\text{NH}_3$ ), which is toxic to fish, can develop, depending on the pH. Below a pH of 7, ammonium is primarily present; the proportion of toxic ammonia increases as pH increases. Even low ammonium concentrations of 0.5 mg/L can stress fish. Signs of stress are an increased respiratory rate, restless swimming movements, and cessation of food intake. Higher concentrations starting at 1.0 mg/L represent a serious health risk for fish. If ammonium is detected, a partial water change must be performed as an initial measure and the pH must be lowered, if necessary, in order to prevent the formation of a hazardous ammonia concentration. In addition to the determination of stages of decomposition of nitrite and nitrate, determining the ammonium thus provides important information on the quality of the aquarium water. Ammonia Test are test strips for the semi-quantitative determination of the ammonium/ammonia content in the concentration range of 0.5–6.0 mg/L in aqueous solutions.

## Contents:

1 aluminium tin with 25 test strips

## Measuring range:

0.5–6.0 mg/L  $\text{NH}_3/\text{NH}_4^+$

## Colour gradations:

0 · 0.5 · 1.0 · 3.0 · 6.0 mg/L  $\text{NH}_3/\text{NH}_4^+$

## Reaction principle:

The concentration of ammonium/ammonia is detected using a pH indicator.

## Instructions for use:

1. Immerse the test strip into the aquarium water and move it back and forth for approx. 5 s.
2. Do not shake off excess liquid and hold the test strip horizontally, with the test field facing up, for 15–30 s.
3. Then compare the test field with the colour scale.

## General information:

Always remove only the number of test strips needed. Immediately close the tin after removing test strips.

Do not touch the test field.

Protect test strips from moisture.

## Disposal:

Dispose of used test strips in household waste.

## Storage conditions:

Protect test strips from sunlight and moisture. Store tin in a cool and dry location (storage temperature 4–30°C).

If stored properly, the test strips can be stored until the printed expiry date

