

Brine Shrimp Rearing Protocol & Info

(adapted by Cathy Carolsfeld from notes by Nicole LaForge)

Supply Company:

Ocean Nutrition (They provide high quality eggs with a money back guarantee if they don't hatch)

Local Supplier:

Creatures Great & Small - 770 Bay St., Victoria 250-382-3329

Price: \$18.00 (for a large package; only ½ tsp. needed, per culture batch)

Supplies needed:

1. one bucket, small aquarium or 2 litre pop bottle
2. one small air pump (approx. \$10.00)
3. air line tubing (to agitate the water)
4. small, fine mesh dip net

Rearing Protocol*:

1. pour a 1:1 mixture of seawater and tap water into the container (bucket, tank or pop bottle)
2. add eggs
3. put air line into bottom of container
4. turn on the air pump
5. add more seawater to the container slowly over the next few days**
6. brine shrimp will begin to hatch out in approx. 18 hrs.
7. collect them in a fine mesh dip net and transfer them to the Seaquarium

* Detailed instructions are included in the egg packages which could be photocopied and given to the classes doing the rearing.

** If you add some seawater to the rearing container to raise the salinity gradually, the brine shrimp will survive in the seaquaria until they are eaten. (If not, they probably won't!)