

IN THE FISH ROOM

by David A. Lass

MANUFACTURER:

Ecoxotic

PRODUCT:

LED Lighting Systems

Ecoxotic offers a complete line of excellent LED lighting fixtures for aquarium use. Their products range from 100-watt Cannon Pendant LEDs all the way down to lunar light LEDs that use less than 1 watt.

THE CLAIMS

Ecoxotic claims that its modular approach to LED lighting for aquariums allows hobbyists to customize LED lighting systems for their own requirements.

THE TEST

Ecoxotic gave me a variety of its LED lighting products to test. The products I tested ranged from a 100-watt Cannon Elliptical Pendant 12,000K fixture to a number of their Stunner, Panorama and TrueLumen Pro strip lights. The individual strip lights ranged from 3 to 12 watts and included 12,000K, 8000K, actinic and mixtures of white and actinic. I used the Ecoxotic LEDs on a 120-gallon marine tank that has corals and fish. The entire aquarium had a glass cover. I hung the 100-watt Cannon Pendant over the left side of the tank and placed the various strips on the glass in different combinations on the right side.

THE RESULTS

The power of the 100-watt Cannon Pendant 12,000K LED was astounding. For example, light is driven to the bottom of a 2-foot-tall 120 gallon at high intensity. The 12,000K is a dazzling white, and the shimmer at the water surface is



lovely. With the various Ecoxotic strip LEDs on the right side of the tank, it was possible to achieve virtually any look and light quantity that I wanted. With the Cannon on the left side and the strips with blue on the right, I could make it look like two totally different tanks — both with plenty of light.

I did have some trouble mounting the 100-watt Cannon Pendant; it would be nice if Ecoxotic made a structure to mount the fixture over the tank with leg supports.

CONCLUSIONS

The Ecoxotic LED lighting product line is excellent. There are plenty of different types, sizes and Kelvin values to suit the needs of any hobbyist. Since they are all modular, it is easy to put together exactly the LED lighting desired, and I strongly recommend the entire Ecoxotic line of LED lights. **AFI**

API QUICK START

API Quick Start is live nitrifying bacteria for starting the nitrogen cycle in a new tank, or for boosting bacteria when adding new fish or doing a water change.

The Claims. API claims that fish can be added immediately to a new aquarium once the water has been treated for chlorine and chloramines. API also claims that the product has a 2.5-year shelf life.

The Test. I started a new 6-gallon nano tank from scratch with new gravel. Half of the water was from an established aquarium, and the other half was treated tap water. I added API Quick Start according

to the directions. I let the tank circulate the water for 10 minutes or so, and then I added eight white clouds, a couple of zebra danios, two red-orange swordtails and a couple of cory cats. I fed them after an hour or so, and all fish ate eagerly.

The Results. The following morning, all of the fish looked great, and I took readings for ammonia, nitrite and nitrates. Ammonia was zero. There was a slight hint of nitrite, and nitrates were reading at about 10. The nitrogen cycle was up and running! The fish ate greedily, and all was fine.

Conclusions. I strongly recommend API's new Quick Start live bacteria. The



nitrogen cycle is the most important aspect of fishkeeping, and this product works.