

Where can I get fish from?

Fish can be purchased as fingerlings. Sometimes larger fish are also for sale at hatcheries. Another alternative is to catch fish in the wild and milk them for eggs, but this is not as easy as it sounds. Buying fingerlings from fisheries in Victoria is the recommended option and there is a list of fisheries and the types of fish they stock in Appendix B.

Water quality

The best way to test the quality of the water in an aquaponics system is to buy a water test kit. There is a master test kit for about \$45 that will do over 800 tests.

There are also individual kits that test for specific things such as pH. These basic tests should be conducted weekly to ensure the major elements of the nitrogen cycle are running smoothly.

The basic tests are:

- pH value (pH)
- ammonium/ammonia (NH₄/NH₃)
- nitrite (NO₂)
- nitrate (NO₃)

More detailed tests are recommended when maintaining water quality where both fish and plants are involved:

- pH value (pH)
- Nitrite (NO₂)
- Nitrate (NO₃)
- Ammonium/ammonia (NH₄/NH₃)
- DO (Dissolved Oxygen)
- Total hardness (GH)
- Carbonate hardness (KH)
- Phosphate (PO₄)
- Iron (Fe) d
- Chlorine (Cl)

