

Builders Lime, known as hydrated lime in some states, provides calcium and Eco Rose, a product sold as an organic mildew control, provides potassium in the form of potassium bicarbonate.

In a 1000 litre system I use one table spoon of hydrated lime dissolved in water for one treatment, and on the next treatment one table spoon of Eco Rose dissolved in water.

Pour the dissolved mixture into the grow bed and allow it to circulate throughout your aquaponics system. Next day take a pH reading to assess the result. Re treat if necessary.

Remember, make adjustments over time. Do not go all out with one heavy treatment.



Ammonia

Ammonia will appear under the following conditions.

1. First cycling the tank. When you first start a tank to kick start the bacteria process (Nitrogen Cycle) needed in Aquaponics you need to either add a sacrificial fish to die and start the process or add a tea spoon of fish food every day for a week to kick start the bacteria process (Nitrogen Cycle).

a. Sacrificial Fish

In this situation as the fish dies and decomposes there is an ammonia spike in the system, and this is what started the bacteria process (Nitrogen Cycle) spoken about at the beginning

b. Fish Food

As the fish food breaks down there is a gradual ammonia increase in the system, and this is what started the bacteria process (Nitrogen Cycle) spoken about at the beginning

2. If you over feed the fish, the fish food breaks down there is a gradual ammonia increase in the system. STOP feeding the fish for a day or two and reduce the amount your feeding them
3. If a fish Dies and decomposes there is an ammonia spike in the system. REMOVE the dead fish, this can cause an ammonia spike that can kill the other fish and cause a domino effect.

Nitrite

Nitrite poisoning follows closely on the heels of ammonia as a major killer of Aquaponics fish. Just when you think you are home free after losing half your fish to ammonia poisoning, the nitrites rise and put your fish at risk again. Any time ammonia levels are elevated, elevated nitrites will soon follow. To avoid nitrite poisoning, test when setting up a new tank, when