DrTim's Aquatics Recipes for Success

Getting Rid of Cyanobacteria and Algae
with DrTim's Aquatics Re-Fresh and Waste-Away

Ingredients

1 bottle of DrTim s Re-Fresh sized to Your Tank
1 bottle of DrTim s Waste-Away sized to Your Tank
Note: A Protein Skimmer is required to use this recipe

Scan to Learn More

Discussion and Directions

Why do you get cyanobacteria and/or algae? Because there are nutrients in the water and no competitors to remove those nutrients before they are consumed by the cyano or algae. Who are the competitors and where are they? They are bacteria and the fact is the unintended consequence of your protein skimmer/UV/Ozone is that they remove bacteria from the water but do nothing to cyano and algae that are attached to the surfaces of your tank. The long-term solution to cyano/algae problems is adding competitors back to your system that can consume the nutrients and then removing those organisms, thereby remove the nutrients from the system. This is not as hard as it may sound.

First you use Re-Fresh that knocks back the cyano/algae then the Waste-Away bacteria will add back competitors that will remove the nutrients. Next we use the skimmer to remove the bacteria thereby removing the nutrients. Regular dosing of Waste-Away will then result in a tank free of cyano & algae.

In a nutshell: the goal is to convert nutrients into bacteria and remove the bacteria with your protein skimmer. **CAUTION**: as mentioned a skimmer is required both to remove the bacteria that will be produced and to help prevent bacterial blooms that may occur and may result in loss of livestock.

So let s start - whether your tank is covered with cyanobacteria or algae the directions are the same. First, try to manually remove as much of the cyanobacteria/algae as you can.

Add Re-Fresh to your tank at a rate of 5 ml per 10 gallons (see back of bottle). Turn off your UV and skimmer (plus ozone if you have it) for a few hours. NOTE - if the water starts to turn cloudy turn these back on ASAP*. Wait 48 hours.

Treat with Re-Fresh one more time as above*. Wait 48 hours.

At this point if the cyanobacteria/algae are noticeably disappearing than you can start dosing with Waste-Away*. Or you can dose with Re-Fresh one more time. Note there is no wrong way to proceed.

When you do decide to start using Waste-Away **we STRONGLY suggest you start with 1/4 of the normal dose (or less)**. Read the back label of your bottle for dosing directions. Turn the skimmer, UV and ozone off for 2-4 hours. But if the water starts to turn cloudy turn these back on ASAP.

After 48 hours dose Waste-Away again* but increase the amount slightly. Turn the skimmer, UV and ozone off for 2-4 hours. But if the water starts to turn cloudy turn these back on ASAP.

Again after 48 hours dose Waste-Away again* but increase the amount slightly more*. Turn the skimmer, UV and ozone off for 2-4 hours. But if the water starts to turn cloudy turn these back on ASAP.

After 48 hours do a partial water change. Your tank should be looking better but in some cases you might need to repeat treatment. Also you should think about why you are having this problem: are you over-feeding, is the tank over- crowded, are you over-skimming?**

*Precautions - If at anytime the water turns cloudy TURN ON YOUR SKIMMER. DO NOT add more Re-Fresh or Waste-Away until the water clears. Do not dose both on the same day. Proceed slowly with dosing Waste-Away if the tank becomes cloudy do not increase the amount of Waste-Away. A little bit each day or two is better than a big dose at one time.

**For more information go to www.drtimsaquatics.com, watch our videos on our YouTube channel & scan the QR code above.

Checklist for Your Dosing of Re-Fresh & Waste-Away

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
Manually Clean. Dose Re-Fresh.	Do nothing	Dose Re-Fresh	Partial water change or do nothing.	Dose of Re-Fresh or Add 1/4 dose Waste-Away	Do nothing.	Dose Waste-Away

Day 8	Day 9	Day 10	Day 11	Day 12	Day 13	Day 14
Do nothing	Dose Waste-Away	Do nothing	Dose Waste-Away	Do a Partial water change	Do nothing	Do nothing