KORALLIN Kalkreaktor

Check List:	1x Body (incl. lid, tubing, white pad, sieve, screws, integrated O-ring, etc.) 2x Tru-union Couplings (one w/ integrated Bubble Counter)
	1x Eheim pump
	1x Metallic Check Valve w/ black clip
	1x Pinch Valve

Please refer to Page 5 for easy-to-follow illustration

<u>Introduction</u>: Thank you for purchasing the most advanced, efficient and reliable Kalkreaktor (Calcium Reactor) from Germany. The new series now consists of models C-1502, C-3002, C-4002 & C-10002.

KORALLIN Kalkreaktor is designed and engineered to perform consistently, forgivingly, and intelligently by actually 'communicating' with the aquarist. Its exclusive 'Non-dissolvable & Excessive CO2 Safety Feature' allows excessive CO2 to accumulate inside its reaction chamber and break the water circuit such that no CO2 can enter into your sump, or settle on top of it. Alternatively, if you choose to have a continuously running Kalkreaktor with absolutely no interruption, you can achieve this with its dual-outlet design. Aspirating-venturi technology means that it utilizes CO2 and dissolves Calcium Carbonate (CaCO3) media in the most efficient way, which results in substantial savings & convenience. Its extremely sturdy construction, with detachable attachments, makes it the most durable piece of aquaristic equipment in your system.

<u>Operation</u>: Before starting, please thoroughly rinse the internal housing of the Kalkreaktor and its attachments for 20 minutes with freshwater (the purpose is to remove any residual particle and oil left from the factory).

Unscrew the 6 screws from their washers and nuts. Lift up the lid assembly (ie: Lid with attached long internal tubing, pad and sieve) *half-way*. Pour pre-rinsed CaCO3 media into the unit (*C-1502 takes 3kg while C-3002 takes 6.5kg*). Make sure that the media stays <u>on top of</u> the pad and sieve. Leave about $7 \text{ cm} (3^{\circ})$ of free space at the top after the unit is properly filled and with its lid assembly lowered and closed securely. Tighten the lid onto the body. You may need to apply some pressure onto the lid after securing each screw. Use a screwdriver and wrench if necessary.

Note the directional arrow engraved onto the Metallic Check Valve. CO2 should enter from the bottom of the check valve and exit at the top. Snap it onto the Bubble Counter using the black clip. Follow the illustration on page 5 and *loosely* attach the 2 Tru-union Couplings onto the lid. Unscrew and remove the small white nylon screw.

Position the Eheim pump such that its output can be connected to the "*Ausgang*" (outlet) tubing and its input to the "*Eingang*" (inlet). Secure the soft tubing from the 2 attachments to the Eheim pump. Now tighten the 2 Tru-union Couplings onto the lid. Make sure that all tubing is free from debris. Refer to the illustration for the proper connections. Re-sit the white nylon screw to secure the Eheim pump base onto the lid.

It is okay if some media drop beyond the sieve and white pad. Make sure that about <u>7 cm (3") of free</u> <u>space</u> is present on top of the media for a clear observation of excessive CO2 accumulation as well as to prevent the pump inlet from being clogged by the media.

CO2 goes in this direction: CO2 Cylinder → CO2 Regulator System → Metallic Check Valve → Bubble Counter

<u>OPTIONAL</u>: Through your retailer, you may purchase and connect Subminiature Quick Disconnect Couplings (with shut-off) to the intake of the Metallic Check Valve. Get 2 additional couplings for the *Ausgang & Eingang* for a complete mobile & drip-free Kalkreaktor.

<u>OPERATION</u>: Do not plug in the Eheim pump yet. Open "*Entlüftung*" (Outlet 2), siphon aquarium water from a higher source to fill the Kalkreaktor via "*Eingang*" (Inlet) and evacuate the air from the

unit via the Outlet 2. The Bubble Counter fills itself up during air-evacuation at this stage. One unique feature is that water can never evaporate out of this counter since it runs on the same circuit.

The best place for the "Ausgang" (Outlet 1) & "Entlüftung" (Outlet 2) tubes is about 2 cm above the water level, this way you can see and count the exact effluent drip rate from both.

As the Kalkreaktor is completely filled with aquarium water, you may now stop the siphon and close the air vent (*Entlüftung*). Check to make sure that water does not leak out of the Kalkreaktor in any way. Use the included airline elbows to position the airline tubing over your sump or aquarium.

Please note that when you take water out from ONE of the 2 outlets only, the Kalkreaktor behaves like this:

- 1. Outlet 1 (default) Non-dissolvable Excessive CO2 Safety Feature in ON mode. Water circuit will be broken by non-dissolvable excessive CO2 to protect overdose and intoxication. Outlet 2 must be closed.
- 2. Outlet 2 (alternative) Non-dissolvable Excessive CO2 Safety Feature in OFF mode. Continuous functioning with minimal interruption even under excessive CO2 or air microbubble condition. Outlet 1 must be closed.

But for an ultimate consistent, forgiving and maintenance-free function, we recommend the following:

Use our special Micro Powerhead (optional) w/ Filter to feed water actively into the Kalkreakor. It serves 3 purposes:

- It is a much more reliable water feeding method than siphoning or self-suction
- It pressurizes the Kalkreaktor to enhance water / CO2 dissolution
- It enables the Kalkreaktor to expel trapped air more easily
- It eliminates microbubbles from entering the Kalkreaktor

Now, allow water to drip out from Outlet 1 as described below. But <u>at the same time</u>, connect an airline tubing to Outlet 2 and take water out slowly at 1 - 2 drips / min. So, water now exit from Outlet 1 at a fast rate (ie: 40 drips / min. or higher) as well as from Outlet 2 at a much slower rate.

Dry your hands and plug in the Eheim. When the pump runs properly, it should be silent. If noise is generated from the pump, air or loose particles may be trapped inside it. To fix the former, you may open the "*Entlüftung*" (air vent) further and tilt the Kalkreaktor until the trapped air is being evacuated. To fix the latter, you may need to dissemble the pump and remove the particle.

<u>Dose</u>: The exact dose will have to be ascertained by the practitioner over experience and water testing because water chemistry and calcium demand of every aquarium vary. Start with an effluent drip rate of <u>40 drops / minute</u> from the "*Auslauf*" (Outlet 1), CO2 bubbling rate should begin at <u>10</u> <u>bubbles / minute</u>. KH in the effluent should be at least 25 ° (at the beginning it needs about 30 min.). Make sure that no microbubbles are entering the Kalkreaktor from your sump or tank (e.g.: from protein skimmer). If you get any bubbles in the Kalkreaktor (provided that it is indeed CO2), reduce the CO2 bubbling rate and/or increase effluent drip rate. If no gas is present inside the unit, raise CO2 quantity a little. Best CO2 pressure when the working gauge on your CO2 System reads 10 - 15 psi (or 1.0 - 1.2 bar) – *NOTE: Numbers & units vary w/ different brands of CO2 System*.

The pH of the effluent drip should be around 6.5 - 6.8 and with a KH of 25 ° - 60 °.

At the beginning, don't raise the KH more than one degree / week. The optimum reading in your tank should be between 8 – 13 ° KH. After reaching this value, reduce the effluent drip rate. In certain high calcium demanding systems, you may need to give the Kalkreaktor a jump-start by dosing <u>Mineral-Plus</u>TM. But for most systems, all you need for a complete trace elements replenishment w/ the Kalkreaktor is <u>S-Plus</u>TM. Both products are available at your m3 dealer.

Here's the formula to reach a specific KH in the effluent (for rough reference only):

KH x Effluent Drip Rate = CO2 Bubbling Rate

For example: To get a KH of 35 ° in the effluent and at a drip rate of 60 drops / min., you will get 35 ° x 60 = 2100. Move the decimal place 2 spaces forward and it indicates a suggested CO2 bubbling rate of 21 / min.

As you can see, if your system has high demand for calcium, simply increase BOTH the effluent drip rate and the CO2 bubbling rate to maintain a high enough KH in the effluent. Make sure that no excessive CO2 is accumulated inside the Kalkreaktor at all times.

<u>Maintenance</u>: When it is time to replace the media, disconnect the lid from the attached internal long tubing, carefully give the lid a few twists until it detaches from the soft silicone tubing. When you want to reconnect, simply wet the soft silicone tubing and reverse the procedure.

Change the Calcium Carbonate media 100% every 4 - 6 months (depending on your system's calcium consumption rate) to preserve the freshness of the media. Mark the top level of the media with a tape or crayon in order to see how much and when the media has been dissolved and decreased in size. We recommend changing the media when 2 - 3" has been dissolved. But only by water testing can you really determine when the media has become exhausted. Grain size is a concern, avoid small grain size media that obstructs water flow and impairs the performance of the unit.

A 5-Ib CO2 Cylinder usually lasts around 1 year at 10 bubbles / min. rate, 24 hours / day. Use only medical / beverage-grade CO2 in a brand new tank whenever possible. For more information on CO2 usage, please ask your dealer for the two articles 'CO2 System' & 'CO2 – FAQ'.

Due to the unique design of the KORALLIN Kalkreaktor, no pH Controller is required for its function. But a pH Controller is recommended for maximum safety (during power outage) as well as for convenience (to measure pH).

Trouble-shooting & FAQ:

- 1. My effluent cannot reach a KH of 25 ° or above, what am I doing wrong?
 - Check to make sure the Eheim pump is not obstructed and the Kalkreaktor has been evacuated correctly. Have you followed the guidelines to reach an *optimum* CO2 bubbling & effluent drip rates? Remember that CO2 saturation should be as close to 100% as possible.
- 2. How can I achieve a 100% CO2 saturation condition?
 - CO2 saturation is one of the most important things in running a Kalkreaktor. Even if you are only 20% under this saturation level, your effluent power (KH) has been lowered by about 40%! To determine a close to 100% CO2 saturation condition, please adjust the initial CO2 dosage to a level that will cause *some* accumulation inside the Kalkreaktor after a few hours. Then turn back down the CO2 dosage a tiny bit from this level. You are now close to a 100% CO2 saturation condition. Remember, the effluent KH should be higher than 25° (40° or higher is preferred in many systems).
- 3. Define optimum CO2 bubbling & effluent drip rates.
 - A slight increase in the current CO2 bubbling rate and/or a slight decrease in the current effluent drip rate causes a minor CO2 accumulation inside the Kalkreaktor.
- 4. Gas starts to accumulate inside the Kalkreaktor nearly daily, what should I do now?
 - Accumulated CO2 means that the current effluent drip setting does not allow all the CO2 entering the Kalkreaktor to be dissolved on time. Decrease the CO2 bubbling rate and/or increase the effluent drip rate slightly. Or eliminate the source of air microbubbles if necessary (eg: From skimmer return).
- 5. My Kalkreaktor does not suck up water actively.
 - Use m3's special Micro powerhead (optional) to feed water into the Kalkreaktor actively (NOTE: This is the most recommended method). You may also want to use our media with the proper grain size.
 - Other alternative water-feeding methods:
 - 1. Siphon water into the Kalkreaktor from a higher level

2. Use a <u>Reducing T-Piece</u> to divert a small portion of water from your main or other water lines into the Kalkreaktor. Use w/ m3's <u>Control Valve</u> as well.

- 6. Do I really need the special CO2-Proof Tubing marketed by m3?
 - Some regular airline tubing allow as much as 30% of CO2 to escape through its wall. Never use silicone tubing which is the most permeable. Ask your dealer for m3's special <u>CO2-</u> <u>Proof Tubing</u> that allows less than 1% of CO2 to leak out.
- 7. Do I need to dose any trace elements into my aquarium? I assume that a Kalkreaktor takes care of the Calcium & Magnesium requirements?
 - Actually, the ultrapure German CaCO3 media can take care of Calcium, Alkalinity & pH requirements only. We recommend the use of <u>S-PlusTM</u> which replenishes all other essential trace elements (particularly Magnesium, Iodine, Strontium, & more than 20 others) & vitamins. Most elements are complexing agents so only the required quantity is being freed and be utilized by your animals, the excess is being complexed into a matrix. This is the most intelligent replenisher we have encountered. S-PlusTM & the Kalkreaktor shall be used together for complete trace element replenishment.
- 8. Can the low pH output of a kalkreaktor affect the pH of my aquarium adversely?
 - First of all, it is impossible for the effluent pH to drop below 6.5. Below this value, no more CO2 can be dissolved into the saltwater. You may want to re-calibrate the pH Electrode if it registers a value on the effluent of 6.5 or lower. So, the answer is no, the low effluent pH does not suppress the pH value in your tank but instead raises it after your system has stabilized. Some users allow the effluent to drip onto a dish with aeration, then let the water overflow onto their sumps. This method will bring up the pH value in the effluent water sample but it will also lower its KH value. So, do it only moderately.
- 9. How can aeration lower the KH values from the effluent?
 - The maximum concentration of Ca & KH depends on the CO2 concentration in the water. If we aerate too much air into the effluent, too much CO2 is exhausted out and Ca & KH will precipitate out.
- 10. I am dosing in only 10x CO2 bubbles / min. and I still get a large gas accumulation inside the Kalkreaktor over a few hours. Also, my effluent KH is only at 15 - 20 °, if I decrease the bubbling rate or/and increase the effluent drip rate as instructed above, the effluent KH will be EVEN lower, what should I do?
 - This is due to the Eheim pump that may not functioning properly and eventually loses its power in recirculating and maintaining the water level inside the Kalkreaktor. Please dissemble the Eheim according to its instructions and rinse the impeller housing really well. Use our special Micro powerhead to feed water into the Kalkreaktor. Take water out from BOTH Outlet 1 & 2 as described above.
- 11. I am using the recommended Micro powerhead method to feed the Kalkreaktor, both my CO2 rate and effluent drip rate are consistent and within normal limits, my Eheim pump is working perfectly fine, but I still have gas accumulated inside the Kalkreaktor over a few hours, what is wrong?
 - Please check your airline tubing which feeds water into the Kalkreaktor, it is probably clogged due to algae growth from your intense reef lighting. Try to use our special black CO2-Proof Tubing instead under such conditions. Now, clean the inside of the tubing really well to resume the proper water flow into the Kalkreaktor.

<u>Conclusion</u>: The recommended maximum tank size is only for reference use. Actual calcium consumption rate depends on the bio-load, water chemistry and the nature of the organisms. We wish you best results and a lot of pleasure with your C-1502 / C-3002 / C-4002 / C-10002 !



By using this m3 product, you have automatically agreed to use a 'Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter' in your main aquarium power line as well as to wear 'protective eyewear' for maximum safety. You should always handle this product with caution and keep it away from children & pets. Monolith Marine Monsters, Inc. (m3) cannot be responsible for any personal & property damage resulting from the use of this equipment.

If you do not agree to the above, please send this product back to m3 or your Aquarium Dealer for a refund.

One year warranty against leakage due to factory defect Two years guarantee for the Eheim pump

© Copyright 2002 by Bayside Aquarium Supplies. All rights reserved.