10 2011 Siddr20

Congratulations Sidd on winning TOTM for October 2011 with your beautiful reef tank.

Sidd is known simply as Siddr20 on the RTAW forums and you can find out more about his tank in his tank journal.

{Mosimage
cw=300 popup=1}

I feel very privileged and honoured to be considered tank of the month. I'm actually a little speechless as I know there are so many other amazing tanks on this forum. Thank you to the judges who picked my tank. Also a big thanks to Aquablue for supplying this month's prize.

So I have been into this wonderful hobby for the past 5 years. It all started when my neighbour decided to sell his nano tank and upgrade to a huge 6ft tank. I have always admired the marine life and wished one day I could swim in the great barrier reef. That was my dream but unfortunately being a uni student at the time I had no money for a holiday up to QLD.

With my neighbours help (who is also on these forums) I set up a small nano tank with some live rocks and two clown fish (which I still have). I learnt a lot from him and of course from this forum. Fast forward a year and a bit later and a generous masa member was giving away his 4ft tank. I quickly jumped onto that opportunity as it doesn't come along often at all.

Coming from a small nano tank (35L), this was a huge upgrade and one I was afraid to tell my parents. I told them the night before picking up the tank and they nearly had a heart attack. Comments like "Sidd where in the world are you going to put this tank" or "Do you even know what your doing" to comments like "how much is this going to cost in electricity bills" and so on. But a week after setting it all up my parents mind changed and with their support as well as guidance from my neighbour and masa forums the tank has evolved to what it is today.

{Mosimage
cw=300 popup=1}

System:

The tank is 4*2*2 open top which has been setup for the past 2.5 years and it's a very basic setup compared to other tanks on this forum.

There's no automated top ups or calcium reactors or even a DSB. The lights don't even have a timer. Also still to this day all I dose in my tank is calcium and bi-carb soda (which you can get from woolies for $2.50). I don't target feed any corals in my tank nor feed it anything special. No doubt you all are having a heart attack reading this.

The sump is 2ft*18*18 with two baffles in place. Once again a basic setup with a Reef Octopus Vortex 800 skimmer which is doing the job just fine since day 1.

I have approx 45kgs of live rocks with 20kgs of coral sand as the sandbed. I use two 12,000L power heads so plenty of flow inside the tank.

Lighting wise I use two 120W BSLED units. I have been using LED lights for more than a year without any problems. They turn on anywhere between 8am to 11am and turn off before 9.30pm.

Everything in my tank is done manually (from dosing to turning on the lights to toping up water). This is just the way I have been doing it for the past 2.5 years.

Simple setup but I feel it works just as well as other tanks. As long as you keep good husbandry and do regular water changes you can have a wonderful looking tank.

{Mosimage
cw=300 popup=1}

{Mosimage
cw=300 popup=1}

Live Stock:

Fish stock:

Yellow Tang - (Zebrasoma flavescens)

Blue Tang - (Paracanthurus hepatus)

Flame Angel - (Centropyge loricula)

2 ocellaris Clown fish with one being black n white

Green Chromis (Chromis viridis)

Coral stock:

Acropora

Montipora

Seriatopora

Lobophylia

Duncanopsammia

Zoanthid

Leather Corals

Trachyphyllia

Elegance Coral

Hammer Corals

Other:

- small acquacultured maxima clam

- large clam (unknown of exact species, but its big)

- 4 peppermint shrimps

- Lots of various snails

{Mosimage
cw=300 popup=1}

{Mosimage
cw=300 popup=1}

{Mosimage
cw=300 popup=1}

{Mosimage
cw=300 popup=1}

Thank you to all the wonderful forum members over the years that have helped me build my tank and given me great guidance and advice.

The generosity and kindness from MASA members is just beyond amazing.

Also a huge thanks once again for choosing my tank as 'Tank of the Month'.

The best advice I can pass on to others is to be patient. Never rush into this hobby and don't be afraid to ask for help.