

Reef Octopus Classic 200 INT

Reef Octopus Classic 200 INT Protein Skimmer Instruction Manual

Model: Classic 200 INT (Item Model Number: OC3502)

1. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Reef Octopus Classic 200 INT Protein Skimmer is an internal protein skimmer designed for efficient removal of organic waste from marine aquarium water. It features a Venturi air injection system and a refined hybrid body to produce a stable foam head, effectively cleaning your tank water.

Key Features:

- Enhanced Performance Venturi Air Injection System
- Reef Octopus Aquatrance 3000s Skimmer Pump
- Refined Hybrid (half cone) Skimmer Body
- Easy to Remove/Quick Release Collection Cup with Drain
- Precision Water Level Control Output Valve
- Air Intake Silencer for quiet operation
- Solid Acrylic Construction for durability



Fins,
Furs,
&
Feathers,
Inc.

Image 1.1: The Reef Octopus Classic 200 INT Protein Skimmer. This image displays the complete skimmer unit, highlighting its hybrid body design and collection cup.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

Please read and understand all safety instructions before operating this product. Failure to do so may result in injury or damage to the product.

- Always disconnect the skimmer and pump from the power supply before performing any maintenance, cleaning, or assembly.
- Ensure all electrical connections are dry and secure. Do not operate with wet hands or in standing water.

- This product is designed for indoor use in marine aquariums only. Do not use for any other purpose.
- Do not operate the skimmer if any part is damaged, including the power cord or pump. Contact customer support for replacement parts.
- Keep out of reach of children and pets.
- Ensure the skimmer is placed on a stable, level surface within the sump to prevent tipping.

3. PACKAGE CONTENTS

Verify that all components are present and undamaged upon opening the package. If any items are missing or damaged, please contact your retailer or Reef Octopus customer service.

- Reef Octopus Classic 200 INT Skimmer Body
- Aquatrance 3000s Skimmer Pump
- Collection Cup with Lid and Drain
- Air Intake Silencer
- Output Valve Assembly
- Metric to British Adapter (for 1.5" PVC connection)
- Instruction Manual (this document)

4. SETUP

Follow these steps to properly set up your Reef Octopus Classic 200 INT Protein Skimmer.

1. **Unpack Components:** Carefully remove all parts from the packaging and inspect for any damage.
2. **Assemble Pump:** Attach the Aquatrance 3000s skimmer pump to the skimmer body according to the diagrams provided in the separate pump manual (if applicable) or by aligning the pump outlet with the skimmer body inlet. Ensure a secure fit.
3. **Install Output Valve:** Connect the output valve assembly to the skimmer body's water outlet. The skimmer comes with a 50mm output and includes a Metric to British Adapter for connecting to 1.5" PVC plumbing if desired.
4. **Attach Air Silencer:** Connect the air intake tube from the pump to the air intake silencer. Ensure the silencer is positioned above the water level to prevent water from entering.
5. **Place in Sump:** Position the assembled skimmer in your aquarium sump. The recommended sump water depth for optimal performance is **7.5 inches to 8.5 inches**. Ensure the skimmer is level and stable.
6. **Install Collection Cup:** Place the collection cup onto the skimmer neck, ensuring it is seated firmly and correctly.
7. **Connect Power:** Once the skimmer is fully assembled and positioned in the sump, connect the pump's power cord to a grounded electrical outlet.

5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

After setup, follow these guidelines for initial startup and ongoing operation.

1. **Initial Startup:** Plug in the skimmer pump. Water will begin to flow through the skimmer body, and air will be drawn in.
2. **Break-in Period:** A new protein skimmer typically requires a break-in period of 1 to 2 weeks. During this

time, the skimmer may produce inconsistent foam or microbubbles. This is normal as manufacturing residues dissipate and a biological film develops on the skimmer's internal surfaces.

- 3. Adjusting Water Level:** Use the precision water level control output valve to adjust the internal water level within the skimmer. For optimal skimming, the foam head should rise into the neck of the skimmer, just below the collection cup. Adjust the valve gradually and observe the foam production.
- 4. Skimmate Production:** The ideal skimmate (waste collected in the cup) should be dark brown and thick. If the skimmate is too watery and light, lower the internal water level. If no skimmate is produced, raise the internal water level.

6. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance ensures optimal performance and longevity of your protein skimmer.

- Collection Cup Cleaning:** Empty and clean the collection cup regularly, typically every 2 to 7 days depending on your aquarium's bioload. Rinse the cup and lid with fresh water to remove accumulated skimmate.
- Skimmer Neck Cleaning:** Periodically wipe down the inside of the skimmer neck, below the collection cup, to prevent organic buildup that can hinder foam production.
- Pump Maintenance:** Every 3-6 months, or if performance declines, disconnect the pump and disassemble it to clean the impeller and pump housing. Remove any debris, calcium buildup, or slime. Use a brush and vinegar solution if necessary for stubborn deposits. Rinse thoroughly before reassembly.
- Air Intake Silencer:** Check the air intake silencer and tubing periodically for blockages from salt creep or debris. Clean as needed to ensure unrestricted airflow.
- Full Skimmer Cleaning:** Annually, or as needed, perform a full cleaning of the entire skimmer body. Disassemble all parts and soak them in a vinegar solution to remove any stubborn deposits. Rinse thoroughly with fresh water before reassembly and restarting.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

Refer to this section for common issues and their potential solutions.

| Problem | Possible Cause | Solution |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| No foam or poor foam production | Incorrect water level in skimmer Air intake blocked Dirty pump impeller New skimmer break-in period Contaminants in water (e.g., hand oils, medications) | Adjust output valve to raise internal water level. Check and clear air intake silencer and tubing. Clean pump impeller. Allow 1-2 weeks for break-in. Perform water change, avoid adding contaminants. |
| Collection cup overflowing | Internal water level too high Sudden change in water chemistry Overfeeding or dosing | Adjust output valve to lower internal water level. Check salinity and alkalinity. Reduce feeding/dosing, perform water change. |

| Problem | Possible Cause | Solution |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Excessive microbubbles in sump | Skimmer break-in period Sump water level too high Skimmer output too close to return pump | Allow break-in period. Ensure sump water level is within recommended range (7.5"-8.5"). Adjust skimmer position or add bubble trap. |
| Noisy operation | Vibrations Air intake blockage Pump impeller issue | Ensure skimmer is stable and not touching sump walls. Check and clear air intake. Inspect and clean pump impeller for debris or damage. |

8. SPECIFICATIONS

Technical specifications for the Reef Octopus Classic 200 INT Protein Skimmer.

| Specification | Detail |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Model | Classic 200 INT |
| Item Model Number | OC3502 |
| Body Size | 8 inches |
| Footprint | 14.6 inches x 10.25 inches |
| Neck Size | 4.5 inches |
| Total Height | 24 inches |
| Output Size | 50mm (with adapter to 1.5" PVC) |
| Output Height | 6.5 inches |
| Recommended Sump Water Depth | 7.5 inches - 8.5 inches |
| Pump | Aquatrance 3000 Pinwheel Pump |
| Pump Air Draw | 900 lph / 31.5 SCFH* |
| Pump Water Draw | 800 lph / 211 GPH* |
| Material | Acrylic |
| Color | Transparent |
| Item Weight | 15.57 pounds |
| Product Dimensions (LxWxH) | 23 x 18 x 12 inches |
| UPC | 795962352198 |

*Air and water results may vary depending on aquarium setup and conditions.

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Warranty Information:

This Reef Octopus Classic 200 INT Protein Skimmer comes with a **1-year manufacturer's warranty** from the date of purchase. This warranty covers defects in materials and workmanship under normal use. It does not cover damage resulting from misuse, accident, modification, or improper installation.

Customer Support:

For technical assistance, troubleshooting, or warranty claims, please contact Reef Octopus customer service. Please have your purchase receipt and product model number (Classic 200 INT or OC3502) available when contacting support.

For the most current contact information, please visit the official Reef Octopus website or refer to your purchase documentation.

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