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TARARIUM IX-120

TARARIUM IX-120 Turtle Tank Filter Instruction Manual

Model: IX-120

1. Safety Information

Please read all safety instructions carefully before operating the TARARIUM IX-120 filter. Failure to follow these instructions may result in injury or damage to the product.

- Keep out of reach of children.
- Do not submerge the filter completely in water beyond the recommended minimum water level.
- Always unplug the filter before performing any cleaning or maintenance.
- Avoid contact with electrical components when hands are wet.
- If any part of the filter is ingested, seek medical help immediately.

2. Product Overview

The TARARIUM IX-120 is a powerful internal filter designed for turtle tanks and aquariums ranging from 20 to 75 gallons. It features a 3-stage waterfall bio-filtration system, adjustable water flow, and is suitable for low water level environments (minimum 2.6 inches). This filter is compatible with both freshwater and saltwater setups, providing efficient water purification for various aquatic pets including fish, reptiles, shrimp, and frogs.



Image 2.1: The TARARIUM IX-120 filter in operation, demonstrating its waterfall feature and suitability for turtle habitats.

Key Features:

- **3-Stage Filtration:** Utilizes mechanical and biological filtration for comprehensive water cleaning.
- **Adjustable Water Flow:** Allows customization of water output to suit different tank needs.
- **Low Water Level Operation:** Designed to function effectively in water as shallow as 2.6 inches.
- **Waterfall Design:** Enhances water aeration and provides a natural environment.
- **Wide Application:** Suitable for freshwater and saltwater aquariums, including turtle tanks, fish tanks, and habitats for reptiles, shrimp, and frogs.



Image 2.2: Detailed view of the filter's three-stage filtration system, including dense filter cotton for debris and ceramic bio-balls for biological purification.



Image 2.3: The 360-degree powerful bottom suction water inlet, ensuring stable and sufficient water flow for purification.



Image 2.4: Visual comparison demonstrating the fast and superior purification capabilities of the filter, resulting in over 90% improved water quality.

3. Package Contents

Upon opening the package, please verify that all the following components are included:

- TARARIUM IX-120 Filter Unit
- Filter Media (Dense mesh sponge and Ceramic Bio-balls)
- User Manual (This document)

4. Setup Instructions

Follow these steps to properly set up your TARARIUM IX-120 filter:

1. **Prepare the Filter:** Unpack all components and ensure they are clean. Rinse the filter media (sponges and bio-balls) under clean water to remove any manufacturing dust.

2. **Install Filter Media:** Place the dense mesh sponge filters into their designated compartments within the filter unit. Then, add the ceramic bio-balls. Ensure the media is seated correctly.
3. **Position the Filter:** Place the filter inside your aquarium or turtle tank. The filter is designed for low water levels, with a minimum operational water level of 2.6 inches (66mm). Use the strong suction cups on the back of the filter to secure it firmly to the tank wall.
4. **Connect Power:** Once the filter is securely positioned and the water level is appropriate, plug the power cord into a suitable electrical outlet.



Image 4.1: Key features and dimensions of the TARARIUM IX-120 filter, highlighting its adjustable flow and suction cup mounting.



Image 4.2: The filter's capability to operate effectively at a minimum water level of 2.6 inches, making it ideal for turtle tanks and other low-water habitats.

5. Operating Instructions

Once the filter is set up and powered on, it will immediately begin circulating and filtering water. The waterfall design aids in water aeration, which is beneficial for aquatic life.

Adjusting Water Flow:

The TARARIUM IX-120 features an adjustable flow control knob located on the top of the unit. Rotate this knob to increase or decrease the water flow rate according to the needs of your aquatic inhabitants and tank size. A higher flow rate is generally suitable for larger tanks or those requiring more vigorous circulation, while a lower flow rate is better for smaller tanks or species sensitive to strong currents.

Image 5.1: The adjustable water flow knob, allowing users to customize the output strength of the filter.

6. Maintenance

Regular maintenance is crucial for the optimal performance and longevity of your TARARIUM IX-120 filter and for maintaining a healthy aquatic environment. Always unplug the filter before performing any maintenance.

Cleaning Filter Media:

- **Mesh Sponges (Stages 1 & 2):** The dense, double-sided mesh sponges trap debris, fish waste, food residue, and fine particles. These should be rinsed regularly (e.g., weekly or bi-weekly, depending on tank bioload) in old tank water during a water change. This preserves beneficial bacteria while removing trapped waste. Replace these sponges every 2-4 weeks or when they become heavily clogged and cannot be cleaned effectively.
- **Ceramic Bio-Balls (Stage 3):** These biological media provide a large surface area for beneficial bacteria. They should be gently rinsed in old tank water only when necessary (e.g., monthly or bi-monthly) to remove accumulated sludge, taking care not to disturb the bacterial colonies too much. Avoid cleaning them with tap water, which can kill beneficial bacteria due to chlorine.

General Cleaning:

- Periodically clean the impeller and impeller housing to ensure smooth operation and prevent blockages.
- Wipe down the exterior of the filter unit to remove any algae or mineral buildup.

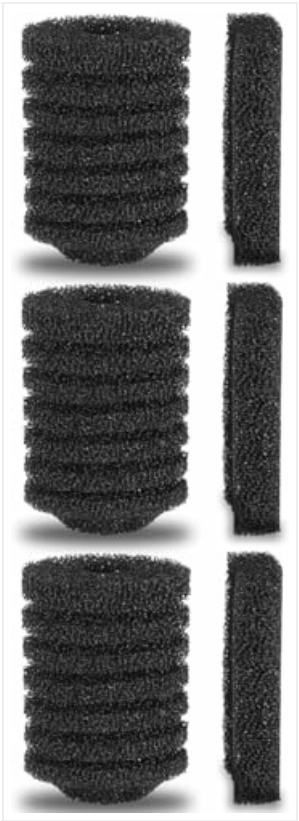


Image 6.1: Visual guide for cleaning the filter's high-density filter clips and bio-chemical balls, and checking for impeller clogging.

7. Troubleshooting

If you encounter issues with your TARARIUM IX-120 filter, refer to the following common troubleshooting steps:

- **Filter Not Running:** Ensure the power cord is securely plugged into a working outlet. Check for any kinks in the power cord. Verify that the impeller is not jammed by debris; unplug the unit, remove the impeller cover, and clean the impeller.
- **Reduced Water Flow:** This is often caused by clogged filter media. Unplug the filter and clean or replace the mesh sponges and gently rinse the bio-balls as described in the Maintenance section. Check the intake strainer for

blockages.

- **Excessive Noise:** Noise can be caused by a dirty or improperly seated impeller. Unplug the filter, remove and clean the impeller, and ensure it is reinstalled correctly. Air trapped in the filter can also cause noise; ensure the filter is fully submerged to the recommended level.
- **Cloudy Water:** While the filter is highly effective, persistent cloudy water may indicate an imbalance in the tank's ecosystem, overfeeding, or insufficient water changes. Ensure regular maintenance is performed and consider testing water parameters.

8. Specifications

Feature	Detail
Model Name	IX-120
Brand	TARARIUM
Recommended Tank Size	20-75 Gallons
Flow Rate	290 GPH (Gallons Per Hour)
Filtration Stages	3-Stage (Mechanical, Biological)
Minimum Water Level	2.6 inches (66mm)
Application	Freshwater and Saltwater Aquariums
Item Weight	2.99 pounds
Item Package Dimensions	11.3 x 9.76 x 4.29 inches
Material	Mesh (for filter media)
Color	Black

9. Warranty and Support

The TARARIUM IX-120 Turtle Tank Filter comes with a **1-YEAR AFTER-SALES WARRANTY** from the date of purchase.

If you have any questions, concerns, or encounter problems with your aquarium filter, please do not hesitate to contact TARARIUM customer support. We are committed to resolving any issues and will reply within 24 hours.

For support, please refer to the contact information provided on the product packaging or the official TARARIUM website.

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