

# AQUATIC ZEBRAFISH CORE

## Protocol for Putting Fry on the System in Room 258

### Before bringing the fry to the facility:

- Fry can be put on the system between 5-6 days post fertilization (dpf), if necessary at 7dpf (this might result in lower survival). Please notify Zebrafish Core staff a few days in advance so that they can ensure there is space for your tanks on the “fry rack”.
- Make sure that there are cage cards available for the specific strain(s) you are growing.
- Before bringing them down to the facility check to make sure the fry have developed a swim bladder and sort no more than 30 fry per petri dish/ tank. Transport in a white bucket (or similar secondary container).

### Tank set up:

1. Fill out a fry feeding sheet (found in red binder), generate new tank number. Feed fish husbandry staff has already left and sign off for feeding.
2. Using a medium sized tank (1 L), insert a solid green baffle flush against the back of the tank and a 400 mesh size baffle in the front slot.
3. Create labels for tanks which must include strain, date of birth, approximate number of fish. Add tank number with label on top right. Place a blue arrow sticker on tank to alert husbandry staff for feeding.
4. Add about 1”-2” of system water in your tank. Also fill a squeeze bottle.
5. Gently pour your fry from the petri dish into the tank water. Use squeeze bottle to rinse plate with system water to ensure there are no fry stuck on sides of plate.
6. Place the tank on the “fry rack” (rack 3). Use lid with a hole drilled in the side to hold the tubing against the side of the tank, creating a slow stream of water running down the side. (This is important so that the food stays on the surface of the water and is not disrupted by a steady drip.)
  - If lids with holes are not available you may tape the tube to the side of the tank to create the same effect.
7. Fry food is located in the small black refrigerator in the back room. Gently tap in a small, rice-corn-sized amount of Gemma 75 (blue label) food into your tank,

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avoiding clumps which will sink to the bottom.

8. Write your tank number on a cage card, punch two holes in either side of the card, tear off the **bottom** “activate” strip, then attach the cards to the metal ring on the corresponding rack that your tank is on.
  - The “activate” strip is then deposited in one of the metal boxes labeled “Rodent activation/deactivation only” which are located at the animal facility entrances and freight elevator.
9. Future care:
  - The husbandry staff will feed and monitor health of the fry daily. A few fry are expected to die off, if a significant number die you will be notified.
  - Around 18 dpf, if fry are large enough you can change to an 850 screen baffle.
  - If you remove a fry tank before 30 dpf, be sure to record it on the fry feeding sheet.
  - To de-activate a tank upon removal tear of top “deactivate” strip from the card and drop in metal boxes labeled “Rodent activation/deactivation only”