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# Reef Invertebrates: An Essential Guide To Selection, Care And Compatibility



## Synopsis

At 400 pages, this first volume of the Natural Marine Aquarium series takes a comprehensive look at the wide range of wondrous organisms both large and small for modern marine aquaria. Topics include extensive refugium and natural filtration methodologies, dynamic living vegetable and animal filters, and... of course, gorgeous photo galleries and information on husbandry for all the magnificent reef invertebrates suitable for study and display including shrimp, crabs, sea stars, live sand infauna, microcrustaceans & plankton, sponges, sea squirts, gastropods, giant clams and other bivalves, and much more! Heavily illustrated, this reference is handsome, entertaining and above all informative. Written by the highly regarded team of Anthony Calfo and Robert Fenner, the authors bring their humor, wisdom and talent for the art of content provision to the reader with their uniquely humble yet passionate style of delivery. It is an essential guide for every conscientious marine aquarist seeking to finesse their fish or reef aquarium.

## Book Information

Paperback: 400 pages

Publisher: Reading Trees (June 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0967263034

ISBN-13: 978-0967263038

Product Dimensions: 8.4 x 10.9 x 0.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.4 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 32 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #129,580 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #15 in [Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Zoology > Invertebrates](#) #24 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Pets & Animal Care > Fish & Aquariums](#)

## Customer Reviews

"This [book] fills the single biggest void in today's hobbyist's bookshelf." -- Rick Preuss, Preuss Pets, Michigan 2003

Anthony Calfo was born in Hawaii and lives in Pennsylvania. He is a lifelong aquarist and an aquarium industry professional that has worked the better part of the last decade as a commercial coral farmer and wholesaler, producing cultured reef invertebrates in a greenhouse environment for the ornamental and zoological trade. He has authored the reef aquarium titles, "Book of Coral

Propagation, Volume 1" (ReadingTrees.com), "Reef Invertebrates", and articles for print and electronic journals at large. Anthony travels frequently to visit organizations and clubs to present information on the aquatic sciences. He co-founded the Pittsburgh Marine Aquarist Society with the inimitable Bob Dolan. Schooled at Carnegie-Mellon University and the University of Pittsburgh, he has a BA in English Literature. Robert (Bob) Fenner has "lived" the science, hobby and business of aquatics in the Philippines, Japan and United States in all phases: collection, wholesale, jobber, retail, design, construction and maintenance. Academic experience includes eleven years of college, a couple of life science degrees and a teaching credential for chemistry, physics and biology. Published works include several studies on aquatic biological and chemical questions, and an extensive publishing and photographic background in the industry and hobby of aquatics. Today he is a world-renowned photographer, speaker and trade consultant eager to chat with, enlighten and be enlightened by anyone who shares a passion for life. Much of his time each day is dedicated to the free-content, educational site - [wetwebmedia.com](http://wetwebmedia.com) where he leads a goodwill crew writing articles and answering queries for fellow aquarists with the intent of improving the success of hobbyists and the quality of life for their charges.

This must be the best jolly marine aquarist book out there. A fairly basic level of knowledge of the reader is assumed and the authors do not go deep into things like N2 cycle, tank selection, etc. There is discussion ad nauseum regarding live rock, refugiums, sand - and other invert essential goodies. It is actually the last 2/3 of the book where you get deep into actual inverts. Throughout, there is fantastic general information and lush, original pictorials. I felt as if the authors hit the perfect balance of avoiding info overload yet gave a great layout of what you need/want to know. Only con is the co-authors had a falling out and the mentioned future volumes never came to fruition. Corals are not featured. I would have loved to see a tome of this quality provide a treatment on all organisms available to aquarists.

I'm still a New Saltwater hobbier - and have read 4 Marine aquarium books and spent a lot of time reading Online Forums. First two were fairly basic - and didn't cover much in depth. The 3rd book I read was " New Marine Aquarium " which is a great hands on - get started with your first FOWLR tank ( fish only with Live Rock). It wasn't overly technical but is a crash course systemized ABC book in setting up a your first Fish Only tank without having to obtain a great depth of information about your new pets. This book fills in a lot of the gaps in information that have arisen and is very thorough without getting overly technical in terminology. I'm reading it cover to cover ( about 3/4 of

the way read ) and will use it as a reference book. It's very readable in content. Examples of what makes this book valuable over others.\* Live Rock - this book covers Live Rock soup to nuts. It goes in depth between Florida aqua cultured rock - vs Fiji Rock - vs Base Rock - vs Dead Rock - and goes in depth the differences along with pros and cons of each choice. The segment on Curing Live Rock is also quite thorough.\* Also covers the same with Sand - Live Sand that you purchase cultured online - vs Live Sand you buy in a bag - vs Dead Sand in a box. It covers the reasons along with Benefits of Argamax Sand vs Silica based sand that is always mentioned to avoid.\* This is the first book I've read that goes into Refugiums - what they are - what they do - what kind of choices / options are involved ( it's definitely more of an art than a science ). It covers Microalgae in depth - macroalgae - Mangroves - what ones are beneficial vs troublesome to a tank / and which are easier to maintain vs more difficult. What benefits each species offers and to what degree in your aquarium.\* The book covers Clams / pods / shrimp / sponges / crabs / urchins Snails / Starfish / Micro & Macroalgae / and much more - with enough information to understand how they fit in terms of benefit to your aquarium environment and what species make sense in a captive aquarium and why. Bottom line - After putting this book down - I feel I have enough base of knowledge to make good decisions in setting up a system while avoiding many costly mistakes of basic restraints of trial and error. I still want to add a pocket guide on Fish and Invert species selection ( although this book is a good reference ) - and would like to add a book that covers info re: plumbing a Sump system and Coral Reference book. But this is a very thorough book for the subjects it covers.

I'm on a tight budget, so usually try to get a book through the library rather than buying, if possible. This one was not available, so I took a chance buying it. I'm soooo glad I did. There's an enormous amount of information. I will be referencing this book for years. I'm interested in raising macroalgae and dwarf seahorses, and compatible invertebrates. Everything is geared toward corals nowadays and live rock, neither of which are necessarily safe for 1 inch seahorses. I was thrilled to find a large section on macroalgae in this book. The focus is on using them for refugiums, but I easily adapted the techniques, including a deep sand bed, to my 2.5 gallon dwarf seahorse tanks. Start here for the easiest way to get incredible water quality in your tanks. The live deep sand bed with macroalgae technique in this book, keeps the approx 1.5 gallons of water in my tanks ammonia-free. Amazing. Also, explains which macroalgae go "sexual," so you can avoid purchasing the ones that may foul the tank (and which are often promoted and sold as the best to buy!). Thanks so much to Anthony Calfo & Bob Fenner - and for their website, too ([...]).

This book provides in-depth information about a plethora of topics useful for the reef aquarist. Instead of providing a re-hash of information generally available in virtually every aquarium book (eg, the nitrogen cycle), the authors provide in-depth information about such "under-covered" topics as water flow, refugiums, etc. Their discussion of marine organisms also hits the mark, providing more information about biology, husbandry, etc. than most other books without becoming so technical that only someone with a Ph.D. in marine biology would find it interesting or comprehensible. I found the book to be interesting, well-written, and very useful. This is an absolutely superb book, and I eagerly await the other projected volumes in this series that the authors so teasingly mention. Hats off to the authors!!

good

Lots of great reefing information with a focus on invertebrates including algae and plants. Covers the good, the bad and the ugly of each group and their appropriateness for different types of reef aquarium.

Received your book in good condition .Very informative and helpful

I have several reef books and each one has new information that I can use.

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