

**STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES**  
**DIVISION OF COMPARATIVE MEDICINE**  
**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA**

SOP#: 809

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**TITLE:** **Brine Shrimp Harvesting**  
**SCOPE:** Animal Care Personnel  
**RESPONSIBILITY:** Facility Manager and Technical Staff  
**PURPOSE:** To Outline the Proper Procedures for Harvesting Brine Shrimp

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**I. PROCEDURES**

**1. Harvesting Brine Shrimp**

- a. Remove lid, aerator (air tube) and heater (if applicable)
- b. Rinse and wipe off aerator and heater.
- c. Let settle for 5 to 10 minutes. Empty shells will float, unhatched eggs will sink to the bottom and live shrimp will be in the middle of the cone.
- d. Place Aspirator bottle under the cone. Open valve and release the shrimp and water into the aspirator bottle until half way filled and turn off valve. Fill aspirator bottle with RO water until full. Place the net on top of the beaker to collect the shrimp. Release the clamp from the aspirator bottle to release the shrimp into the net and beaker. Re-clamp the hose to aspirator bottle. The shrimp will remain in the net.
- e. Rinse the shrimp in the net with RO water. Place the shrimp into a clean beaker with RO water. Rinse the net into the beaker to free the remaining shrimp in the net.
- f. Place the RO water solution in the 50 ml conical tubes for feeding.
- g. Label and date the conical tube.
- h. Empty remaining contents of the cone. Using a soft scrub pad clean the walls of the cone to ensure removal of all unhatched eggs. Wipe all debris from the aerator and heater hose then rinse thoroughly with RO water until clean.

**2. Feeding Zebrafish**

- a. Refer to **SOP #803 for Zebrafish Care and Feeding.**

**3. Brine Shrimp Cone set-up**

- a. Ensure the valve is in off position when adding water to the cone.
- b. Add 1.5 Liters of RO water into the cone.
- c. Turn on aerator and place into water to help dissolve salt.
- d. Place heater into cone and set at 82<sup>o</sup> F (if applicable). Ensure the heater is fully submerged into the water.
- e. Measure 37.5 ml of Instant Ocean salt in to a 50 ml conical tube and add directly into cone (25 ml salt/ liter of water x 1.5 liters of water = 37.5 ml of salt).
- f. Use a pH test strip to determine the pH (pH should be 8-8.5). If pH is lower than 7 add 0.03 grams (a pinch) of sodium bicarbonate to the cone.
- g. Artemia (shrimp eggs) are stored in the refrigerator.
- h. Use approximately one gram/liter of water. For 1.5 liters measure 3 ml of eggs into a 50 ml conical tube and place into the cone.
- i. Make sure the aerator is on and all the way to the bottom of the cone.
- j. Place top cover back onto the cone

**Approved:**

**Date:**