Tanne Hoff, The Netherlands

April 2017

In June 2016 I installed two Philips Coralcare lights over my tank. The tank measures 110 x 80 x 70 centimetres. Installing the lights and programming with the Coralcare software were done in a breeze. While I found the standard programme that came with the controller very good, I made some small adjustments that suited my situation better.

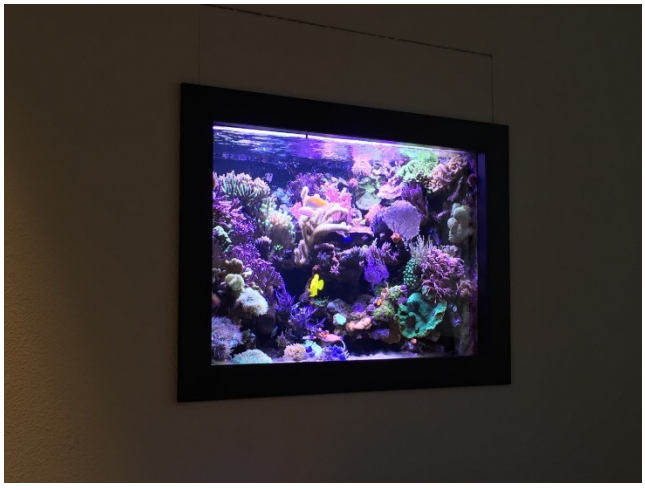
I was impressed with the quantity and spread of the light, but also with the way the colours look. Friends who also keep reef aquaria compliment me with the look these lights give. Some friends state that the lights come very close to the effect of a combination of T5 and metal halide.

Now, nearly one year later, I can look back on my first real-life experiences with these lights. In my mixed reef, even sensitive sps corals and Tridacna sp. are located on the bottom of the tank with a water level of nearly 80 centimetres. These all continue to do very well.

As I could borrow a PAR meter from a friend, I concluded I should actually decrease the intensity of the lights, as the intensity measured was so high that I was actually inhibiting coral growth. This felt a bit unreal to me as in the more than twenty years I am keeping corals, I was always struggling to get enough light on the corals. Hesitantly I lowered the percentages to an average of 70% during the day with a short peak of 75% for an hour. After a few weeks I did indeed notice an improvement of the colours of certain corals. I am sure I could lower the intensity even further but I also want to make sure the clams will still receive enough light. However, it is very safe to conclude my setup has a lot of over-capacity.

https://reefbuilders.com/2016/11/25/philips-coralcare-5-months-and-counting/

https://reefbuilders.com/2016/09/19/philips-coralcare-led-lamp-impressions/



November 2016