

## Bluelab Guardian Monitor - Do's and Don'ts

### Do's

- Do mount the Guardian Monitor in a clean dry place out of direct sunlight.
- Do clean the pH and conductivity probes at least monthly, or even more often if you are using additives or nutrient solutions that contain oils, as these contaminate the probe and give an inaccurate (low) reading.
- Do calibrate the pH every time you clean the pH probe which should be monthly, and use only fresh calibration solutions each time. Large bottles of calibration solution are de-centered into smaller containers. This stops contamination of the solution.
- Do be gentle with the pH probe as they are glass and are easily broken.
- Do submerge both the pH and conductivity probes into your tank/reservoir as they are waterproof.
- Do place the conductivity probe into the pH calibration solution with the pH probe to ensure temperature compensation is available during calibration. The temperature reading is available via the conductivity probe only.
- Do replace the pH probe when it is giving unusual readings or is over 12 months old. pH probes do not last forever and age through normal use and will eventually fail.
- Do replace the pH probe wetting cap, filled with fresh water or 4.0 pH solution, back over the tip of the pH probe when not in use. This stops the pH probe from drying out. **If it dries it dies!**
- Do always place the plastic shroud of the conductivity probe back onto the probe tip after cleaning to protect the probe face and ensure accurate readings.
- Do wait 5 – 10 minutes for the reading to stabilize if the probe temperature is very different to the temperature of the solution.

### Don'ts

- Don't be rough with pH probe or bang it on the side of your tank – it will break!
- Don't touch the pH or conductivity probe tips with your fingers or you will contaminate the probe surface. The only time you can place your fingers on the conductivity probe is when you are cleaning the probe with the liquid scourer. Use a Bluelab Chamois to clean the conductivity probe when available.
- Don't throw away your Instruction Manual – keep it in a safe place so you may refer back to it if needed. The cleaning and calibration instructions are in the manual and until you are very familiar with the procedures you should refer back to these to ensure you are carrying them out correctly.
- Don't open the Monitor as there are no user adjustments inside. This will void the guarantee.