



Research Colony Care

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Regular vs Research

Normal Care

- Goal:
 - Sustain Colony for future use
- Colony Size:
 - 2-3 Adult Boxes
 - 0-2 Egg Pad Boxes
 - Rest is up to you
 - (More Babies = Less Work)

Research Care

- Goal:
 - Propagate colony to supply the project
- Colony Size:
 - Match the Request
 - This may include using additional space/incubators
 - Planning ahead
 - Changes in regular work hours

Matching the Request

Example:

I want X amount of Y by Z time

Things to note:

- Crickets take 2-3 months to age to adulthood
- Around 500 babies, 30-60 Juveniles, or 15-35 Adults can fit in a box comfortably
- Egg pads take 2-3 weeks from collection to produce babies

Cricket Math:

200 Adult Females in 5 months

- That's 400 Crickets total
- 400 Adults/30 per box = 13 to 14 boxes
- Egg Pad boxes can make 1-2 boxes, therefore you may need ~7-10 EPB
- 7-10 EPB will take 3-5 weeks to produce
- TOTAL TIME: 11-17 weeks (3 to 5 months)

Matching the Request II

Example:

***I want X amount
of Y every Z***

This request is for continual amounts of crickets until the end of the project.

Differences in thinking:

- Regular change in hours
- Regular change in work
- Regular communication with project leader

Cricket Math:

Providing 100 juveniles a month every month

100 juveniles = 2-3 boxes

A baby box with ~200 individuals grown over a month will be sufficient

Therefore:

- Collect 2 EPB's per month (over normal collection)
- Split baby box into convenient amounts of juveniles (30-60)

General Care Reminders

Egg Pads:

- Collect EP's often enough to vary your population age
- Maintain EPB's by wiping the insides down every day you come in
- EP's should fill the dishes to the line in all adult boxes



Cricket Density:

Crickets should be kept at a certain density per box to promote:

- more random* breeding
- EP collection
- Population control

Therefore a density of 20-35 adults per box is ideal.

Juvenile and Infant density is important as well in:

- Avoiding growth repression
- Avoiding disease/anti-social behavior

Therefore a density of 30-60 (depending on instar) juveniles or up to 500 babies is ideal.