

Spongilla

A CAROLINA™ CareSheet

Immediate Care and Handling

Open the shipping container immediately upon receipt; remove the jar and open it. Inspect the sponges and confirm that they are in good condition. Sponges are sessile, so do not expect movement. *Spongilla* is asymmetrical and shows a variety of growth forms. Sponges that grow in sunlight are often green due to symbiotic zoochlorellae; otherwise, they are usually gray.

After you verify that the sponges are in good condition, use forceps to remove them from the jar. Transfer them to a culture dish or other container with about 5 cm of cold (10 to 16° C) springwater. Keep the culture dish in a semi-dark area and aerate frequently with a pipet. Change the water every other day.

FAQs

What does Spongilla eat?

Spongilla is a filter feeder and removes bacteria and other small organic particles from the water that flows through it.

How can I culture Spongilla?

Long-term culture of *Spongilla* in the laboratory is not practical. Carolina collects *Spongilla* just prior to shipping it. Plan to use your culture as soon as possible after receipt and do not expect it to last for an extended period—even with good care.

Is Spongilla a true sponge?

Yes, *Spongilla* is a member of Demospongiae, the largest class of sponges. It has spicules like most members of this class.

Problems? We hope not, but if so contact us. We want you to have a good experience.

Orders and replacements: 1-800-334-5551, then select Customer Service.

Technical Support and Questions: caresheets@carolina.com

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