

## ► feeding your fish

The vivid oranges, reds and whites of Koi and goldfish are the result of a complete and balanced diet. The right food ensures vibrant colors and proper body shape. Because Koi and goldfish do not have teeth or stomachs, easy digestibility is of prime importance. Highly digestible foods minimize waste, enabling filtration systems to operate more efficiently and keeping the pond ecosystem healthier.

Pond fish need the proper combination of protein, fats, fiber, minerals and vitamins. Too much or too little of any particular nutrient can have an adverse effect on both the health of the fish and the quality of the water.

Fish should be fed one to three times daily. Only feed as much as they will consume within five minutes.

► When the water temperature begins to drop below 50°F in the Fall, the fish's metabolism will slow. Switch to TetraPond's most digestible food, Spring & Fall Diet. Stop feeding entirely when the water temperature is less than 39°F. In the Spring, when water temperature is between 39°F and 50°F, resume feeding with Spring & Fall Diet. Above 50°F, use any of TetraPond's fish foods.



TetraPond, the world's most popular fish food, is the result of expert research by our development teams dedicated to creating new formulas to provide pond fish with balanced nutrition. TetraPond Food Sticks have revolutionized the fish food industry with the Soft Sticks advantage: they're 100% food made with the highest quality ingredients and no filler, lightweight, and quickly soften on contact with water to ensure easy digestion. And because they float longer, you can enjoy watching your fish feed at the water's surface.

## TetraPond food ◀



### ▶ Pond Sticks

**Premium nutrition for goldfish and Koi.**

An ideal maintenance diet that provides nutrition for energy, longevity, and overall health.



### ▶ Koi Vibrance™

**Premium nutrition with natural color enhancers.**

A highly nutritional diet that brings out vibrant reds and yellows on Koi and ornamental goldfish.



### ▶ Variety Blend

**Premium blend of 3 foods to enhance vitality.**

*Pond Sticks*: an ideal, basic diet.

*Koi Vibrance*: enhances natural coloration.

*Wheatgerm Sticks*: for health and vitality.



### ▶ Koi Growth

**Premium high protein food for rapid fish growth.**

A high protein diet containing essential amino acids that help younger fish grow.



### ▶ Spring & Fall Diet

**Wheatgerm transitions fish in and out of winter.**

Wheatgerm's exceptional digestibility at low temperatures is very important since fish metabolism and the pond's ammonia-reducing biological activity are greatly diminished in colder months.



### ▶ Flaked Fish Food

The primary meal for goldfish and small Koi.

## ► fish identification & care

An almost endless variety of colorful fish can be kept in the garden pond to add interest and beauty. Proper planning will increase your chances for healthy fish. Simple precautions, such as testing water quality, neutralizing chlorine when adding water, and protecting against common diseases can assure your pond fish remain in optimum health.



### AquaSafe®

Makes tap water safe for pond fish by neutralizing chlorine, chloramine and heavy metals as well as providing a protective colloid coating for fish.



### DesaFin® & KoiVital®

**DesaFin** protects goldfish and Koi against infection by destroying harmful bacteria, parasites and fungus. while **KoiVital** replenishes vitamins and minerals, promotes greater vitality, circulation and reproductive activity.

### ▼ shubunkin

Perfect for water gardens, the goldfish-shaped shubunkin features a stunning pale blue background with flecks of red, black and blue.

### ▼ goldfish

A favorite from everyone's childhood, these larger, hardy goldfish do well in poorer water conditions. Known as good swimmers, despite their short fins. Many varieties to choose from.

### ▼ koi

Prized world-over for their vivid coloration, striking patterns and longevity, Koi are actually the colored variety of the common carp. There are many colors, shapes and types to choose from.



# aquatic plant types & care ◀

## Controlling algae: the hidden beauty of aquatic plants.

If your pond is built properly and you've maintained the right balance between plants, fish and scavengers, controlling algae problems isn't difficult. Algae problems in water gardens are usually the result of excess nutrients in the water. One simple way to control excess nutrients is with aquatic plants. Plants take nitrates from the water, which deprives the algae of the nutrients it needs to live. Surface plants also provide shade to the pond, further reducing algae.



### AquaPlanters

Flexible planters made of Plantex fabric by DuPont® are very stable and form to the pond floor. Water and nutrients pass through to roots but roots are prevented from expanding through the planter.



### Lily Gro™ Tablets

Fertilizer tablets maximize beauty, color and growth of lilies and other potted aquatic plants.



### FloraFin®

Fertilizes floating and submerged pond plants without promoting algae growth.

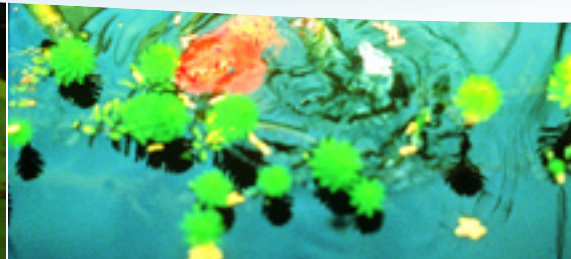
## ▼ water lillies

The lush, floating leaves of the vibrant lily sweep across the pond's surface, providing cover for fish and protection from the sun. To keep lilies healthy and enhance their elegance, submerge them at a depth of 18 inches and fertilize with Lily Gro tablets.



## ▼ oxygenating plants

These submerged floating plants provide essential oxygen and act as a natural biological filter, benefiting the entire pond ecosystem. One bundle of oxygenators is recommended for every square foot of the pond's surface area. For maximum growth without promoting algae, fertilize oxygenators with FloraFin.



## ▼ marginal plants

These attractive, hardy plants come in a myriad of sizes, shapes and colors. These plants benefit the pond by removing excess nutrients that could otherwise feed algae. Marginals grow best in shallow waters and should be submerged to a depth of 10 inches.



# ► educational resources from your water garden experts

As you continue in the hobby of water gardening, questions are bound to arise. Fortunately, Tetra provides a wide variety of resources to guide you in pond care and fish keeping.

- TetraPress offers a number of beautiful books full of inspiring photos and professional advice on water gardening.
- The TetraPond Web site at [www.tetra-fish.com](http://www.tetra-fish.com) is packed with helpful information and advice.
- The TetraPond e-newsletter delivers useful tips, industry news, and new product information straight to your home.



# frequently asked questions ◀

## Is it safe to use untreated tap water in my pond?

Probably not. Most tap water contains chlorine, chloramines and heavy metals that are harmful to fish. In order to make your tap water suitable for your pond, you need a water treatment like TetraPond AquaSafe, which neutralizes and/or removes dangerous additives and provides a protective colloid coating for the fish.

## How do I get rid of green water in my pond?

There are a number of ways to deal with green water. Most involve denying algae the sunlight and/or nutrients they need to survive.

- Shade as much of the water as possible with lilies and other aquatic plants. Floating plants prevent sunlight from feeding the algae.
- All aquatic plants absorb nutrients from the water that would otherwise be used by algae.
- Feed your plants only as directed. Fertilizer tablets can be inserted into the soil so the fertilizer is absorbed by the plant roots with very little released into the water for algae to consume.
- Use clarifying water treatments like Aqua-Zyme and AquaRem.
- Add a UV clarifier. Exposure to the correct wavelengths of UV light disrupts the reproductive capability of single-cell algae. Once it dies and clumps together, the external filter can remove it.

## How often should I clean my filter?

At the first sight of reduced water flow. If your pump has a pre-filter, check to see if it's clogged and clean it. Rinse your biofilter sponges, mats or filter pads thoroughly with pond water. Consult your biofilter user guide for more details.

## What do I do with my pond during the winter?

In most parts of the U.S., it is best to leave your fish in the pond during the winter, providing the depth of the pond is adequate. Ice will form on the top, but the water underneath will not freeze.

At first frost, simply disconnect the filtering equipment and the UV clarifier. Stop feeding your fish when the water temperature falls below 39°F.

Always provide an opening in the ice to allow for gas exchange. Without this hole, toxic ammonia can build up. To maintain an ice-free hole, leave the pump operating with the fountain head and tubing removed. The pump should be positioned so the discharge keeps water moving at the surface. Electric pond de-icers, like our energy-efficient Winter Island, will also achieve this. Do not break holes in the ice, since this will send shock waves that can injure or kill the fish.

In the spring, when the water temperature reaches 39°F, resume feeding with TetraPond Spring & Fall Diet, but only after you have re-established filtration. When water temperature reaches 50°F, you can use any of TetraPond's fish foods. Begin feeding two weeks after you have re-established filtration.

## Is there anything I can do to ease maintenance chores?

Of course your pond will require some attention throughout the year, but there are some simple steps you can take to reduce the amount of time spent on maintenance.

- Purchase a filter that is large enough to do the job. Over-filtration is not harmful, but under-filtration will lead to poor water quality, extra work and frustration.
- Choose an external filter like a ClearChoice Pressure or Gravity Flow Biofilter. External filters are easier to maintain because you do not have to enter the pond to clean the foam pads.
- A clean pond starts at the surface. Make sure you have a skimmer net to remove leaves and debris from the pond.
- Pond netting prevents leaves and debris from reaching the pond surface and protects fish from predators.
- Using the OFX pump to remove debris from the pond without clogging will significantly reduce pump maintenance.
- UV clarifiers work continuously to keep your pond free of algae without repeated application of chemical or biological treatments.