



## FEEDING AND STOCKING YOUR POND WITH FISH

The fish which you keep in your water garden are an important part of a well balanced pond. Proper nutrition and water quality is the key to keeping healthy fish in your pond. Water quality is affected by the number and size of fish, feeding and addition of new fish. The stocking level is dependent upon your filtration and pond size. A general rule for success is to stock your pond with approximately 3 to 4 inches of fish for every square foot of pond surface in a filtered pond. Too many fish will result in poor water quality and low oxygen levels. Waste materials excreted into your pond by your fish, frogs and various other animals, along with decaying plant matter can create a build up of toxic substances. A biological filter will assist in removing many of these toxic substances. To assure your biological filter is working correctly simply test for ammonia and nitrite, provided both are zero than your biological filter is doing its job and you can add addition fish if desired. Whenever fish are added be sure to PondCare STRESS COAT to reduce fish stress and heal damage tissue associated with fish transport. STRESS COAT provides the healing power of Aloe vera and provides a synthetic slime coat fish need during times of stress.

The pond fish you keep are dependent upon you to provide a nutritionally balanced diet. If you provide your fish with a proper diet and the correct water conditions they will grow and stay active and healthy. In order for your pond fish to reach their maximum potential your feeding program will determine this outcome.

In a natural setting pond fish have a varied diet based upon the season. The seasons are determined by temperature and so is the type of your food your fish should receive. In cooler temperatures when water temperatures are between 42°F and 72°F fish require a high carbohydrate/reduced protein diet. In warmer waters above 65°F, protein metabolism is very high. Therefore your fish require a highly digestible protein diet. Proteins are required for tissue formation. What this means is that fish require the proper amount of proteins and carbohydrates along with fats, minerals, nutrients and vitamins. Water temperature is the key to determining what is required for your fish.

In cooler water, fish metabolism slows and so does the need for high protein. A high protein diet feed in cooler waters provides no benefits and will result in poor water qual-

ity. In fact, the excess protein is converted to ammonia and released by the fish. SPRING & AUTUMN PREMIUM PELLET is formulated to provide your pond fish with a high level of easily digestible, energy rich carbohydrates and a proper reduced protein level. Our SPRING & AUTUMN PREMIUM PELLET aids in supplying pond fish with their complete nutritional requirements without reducing water quality. In warmer waters protein metabolism is very high. Young fish and fry require proteins for growth and development. Older fish require the proper amount of proteins to maintain the body weight and color. Feeding a highly digestible protein diet in warm waters offers several benefits to all your fish. SUMMER STAPLE PREMIUM PELLET contains 13 sources of easily digestible protein, providing a full compliment of amino acids for growth, spawning and fin development. SUMMER STAPLE PREMIUM PELLET is extremely easy for the pond fish to digest and contributes to a completely balanced diet, which aids in keeping your pond fish active and healthy.

SPRING & AUTUMN PREMIUM and SUMMER STAPLE PREMIUM PELLET pond foods are formulated to provide your fish with the correct diet at the appropriate water temperature. Both foods are packaged in convenient moisture proof containers to assure lasting freshness. In addition to feeding your fish the correct food based on water temperature, all PondCare Pond Foods are enriched with vitamins and minerals and a water stabilized Vitamin C polymer to aid in maintaining your fishes immune system. They are formulated to provide long floating pellets that soften quickly and never cloud the water. Our specially enriched formula supplies an exceptional color enhancing formula for all seasons. Use the following guide to select the proper food for your pond fish to achieve their maximum potential. Start feeding when water temperature reaches 42°F with SPRING AND AUTUMN PREMIUM PELLET. Continue to feed SPRING AND AUTUMN PREMIUM PELLET until the water temperature approaches 72°F. Above 65°F use SUMMER STAPLE PREMIUM PELLET to meet the high protein requirement your fish need to grow properly. Complete growth and coloration will be achieved when you feed your fish the way nature intended them to eat.

If you have any questions consult your PondCare Retailer  
Technical Service: 1.800.847.0659

[www.pondcare.com](http://www.pondcare.com)