

RJB fact sheet number 8

Ponds and water plants

- To be efficient it should be situated where it will receive about one third shade. This can be achieved by adding floating plants if necessary.
- Do remember that Ponds should be in full view at all times from house in order to observe children playing near the pond. Never have a secluded pond unless children are supervised 100%.
- Consider run-off into the pond. If water is able to drain into the pond it will result in nutrient concentrations which will encourage algae growth.
- The use of organic barley straw is a major advantage in the prevention of algae build up in the pond - this must be applied carefully following basic instructions.
- Do remember that any cleaning of the pond should take place in late summer and never in the autumn as this will disrupt life cycles of pond life
- The technique of soaking new plant in tepid water before adding to the pond is most beneficial.
- The use of solar powered pumps encourage some water movement and therefore oxygen in the pond is most beneficial.
- If water movement is possible the hedgehog artificial filters are very effective at removing algae.
- If purchasing fish in the pond try and purchase some bottom feeders as well as surface feeders, this will help in the prevention of algae build up.
- A common mistake is to construct the pond and place the spoil around the pond as a rockery. The raised areas will often dry out and will be especially suitable for marginal water associated plants. It is therefore very important to the membrane down before placing the soil on this area.

