

## Technical Reference Sheet for PondCare® Pond Salt

### Purpose And Benefits:

PondCare Pond Salt is an all-natural salt intended for use in ornamental fish ponds and water gardens. PondSalt adds natural electrolytes, improves gill function, and reduces fish stress. Koi and goldfish actively maintain a natural balance of electrolytes in their body fluids. Electrolytes such as potassium, sodium, chloride, calcium and magnesium are removed from the water by chloride cells located on the gills. These electrolytes are essential for the uptake of oxygen, and the release of carbon dioxide. The lack of electrolytes can cause serious health problems for pond fish. During periods of disease and stress, healthy gill function is disturbed. This can lead to loss of electrolytes and osmotic shock. Osmotic shock reduces the ability of the gills to take up oxygen and release carbon dioxide and ammonia. Pond Salt reduces the risk of osmotic shock by replenishing natural electrolytes fish need.

Pond Salt can also be used to reduce the toxicity of nitrite to koi and gold fish. Nitrite (NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>) enters the gills and prevents the blood from carrying oxygen, resulting in nitrite toxicity (methemoglobinemia). Pond Salt will temporarily block the toxic effects of nitrite until water quality can be improved.

Many external parasitic infestations (Trichodina, Ichthyobodo, and Epistylis) and fungal infections can be eradicated with a short-term bath.

Pond Salt contains no artificial additives, sugar, or color like table salt. It is made from evaporated sea water, which contains the following beneficial electrolytes needed by freshwater fish: calcium chloride, magnesium chloride, magnesium sulfate, potassium chloride, and sodium chloride.

### Directions For Use:

Once added to the pond, salt does not evaporate and is not filtered out! After making the initial treatment with Pond Salt, add more salt only when making a water change. If, for example, you remove 50 gallons with a water change add only enough salt for 50 gallons.

Ponds without plants:

Add one 2 ½ cupfuls (728 g) for every 100 U.S. gallons (378 L) of pond water. Sprinkle the salt evenly around the perimeter of the pond. After one hour, measure the salt level with the Salt level Test Kit. The salt level should be 0.2%. Add a small amount of salt if necessary. Make a 10% to 20% water change to reduce the salt level.

Certain aquatic plants are sensitive to salt; use this lower salt level when plants are present. Add one 1 ¼ cupfuls (364 g) for every 100 U.S. gallons (378 L) of pond water. Sprinkle the salt evenly around the perimeter of the pond. After one hour, measure the salt level with the Salt level Test Kit. The salt level should be 0.1%. Add a small amount of salt if necessary. Make a 10% to 20% water change to reduce the salt level.

Disease treatment:

Aquarium Salt may be used as a short-term bath to treat external parasites (Tricodina, Ichthyobodo, or Epistylis). Using a clean plastic container, dissolve 2 ½ cups (370 g) for every 10 U.S. gallons (40 L) of water. Do not use tap water. Carefully place the infested fish in the salt bath (2.0 %) for 5 to 10 minutes then.

DO NOT leave the fish in the salt bath for longer than 10 minutes. Be sure to cover the bath container with netting or similar material to prevent fish from jumping out of the bath container. After 10 minutes, place the treated fish back into the pond. The salt bath may be repeated in 24 hours if necessary.

### Compatibility:

Pond Salt can be used with pond fish including goldfish and koi. Pond Salt will not change pH. Some aquatic plants grow better at a lower salt level. When adding salt to a water garden containing plants, use the lower salt level (see Directions for use).

### Sizes Available:

#156B - quart carton of 33 oz.

#156C - half-gallon carton of 65 oz.

#106D - 50 lb. bulk container

### Last Revised:

12/19/2005