# AQUATIC PLANTS FOR LANDSCAPE PONDS Michael Tiano Tiano's Water Lilies & Fish Farm West Olive, MI

My wife and I would like to welcome you to the world of HYBRID HARDY WATER LILIES and ORNAMENTAL HARDY FISH.

Water gardening is more than just gardening with water - more, much more! Water gardening is lily pads and submerged glades of ferny foliage, of dragonflies and dancing shadows on a mirrored surface. It is shafts of bright color in the wake of darting fish, the music of a tumbling concealed waterfall or a rippling stream and above all it is home for some of the world's most beautiful plants. In the following we will discuss how to care for the water lilies and the different varieties that we handle.

Hardy water lilies are everything their name suggests. They'll live for years even in the coldest climates. In fact, as perennials, hardy water lilies require a period of winter dormancy.

Hardy water lilies bloom from June until the first freeze. Water lilies are heavy feeders and require a lot of good rich garden soil for proper growth. Lilies should be fertilized in spring and again later in the season (end of July). Soil should be covered with an inch of sand or small stones.

## HARDY WATER LILY VARIETIES:

#### WHITES

Gladstone: Largest of the whites, fragrant flowers up to 10" across. Suitable for large pools. Strong variety blooms. Planting depth 9-36 in.

**Gonnere:** Large, double snow white flowers outer petal conspicuously stained and striped green, center of flower well - filled with golden yellow anthers. Suitable for small and large pools. Planting depth 6-18 inches.

Virginia: Very white large flowers and large green leaves. Excellent bloomer with long blooming season.

Tetragona: (pygmy Japanese) Small white flowers and small green leaves - very cute!

#### PINKS

Fire Crest: Always considered one of the finest pinks. Deep pink scented flowers with orange-red stamens. Suitable for small and large pools. Planting depth 6-18 inches.

Jo-Anne Pring: Developed by George Pring. Two - three inch green leaves and 2-3 inch deep hot pink flowers, which have brown stamens, are produced over a long season in generous quantity.

Fabiola: Small to medium has a good reputation for being vigorous and free flowering. The large, rich pink flowers, which have brown stamens, are produced over a long season in generous quantity.

Pink Opal: Dark pink flowers with bronze hued leaves. Medium.

Pink Sensation: Large pink flowers, remain open late into the afternoon. Medium.

Arc-en-ciel: Magnificent variegated foliage of purple, rose, ivory, and bronze. Delicate pink flower contrasts perfectly. Medium.

Glorie -De-Temple: Magnificent lily produces the most glorious double flower up to 100 lace-like petals! Medium - large.

Formosa: Semi - double pink prolific bloomer, has dark green leaves. Small to medium.

Pearl of the Pool: Large bright pink blossoms, free flowering once established; fragrant. Large ponds.

P. Magnificent: Probably the most beautiful pink for medium to large pool.

Peter Slocum: Dark pink, large double blossom; fragrant. Very free blooming once established - medium.

Rose Arey: Rich pink with pointed petals, free flowering, very fragrant. Medium - large pools and ponds.

Laydekeri: Rosea - light pink laced with darker pink, cup shaped. Very free blooming - fragrant. Dwarf.

Marliacea Rosea: An Antique - one of the first hybrids. Light pink, cup-like 4"-5" flowers. Sm. - Med.

American Star: Pink star shaped flowers held above the water. Fragrant, medium to large ...

#### REDS

Attraction: A glowing shade of garnet red, tipped with white flecks; free flowering medium variety. Planting depth 6-24 inches.

P. Super Red: Free flowering with very rich beautiful red blooms. Has dark green speckled leaves. Medium.

P. Baby Reds: A spectacular new red. Great for tub gardens and small pools. Deep green leaves. Small.

P. Dwarf Red: Rich red and free flowering dwarf to small lily.

William Falconer: Small to medium, very dark re star shaped flowers 6-7 inches across with golden anthers, purple leaves changing to dark green. Suitable for small and large pools.

Louise: Small to medium, parents crossed were Escarboucle and Mrs. C.W. Thomas. Seep red flowers with white tipped petals. It has brownish-green sepals and yellow stamens. The flowers are held slightly above the water. The water and the mid-green foliage has slightly bronzed undersides.

Aflame (Escarboucle): Brilliant red blossoms with pointed petals. Dark green foliage and very fragrant. Medium.

Vesuve: Dark red petals very free blooming, slightly fragrant with green foliage. Medium to large.

Red Glow: Small plant great for any size pool, leaves small, flower very red.

Red Wonder: Large pinkish red with rather small leaves. For any size pool.

Black Opal: So deep red that it is almost black on older flowers. Medium.

WOW !: Named WOW! because that is what our visitors kept saying about this reddish-purple 5" ^" bloom of 31-35 satiny petals. Leaves are reddish, maturing to green.

Rembrant: Medium plant, light red - great for any size pool.

Froebell: (Dwarf) Beautiful dark red, excellent for small pools and tubs.

## YELLOWS

Helvola: Dainty canary - yellow star-shaped flowers with orange stamens, very free flowering. Small round green leaves heavily mottled with purple and brown. Ideal for growing in a bowl, tub or small pool. Pygmy variety. Planting depth 4-9 inches.

Sulphurea: Deep yellow narrow numerous petals. Likes hot sunny spot. Medium variety. Planting depth 6-24 inches.

**Chromatella:** One of the most popular of all hardy. The large well shaped flowers are a delightful shade of glistening yellow. Dark green foliage mottled and spotted reddish brown. Free flowering. Medium variety. Planting depth 6-24 inches.

**Charlene Straw:** Small to medium. Beautiful and fragrant yellow variety, the numerous lemon petals surround the long, deep yellow stamens, while the prolific flowers, which appear over a long season. They sit well above the very attractive, glossy green leaves. The leaves themselves have faintly purple undersides.

**Sunrise:** Large. One of the largest and most richly colored flowers of all the yellows. Requires much sunrise. Huge fragrant blooms 8-10 inches in diameter, are enhanced by the golden yellow filaments and narrow curving petals, which will stand above the water surface on hairy stems. Leaves are green, occasionally blotched with brown and reddish undersides.

**Gold Medal:** Free flowering deep rich yellow with 5 to 8 inch, double blooms held several inches above water. Perfect for all pools.

#### CHANGEABLE

Aurora: Remarkable for its changes of color. Opens a pretty shade of copper yellow, turning to salmon orange and then ruby red. foliage prettily marbled. Very free flowering. Ideal for tub or small pool. Pygmy variety. Planting depth 4-9 inches.

**Comanche':** Copper yellow shading towards orange scarlet; stamens a deep orange-red. A pleasing sight to see. Flowers in their different stages of colors. Moderate variety. Planting depth 6-18 inches.

Indiana: The most dramatic changeable. Opening a sunny yellow, by the fourth day the flower is a brilliant russet orange and has variegated foliage. Small.

## FLOATING PLANTS

Water Lettuce Water Hyacinth Frogsbit

#### WATER LILY LIKE PLANTS

Four Leaf Clover Floating Hearts

LOTUS Charles Thomas - small

# BOG PLANTS

Dwarf Cat-Tails Variegated Cat-Tail White, Blue and Purple Pickerel Rush Arrow Head Double Arrow Head Canna

#### RUSHES

Variegated spike rush Zebra rush Variegated sweet flag

## TROPICAL BOG PLANTS

These can be brought in the house over winter months and used as a house plant.

Water Umbrella Palm Dwarf Papyrus Imperia Taro

## WATER IRIS

yellow blue white purple red

Japanese Varieties -various colors Japanese Variegated

## HARDY ORNAMENTAL FISH

Koi: The colorful Koi was originally bred from Japanese carp over a thousand years ago to provide color and beauty for the gardens of the noble families. Over succeeding centuries, devoted attention to breeding has produced endless new varieties.

Perhaps the most unusual characteristic of the Koi is its natural tameness. The Koi is unafraid of people and can easily be taught to respond affectionately and can be hand fed.

#### Goldfish:

Comet Calico Black Moors Red Fantails Red Cap Fantails Orands Shubunkins

#### GRAND CHAMPION KOI AND GOLDFISH FOODS

Our Koi food is fed to the Nishiki Koi at the U.S. National Arboretum in Washington, D.C. and is used by major Koi breeders the world over. The results are always the same - bigger, healthier, more colorful Koi. Feed Grand Champion <u>Spirulina Formala</u> to enhance color and growth or Grand Champion <u>Staple Formula</u> for a comprehensive basic diet. Stabilized Vitamin-C helps prevent disease, delivers extra nutrition. Choose from three sizes: mini pellet for fish under 5", regular pellets for fish 5" - 10", large pellets for fish over 10".

Available in: 1 lb. bags 5 lb. bags 25 lb. bags

## WINTER CARE

Hardy water lilies may be left in the pool for the winter if your pool is at least 18 inches deep and the water level remains constant. All hardy plants and fish will survive if the pool does not freeze solid. For added protection, the pool may be further winter protected by placing a board over the pool and piling it with leaves. Chicken wire will help hold the leaves in place. Here at the farm we put an air hose in the ponds which flows air keeping a small hole in the ice open. We do this because of the great number of fish in each pond. Do not feed your fish when the water temperature gets below 40 degrees. The fish do not need to eat because their metabolism is starting to slow down and the food not consumed will pollute the pool. All filtration can be stopped because the bacteria die off in the winter.

These fish are very hardy and consume large quantities of oxygen. They are ravenous feeders and should not be overfed during extremely hot weather. Some shade should be provided (lilies make a fine shady place and help keep the fish cool).

We have added 4 new pygmy lilies to our collection. We hope you will enjoy these as well!

We hope that this information is helpful to you. Please feel free to call us if you have any questions.

## Planting and Care Instructions for Water Garden Plants

We recommend planting all plants in pots rather than directly in the bottom of the pool. This aids in maintenance by making the containers retrievable, thus making plant care easier. All of the plants require at least 5 hours of direct sunlight each day for maximum growth.

**TROPICAL WATER LILIES** - Day and night blooming - tropical water lilies should be planted in pots at least 12 inches in diameter. A 3 to 5 gallon size should suffice for each lily. Fill the pot half full with a rich garden soil and add 2 to 4 fertilizer tablets, then continue to fill the pot with soil to about 2 inches from the top. The rhizome should be set upright with the roots buried gently in the soil. Make sure the tip of the rhizome is not buried. Next, add an inch or two of gravel or sand in order to prevent the soil from escaping from the container. Remember to keep the gravel away from the crown of the rhizome. The plant can now be lowered into the water to a depth of approximately 6 inches. As the plant grows, it can be lowered to a depth of 12 inches. Tropical lilies cannot tolerate cold temperatures and should not be planted until the water reaches a temperature of at least 70 degrees. Planting too early can cause dormancy and restrict the potential growth of the plant. Tropicals bloom from late spring through early fall, depending on the weather. Fertilizer tablets should be added every 2 months.

HARDY WATER LILIES - Hardy lilies are planted in much the same way as tropicals. Hardies grow horizontally across the container so a side pot is necessary for planting. The rhizome should be planted at one edge of the container with the rhizome planted at an angle of about 45 degrees with the crown exposed. Remember to use a rich garden soil and top the soil with an inch or two of gravel or sand. The plant can be lowered to a depth of 6 inches to begin with, and then lowered to a depth of 12 to 18 inches as the plant grows. Hardies should be planted in early spring. They bloom from June through September depending on the weather, and become dormant during the colder months. As spring approaches, growth will begin again.

MARGINAL OR BOG PLANTS - Marginal plants should be planted in individual containers of approximately 1 to 3 gallon capacity. The marginal plants are grown in 2" net pots and it is recommended that you plant without removing these net pots as not to damage the roots. Plant as you would the lilies, but when adding fertilizer tablets, use 1 tablet for 1 gallon size pots and 2 tablets for 2 or 3 gallon size pots. Marginal plants should be lowered to a depth of only 2 to 3 inches. They grow out of the water and are usually found at the water's edge.

**FLOATING PLANTS** - These plants require no planting. Simply place them in the water and they will grow. Floating plants desire tropical temperatures and cannot tolerate a frost.

**OXYGENATING PLANTS** - All ponds should have underwater oxygenating plants to aid in maintaining clean and pure water. These plants help prevent algal growth and provide oxygen. Oxygenating plants can be planted as you would the lilies and marginals. A one gallon size pot is recommended. Completely submerge these plants to a depth of at least 12 inches.

# POTTING LILIES

Procedure: Gently hose off lilies to remove foreign matter, and to keep wet while planting. Fill container 1/2 full of soil. Place Lilytabs in position. Add enough soil to fill container 3/4 full. Position lily (see diagram). Gently add soil around roots and tamp down. Keep growing crown (at top of root formation) free of soil. Cover soil with 1/2" of pea gravel, again keeping crown free. Thoroughly saturate soil with water. Lower potted lily into pool to a depth of 6" to 18" of water over soil surface. Water lilies require 2-3 weeks adjustment before new growth resumes. For best blooming results, feed monthly with Lilytabs.

## POTTING LOTUS:

Assemble: 19" tub, or larger (30 qt., or greater, capacity) Heavy garden soil (with clay) 1 Lilytab per 5 qts. of soil Pea gravel

Procedure: Fill container 3/4 full with soil. Insert Lilytabs. Put in remaining soil. Make slight impression in the soil. Gently place lotus tuber (it is brittle) in the impression. Carefully cover thickest part (banana shaped) of the tuber with 2" of soil, keeping growing tip (see diagram) 1/ 2" above soil. Gently place flat rock on covered section of tuber. Slowly, and carefully cover soil surface with 1/2" of pea grave, being sure the growth tip is not covered. Saturate planting with water Lower slowly into pond so that soil line is 2"-4" from water surface.

For best blooming results, feed monthly with Lilytabs.

#### POTTING SUBMERGED AND BOG PLANTS:

#### Assemble:

5 qt. or larger soil container (allow 1 qt. of soil per bunch of submerged plants, 3 qt. of soil per bog plant). Enough soil to fill your container(s).

Lilytabs, if you are planting iris (1 tab/5 qt. of soil). Enough pea gravel to give each pot a 1/2" covering.

Submerged plants:

Fill pot halfway with garden soil or gravel.

Arrange stems in pot.

Pack remaining soil or gravel around stems to hold them in the pot while they are underwater.

If you have opted to use soil, cover with 1/2' of gravel or sand.

Place potted plants on the bottom of the pond with no more than 30" of water over the gravel.

Bog plants:

Gently arrange the roots on the soil of a partially filled pot.

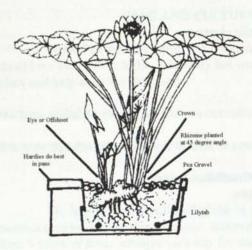
Carefully add soil around the roots, taking care not to cover the crown of the plant where the new growth is

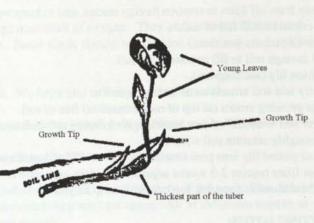
present. Top soil level should be even with the point where the plant stem changes from green to white. Cover with 1/2" of pea gravel or sand.

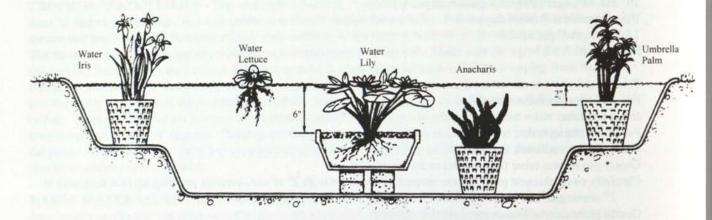
Place pot in your pond so that the top of the soil is the recommended depth from the surface of the water. See the plant charts in the catalogue for details on your specific bog plant (3" - 6" depth for most).

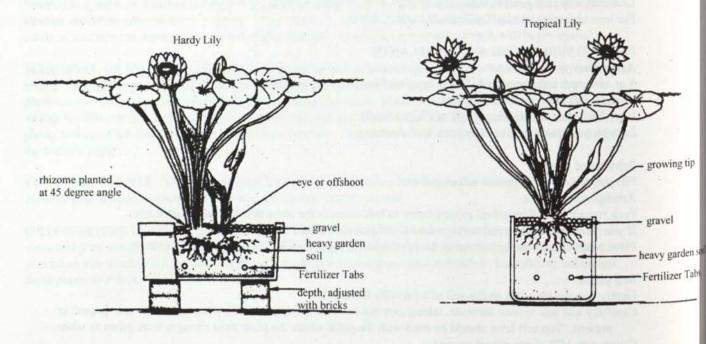
If necessary, place bricks or blocks under the pot to bring the container to the correct depth.











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