



Dosage for Large and Small Ponds

Ponds, lakes and bodies of water have different characteristics, depending upon their size and environment, which affect the dosage required to keep water clear and free of algae. In general, larger bodies of water can achieve a natural balance more easily than smaller and shallower ponds, such as the typical backyard pond of 500-1000 gallons.

Small ponds are more exposed to sunlight throughout the shallower water. They tend to have more phosphates and nitrates in the water from two sources:

- Surrounding lawns are often heavily fertilized, causing phosphate run-off into the pond
- Fish are often heavily stocked, relative to natural environments, causing high levels of both phosphates and nitrates from fish waste and from fish food itself

Smaller surface area in smaller ponds can lead to competition for sunlight, as all the algae tries to get to the surface. The amount of sunlight filtering down through a small pond can cause algae to grow thickly throughout the water volume, resulting in a green pea-soup consistency of the water. A cup of water scooped up may appear medium to bright green throughout. If blue-green algae is present, the consistency will be even thicker, due to a mucus the algae secretes to protect itself. This species is extremely difficult to eradicate and is toxic to fish and animals.

Smaller ponds are less likely to achieve and keep a natural balance for these reasons. As a result, the dosage in smaller ponds is higher for CLEAR-IT and its related products, and it is essential to follow initial and maintenance dosages.

- 125 milliliters per 500 gallons initially (.125 liters)
- 20 milliliters every week thereafter
- Increase dosage if conditions require or algae persists. It is impossible to overdose.

CLEAR-IT begins to work immediately, but it will take up to six weeks to see a difference, depending upon the surrounding environment. It is not recommended to use CLEAR-IT where



there is continual outside water flowing through and out of the pond. The flow-through simply dilutes the extract. Closed, circulating systems are ideal. String or filamentous algae is harder to control than the single-celled species and may require higher doses and more time. In extreme cases, filamentous algae have not been controlled until the second season of dosing, so keep dosing. Do not pull or cut out string algae, unless necessary, as this exposes interior cells to the nutrients in the water and doubles or quadruples the growth rate. If removal is required, dose intensively for a period.

Larger bodies of water achieve natural balance more easily. They tend to have lower concentration of fish and more plants, particularly marginal or shoreline plants that prevent phosphates and nitrates from reaching the water. In larger ponds and lakes, the algae grow at the water level and do not reach all the way through the water volume. These bodies of water can be treated by dosing surface acre, rather than water volume:

- Initially, 1-3 liters per surface acre, for depths up to 3 feet
- Add 10% to the dosage for depths over 3 feet
- Maintenance doses of 1 liter per surface acre every 1 to 2 weeks are usually adequate
- Increase maintenance dosage depending upon surrounding conditions