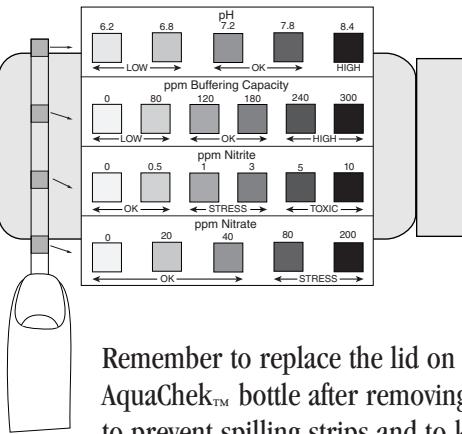


AquaChek™

POND TEST STRIPS

AquaChek™ is a test for pH, Buffering Capacity, Nitrite and Nitrate levels in your pond. The test pads on the strip will change color to indicate the levels in your pond.



Remember to replace the lid on your AquaChek™ bottle after removing a strip to prevent spilling strips and to keep them fresh. **Keep the strips in a cool, dry place, and leave the packet of drying agent in the bottle — it will help keep the test strips at their best.**

Follow these easy, step-by-step instructions

Step 1

Remove an AquaChek™ Pond Test Strip from the bottle and replace the cap tightly. Dip test strip into your pond water for 1 second and remove. Do not shake excess water from strip.



Step 2

Hold strip level for 30 seconds.



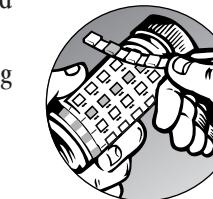
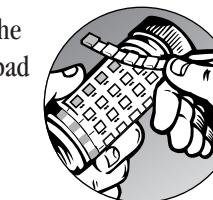
Step 3

pH

Compare the end pad of the strip to the pH color chart on the label. The pH pad should turn a shade of red-orange, between 7.2 and 7.8.

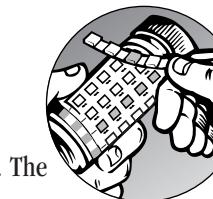
Buffering Capacity

Compare the second pad from the end of the strip to the Buffering Capacity color chart on the label. The Buffering Capacity pad should turn a shade of green. The correct range is 120 ppm (parts per million) to 180 ppm.



Nitrite

Compare the third pad from the end of the strip to the Nitrite color chart on the label. The Nitrite pad should remain white or turn a shade of pink. The safe range is between 0 ppm and 0.5 ppm.



Step 4

Nitrate

At 60 seconds after dipping strip, compare the pad nearest the handle to the Nitrate color chart on the label. The pad should remain tan or turn a shade of pink. The safe range is between 0 ppm and 40 ppm.



For recommendations on the importance of maintaining proper water conditions, see the reverse side of this instruction sheet.

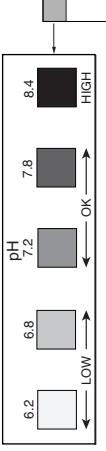
To keep your pond clean and healthy, pond water should be tested before introducing fish and regularly monitored throughout the year. Test every week from the beginning of May to the end of September and periodically during the winter. It's also a good idea to write down your results each time you test.

AquaChekTM

Instructions for
Pond Test
Strips

AquaChekTM Environmental Test Systems, Inc.
Environmental Test Systems, Inc.
P.O. Box 4659
Elkhart, IN 46514-0659
1-888-ETS-STRIPS
(1-888-387-7874)
www.etsstrips.com

pH



A proper pH level will prevent the harmful effects of water that is too acidic or too alkaline. pH is measured on a 0-14 scale: 7 is neutral, below 7 is acidic, above 7 is alkaline. Water that is too alkaline can cause fish respiratory trouble and discoloration, harm plants and increase the toxicity of Ammonia. Water that is too acidic can cause fish to gasp at the surface and reduce their resistance to disease. At either extreme, fish and plants can't survive. When pH is too low, add soda ash. When pH is too high, add an acid or sodium monophosphate. When adjusting pH, do not change the pH in your pond by more than 0.3 pH units per day. pH changes that are greater than 0.3 pH units per day can cause stress for fish. For more detailed advice on the specific chemical treatment for your pond, contact your dealer.

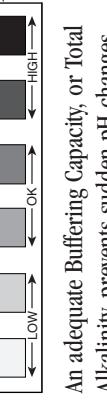
Basic Pond Chemistry and other AquaChekTM Products



Total Ammonia

Test for Ammonia, a toxic chemical that is potentially hazardous to both fish and plants.

Buffering Capacity



An adequate Buffering Capacity, or Total Alkalinity, prevents sudden pH changes, which can cause stress to fish and plants. The pH level of your pond is constantly affected by factors such as rain, evaporation, photosynthesis of plants and ground water drainage into the pond. Buffers (carbonates and bicarbonates) absorb excess acids or bases introduced into the water. Buffering Capacity should be adjusted before adding chemicals to balance pH. If Buffering Capacity is too low, add sodium bicarbonate. If Buffering Capacity is too high, add an acid. For more detailed advice on the specific chemical treatment for your pond, contact your dealer.

Try AccuGrowTM, the fast, easy, accurate way to test your soil.



AccuGrowTM pH • N provides 10 tests each for pH and nitrogen in your soil.

Nitrite

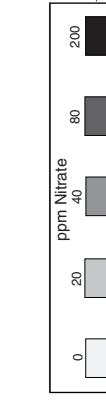


High levels of Nitrite can be dangerous to fish, causing them to become listless, deprived of oxygen and discolored. High levels can also cause rapid algae growth. Toxic Nitrite results after a group of beneficial bacteria causes the breakdown of Ammonia. If Nitrite is too high, add nitrifying bacteria. For more detailed advice on the specific chemical treatment for your pond, contact your dealer.



AccuGrowTM Soil Test Strips provide 10 tests each for pH, nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium in your soil.

Nitrate



After bacteria break down Ammonia into Nitrates, a second group of bacteria break down toxic Nitrates into Nitrate, which can be beneficial to aquatic plants. A proper Nitrate level will promote plant growth. However, a higher level may lead to increased algae growth and may harm fish. Amber-tinted water may indicate high Nitrate levels. If Nitrate is too high, add nitrate removing bacteria. For more detailed advice on the specific chemical treatment for your pond, contact your dealer.



Look for AccuGrowTM Soil Test Strips at your local Garden Center or call 1-888-ETS-STRIPS (1-888-387-7874) for more information.