

Suggested Products Algae Fix Microbial Algae Clean Eco Fix Green Clean Algae Off

## **CONTROL OF STRING ALGAE**

String algae, or blanketweed as it is commonly referred to, is caused by millions of microscopic algae spores. It differs from the beneficial "velvet" algae in that it becomes very long and unsightly. It can be controlled by using chemicals or by using aquatic plants to shade up to 60% of the pond's surface to reduce the amount of sunlight it receives. Lilies, water hyacinths, water lettuce, duckweed or any other floating plants with fibrous roots work very well. They shade the pond and they also absorb nutrients through those fibrous roots.

Chemical control usually means using algaecides, or chemicals that kill all types of algae to a greater or lesser degree. These chemicals may contain copper sulfate, which will harm any pond plants that you may have. The more common form of this chemical is sold as POND BLOCK. Care must be taken as a massive algae die-off will negatively affect the quality of your water. If dead algae sits at the bottom of the pond for any length of time, it will create an ammonia spike which can kill your fish. Algaecides may be used before string algae begins to grow, however, successive treatments may be necessary.

If you are experiencing string algae, use algaecides such as ALGAEFIX with a combination of ECOFIX or SIMPLY CLEAR. ALGAEFIX will kill the algae and the other products will break down the dead algae so as to not cause an ammonia spike. ALGAEFIX is dosed at the rate of 1 TEASPOON per 50 GALLONS or 1/4 CUP per 600 GALLONS and may be used as frequently as ONCE every 3 days. Do not worry if you see a velvety layer of algae growing on the sides of your pond. This is the sign of a healthy and balanced pond. The algae and bacteria on the walls also act as a biofilter. Heavy string algae on the waterfall area may be controlled by GREEN CLEAN or ALGAE-OFF. Both are completely SAFE for fish life.

Ultraviolet Clarifiers will NOT eliminate string algae. Since string algae is attached to the pond sides and waterfall, it does NOT pass through the UV chamber and therefore will NOT be eliminated.