

Pocket pond plant guide

A guide to buying environmentally-friendly pond plants




Menyanthes trifoliata - Bogbean

<i>Lemna minuta</i>	Lesser duckweed
<i>Lemna minuscula</i>	
<i>Ludwigia grandiflora</i>	Water primrose
<i>Ludwigia peploides</i>	
<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>	Parrots feather
<i>Myriophyllum brasiliense</i>	Brazilian watermilfoil
<i>Myriophyllum proserpinacoides</i>	
<i>Pistia stratiotes</i>	Water lettuce
<i>Salvinia molesta</i>	Giant salvinia
<i>Tillaea helmsii</i>	Australian swamp stonecrop
<i>Tillaea recurva</i>	
<i>Trapa natans</i>	Water chestnut



Azolla - Water/Fairy fern

Bad Plants

The following are all plants that can cause problems in the countryside and are best avoided for use in your pond.

<i>Allium paradoxum</i>	Few flowered leek
<i>Azolla caroliniana</i>	Water fern
<i>Azolla filiculoides</i>	Water fern
<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>	Fairy fern
	Fanwort
	Green Cabomba
<i>Crassula helmsii</i>	Carolina watershield
	Australian stonecrop
	New Zealand stonecrop
	Australian pigmyweed
	New Zealand pigmyweed
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	Water hyacinth
<i>Elodea Canadensis</i>	Canadian pondweed / waterweed
<i>Elodea crista</i>	Curly water weed
<i>Elodea nuttallii</i>	Nuttall's pondweed / waterweed
<i>Fallopia japonica</i>	Japanese knotweed
<i>Hydrocotyle ranunculoides</i>	Floating pennywort
<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>	Indian / Himalayan balsam
<i>Jussiaea grandiflora</i>	Water primrose
<i>Lagarosiphon major</i>	Curly water weed

<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>	Lady's smock
	Cuckoo flower
<i>Carex pendula</i>	Pendulous sedge
<i>Epilobium hirsutum</i>	Great willowherb
<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>	Hemp agrimony
<i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>	Meadowsweet
<i>Geum rivale</i>	Water avens
<i>Hypericum elodes</i>	Marsh St John's wort
<i>Juncus effuses</i>	Soft rush
<i>Juncus inflexus</i>	Hard rush
<i>Lotus pedunculatus</i>	Greater birds foot trefoil
<i>Lychnis flos-cuculi</i>	Ragged robin
<i>Lycopus europaeus</i>	Gipsywort
<i>Lysimachia nummularia</i>	Creeping jenny
<i>Lysimachia vulgaris</i>	Yellow loosestrife
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	Purple loosestrife
<i>Mentha pulegium</i>	Pennyroyal
<i>Osmunda regalis</i>	Royal fern
<i>Parnassia palustris</i>	Grass-of-Parnassus
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow buttercup
<i>Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum</i>	Water cress
<i>Stachys palustris</i>	Marsh woundwort
<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>	Salad burnet
<i>Succisa pratensis</i>	Devil's bit scabious
<i>Veronica anagallis-aquatica</i>	Water speedwell

Pond-edge plants(shallow water emergents) –short	
<i>Hippuris vulgaris</i>	Mare's tail
<i>Hottonia palustris</i>	Water violet
<i>Menyanthes trifoliata</i>	Bogbean
<i>Myosotis scorpioides</i>	Water forget-me-not
<i>Persicaria amphibia</i>	Amphibious bistort
<i>Polygonum amphibium</i>	
<i>Ranunculus flammula</i>	Lesser spearwort
<i>Ranunculus lingua</i>	Greater spearwort
<i>Sagittaria sagittifolia</i>	Arrowhead
<i>Veronica beccabunga</i>	Brooklime

Pond-edge plants (emergents) – tall	
<i>Alisma plantago-acquatica</i>	Water plantain
<i>Butomus umbellatus</i>	Flowering rush
<i>Carex riparia</i>	Greater pond sedge
<i>Eleocharis acicularis</i>	Hair grass
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	Yellow flag iris
<i>Mentha aquatica</i>	Water mint
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	Common reed
<i>Sparganium erectum</i>	Branched bur-reed
<i>Typha angustifolia</i>	Lesser bulrush
<i>Typha latifolia</i>	Lesser reedmace

Marginal and Bog Plants	
<i>Achillea ptarmica</i>	Sneezewort
<i>Acorus calamus</i>	Sweet flag
<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	Bugle
<i>Althaea officinalis</i>	Marsh mallow
<i>Caltha palustris</i>	Marsh marigold

Good plants

The following are all good alternatives that will make your pond visually attractive and a haven for wildlife. Those coloured in **blue** are too large or vigorous for small ponds. The rest are suitable for all ponds.

Submerged plants	
<i>Callitriche stagnalis</i>	Common water-starwort
<i>Ceratophyllum demersum</i>	Rigid hornwort
<i>Eleocharis palustris</i>	Common spike-rush
<i>Hottonia palustris</i>	Water violet
<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	Spiked water-milfoil
<i>Myriophyllum verticillatum</i>	Whorled water-milfoil
<i>Potamogeton pectinatus</i>	Fennel pondweed

Floating-leaf plants	
<i>Glyceria fluitans</i>	Floating sweet grass
<i>Hydrocharis morsus-ranae</i>	Frogbit
<i>Lemna trisulca</i>	Ivy-leaved lily
<i>Nymphaea alba</i>	White water lily
<i>Nymphaea lutea</i>	Yellow water lily
<i>Nymphoides peltata</i>	Fringed water lily
<i>Potamogeton crispus</i>	Curled pondweed
<i>Potamogeton natans</i>	Broad-leaved pondweed
<i>Ranunculus aquatilis</i>	Water crowfoot

of these plants.

Lots of advice is available to help you create and manage a pond, including:
www.pondconservation.org.uk
www.wildlifetrusts.org

For more information on non-native invasive species visit:
www.nonnativespecies.org
www.environment-agency.gov.uk
www.plantlife.org.uk



Iris pseudacorus - Yellow flag iris

Some exotic plants sold for garden ponds today are now growing in the countryside and causing problems for British wildlife. These plants are bad because:

- They grow very fast
- Tiny pieces will grow into large plants
- They quickly choke ponds and rivers
- They are very difficult to get rid of

If you buy these plants they could take over and choke your pond. They can spread into the countryside as seeds or tiny pieces carried by birds and other wildlife, or when you clean out your pond and dump unwanted plants. It is very important not to allow material from garden ponds to reach the countryside either accidentally or deliberately.

It is best to allow your pond to develop naturally and stock itself. Natural colonisation by plants, insects and amphibians often happens fast. If you do want to buy some plants choose from the 'Good Plants' list and check that nothing else is growing in the pot or in the water. Never take plants from the wild. If you buy fish for your pond, their water could also contain fragments