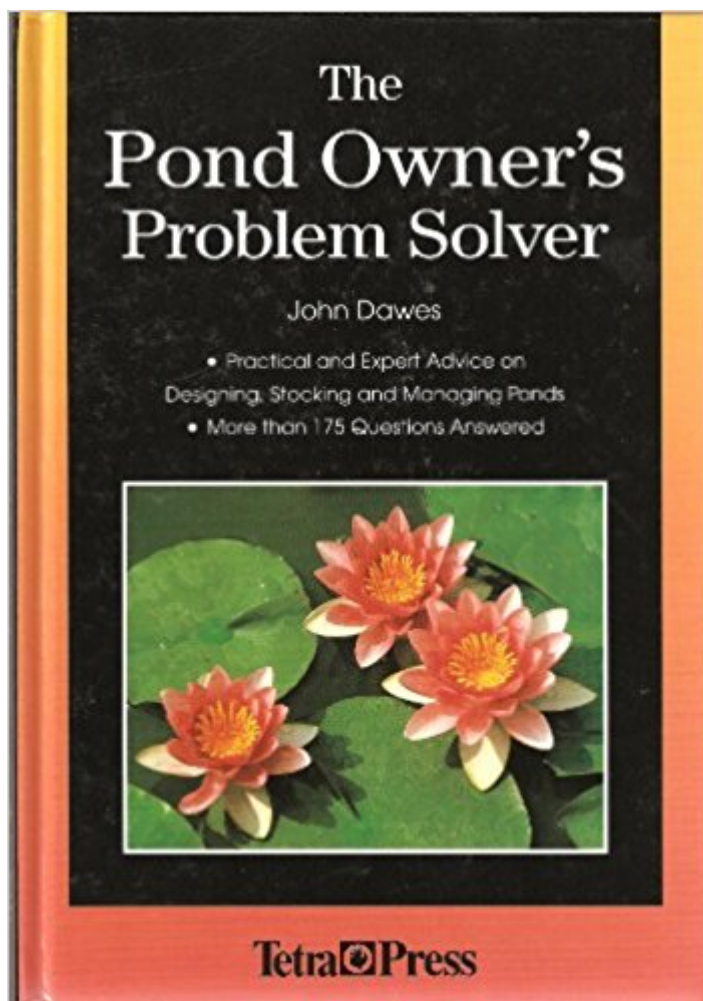


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The Pond Owner's Problem Solver



Synopsis

Ponds and water gardens make up one of the fastest growing sectors of the aquatic hobby industry. "The Pond Owner's Problem Solver" provides clear solutions to 450 of the most common problems in creating and maintaining ponds and water gardens. This book is divided into four parts: the main types of ponds; individual fish species; aquatic plant species; and advice on care, maintenance, and legal aspects of animal and plant species for the wildlife pond. For pond and water garden enthusiasts. John Dawes, a freelance author, editor, and aquatic consultant, is an internationally renowned authority on fish, aquaria, and outdoor fishkeeping.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Dawes provides solutions to 450 problems that water gardeners could experience in creating and maintaining a pond. The first section of this instructive book covers the main types of ponds and their characteristics. Another section gives facts and tips on buying fish and on their breeding, feeding, and care. There are profiles of a large number of fish, giving information on size, habitat, temperature requirements, diet, and breeding habits. Yet another section gives data on plants, and reproduction, propagation, and health and diseases are discussed. Sixty-six plants are profiled. A section on pond wildlife provides an overview of the main groups of animals that are generally encountered--frogs, toads, turtles, etc. Dawes also offers tips on managing water quality and on season-by-season maintenance. George Cohen

Did not fit my purpose.

This book was in excellent condition. It came in a timely manner. Thank you. I would recommend this company.

Published first in 1998 in England and reprinted and published by Tetra Press in 2002, Dawes talks about all the newest pond gadgets except the new bead filtration. Bead filters are so new and so very expensive that normally the backyard pond owner need not be concerned with them unless the pond is a koi pond used for raising show quality koi. Dawes offers up good pond set up ideas, different styles of ponds, where to site a pond and how to design one. He talks about the pros and cons of lined ponds, concrete and performed ponds. Fish and feeding Fish, from food and feeding to breeding and health management are discussed along with the differences between Koi and goldfish. He advocates fish feeding, but cautiously. I have some problems with goldfish feeding, so do not agree with the book when it comes to fish feeding. Other fish, temperate, cold water and tropical are looked at by Dawes. He shows pictures of sick fish and even microscopic photos of parasites. He gives the fish owner a great way to diagnose sick fish. Pond plants Pond plants are discussed at length, from the importance of them to how they reproduce and how to propagate them. He talks about planting your pond, how to keep your plants healthy. Shallow water marginals are differentiated from deep water marginals, surface plants from floating plants from submerged plants or oxygenators. Water quality and pond maintenance In his final chapters he discusses water quality and how to manage it. He also talks about winter, spring, summer and fall maintenance. Questions/answers and sidebars During each chapter, he answers specific questions about the subject covered in that chapter. He also has sidebars throughout the chapters covering advantages and disadvantages of his ideas. These sidebars alone are worth the cost of the book. I do disagree with Dawes on his building instructions. I have always suggested and built all ponds at least 4" above the surrounding grade so run off from roofs, roads and nearby lawns could not get in the pond water. His directions from the performed pond to the liner pond involve making sure the ground is level all round before installing rocks. This makes the pond entirely too difficult to build and takes much too long. If the pond is built up, the liner is folded over the first course of rocks and a second course is placed on top, no leveling is necessary and no run off can happen. I really like his ideas about using a bog garden as a filter, but do not like the idea of making shelves in the pond. If shelves are built, more surface is exposed to the sun and algae are more likely to grow. Dawe's book has pictures of ponds that will make you want one by next week. His photos will give you great

ideas about your own pond design. It is obviously a book written by someone who has extensive knowledge of ponds, fish, aquatic plants and pond management. With all Dawes' pictures, illustrations, specific advantages/disadvantages of each method, his book certainly is worthy of being in every pond owner's library. I give it four fish out of a possible five, only because I disagree with his building methods. You may prefer building this way. This would make a great gift for the pond owner in your life.

this book was very useful for giving me tips regarding how to stock a pond with fish and keep the water healthy and clean.

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