

# Information Sheet

## Stocking Ratio

1-acre pond- 43,560 square feet or a square that is 210 feet on each side.

How to stock a 1-acre pond? The number of fish you can put in a pond depends on certain conditions: If you're going to feed your fish, your water source (spring fed or just rain water), if aerating or churning your water, and how hard you will fish your pond. These are all conditions you must determine.

## Recommendations—With different conditions

### 1-acre pond (You're NOT going to feed your fish)

Total number of fish	Up to 1200 total fish
Catfish /Hybrid Bluegill	Up to 700 of either one
Red Ear/ Straight Bluegill	Up to 200 of either one
Largemouth Bass/ Black crappie	Up to 200 of either one
Fathead Minnows	10 to 20 pounds

1-acre pond (You are going to feed your fish, Spring fed or no major loss of water, and fish it regularly).

Total number of fish	Up to 2500 total fish
Catfish/ Hybrid Bluegill	Up to 2500 of either one
Red Ear/ Straight Bluegill	Up to 500 of either one
Largemouth Bass/ Black Crappie	Up to 200 of either one
Fathead Minnows	10 to 20 pounds
Grass Carp (White Amur) <u>where available</u>	5 to 15 per acre <u>depending on how bad vegetation is.</u>

## Tempering Your Fish

Shocking fish occurs most often when you have different water temperatures. The worse case is when you put fish in warmer water (from cold to hot). The easiest way to temper your fish is to open your bag and add 1 quart of pond water every few minutes until the water in the bag feels the same as your pond water, then release. **It is very important to temper your fish and get them out of the bag into your pond as soon as possible.**

## Growth Rate

If you feed your fish or have plenty of feeder fish, these are the average growths.

Channel Catfish—gains up to 2 pounds a year.

The following fish listed will gain between ½ to ¾ pounds a year

- Hybrid Bluegill
- Straight Bluegill
- Red Ear Bream
- Black Crappie
- Largemouth Bass

Largemouth Bass—After first year they can gain more depending on how much food they have.

Fathead Minnows—Spawn up to 4 times a year.

Grass Carp (Where available) can gain up to 3 times their body weight a day.

## Feeding Your Fish

Fish eat best when water temperature is above 60 degrees. Always feed floating food when water is above 60 degrees, so you can monitor how much they are eating. They will generally eat all they can in 10 to 15 minutes. Do not leave an excessive amount of feed. Feed every day (early morning or late evening always in the same spot). It takes being consistent to get the fish trained. Start out with 1 quart of feed every day for the first few weeks, (takes seven to ten days for the fish to catch on to a routine). Then feed according to when they are full. In the winter or when water is below 60 degrees you will use the sinking fish food. Use a 2 pound coffee can filled to the top once a week.

Pond Stocking

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