


The logo for Tetra Pond, featuring the brand name in white serif font on a green banner with a white border. The 'O' in 'Pond' contains a stylized fish icon.

Tetra Pond

Feeding your Pond Fish

A lush garden pond with a stone waterfall, surrounded by various plants and flowers. Several koi fish are visible in the water.

Approved by

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COLLEGE HAMPSHIRE

For more information: www.tetra.net



The importance of a good quality diet

In their natural environment most fish consume a wide variety of foods, such as algae, plants, crustaceans, insects, and other fish. This ensures they receive a balanced diet, which needs to be replicated in captivity to keep them healthy. Thanks to **Tetra** this is easy, as every one of our foods has been carefully formulated and tested to ensure it supplies exactly the right quality and quantity of nutrients that fish need. In fact, **TetraPond** is the UK's best selling pond food, delivering high quality nutrition to more fish than any other brand.

Feeding a good quality **TetraPond** food is important because:

- It keeps fish in good condition, with a strong immune system and excellent colouration.
- It reduces the amount of solid and dissolved waste your fish produce, helping to maintain clear, healthy water.
- By reducing waste, it makes looking after the pond easier, as less cleaning is needed.
- By reducing the build-up of dissolved nutrients, it helps with controlling algae.

What makes a good quality food?

TetraPond foods are formulated and tested to minimise waste production, ensuring that the fish receive more nutrition and that the pond is easier to look after.

Every **TetraPond** food benefits from:

- The best quality ingredients, to supply the right nutrients to your fish.
- The best manufacturing processes, to guarantee a highly digestible food, which softens quickly and is easy for fish to eat.
- The right balance of nutrients, determined by thorough testing at our leading research and development laboratories.

Tetra diets contain **ActiveFormula**, a patented formula that supports the immune system and improves condition



Choosing a food

Your choice of food depends on two factors:

1. The type of fish you keep

Different fish have different nutritional requirements. Although **TetraPond** has foods suitable for a wide range of species ('staple' foods), they will benefit if you feed them a more precisely formulated diet.

2. The time of year

Fish are 'cold-blooded', which means their activity level and metabolism is affected by temperature. Because of this, at certain times of the year they need to be fed specially formulated foods.



Foods for different fish

Mixed fish ponds

Most new pond owners begin by feeding a staple food to their fish. **TetraPond** staple foods have been formulated for, and tested on, a wide range of species. This means you can be confident that they will provide them with an excellent all-round diet, suitable for feeding for much of the year. If you have a mixture of fish in your pond, a **TetraPond** staple food is an excellent choice.

TetraPond Sticks

The UK's best-selling pond food, formulated and tested for a wide range of pond fish. The sticks soften quickly making them easy to eat.

Feed TetraPond staple foods for healthy fish and clear water

TetraPond Pellets

The same formula as **TetraPond Sticks**, for pond owners that prefer to feed a pellet to their fish.

TetraPond Variety Sticks

Ideal for mixed ponds, and to give fish extra variety in their diet. Contains a mixture of three different food sticks to provide a more varied complete diet. Should be fed in place of **TetraPond Food Sticks / Pellets**.

TetraPond Flakes

For small pond fish that may find sticks or pellets too large.





Goldfish

Goldfish and their varieties (e.g. shubunkins and comets) are the most popular fish kept in garden ponds. Therefore, **Tetra** has developed a premium food formulated and tested exclusively for them.



TetraPond Gold Mix:

- Four different food sticks, flakes and river shrimp, for a varied and healthy diet
- Carotenoids for excellent natural colouration
- Hydrolysed proteins for healthy growth, along with the right balance of nutrients to keep your fish in top condition
- Spirulina flakes to intensify colours and support a healthy immune system.
- Freeze-dried river shrimp as an added treat.

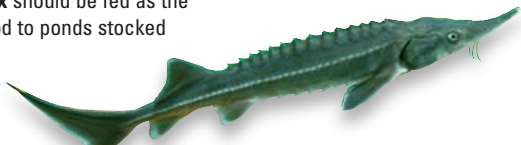
Fed as a staple diet, **TetraPond Gold Mix** keeps all goldfish varieties in top condition, with a complete and varied diet. **TetraPond Gold Mix** should be fed as the main food to ponds stocked

primarily with goldfish and their varieties. In ponds with mixed fish, it can be fed alongside one of **Tetra's** staple foods to enrich the overall diet.

Sterlets

Increasingly popular in garden ponds, Sterlets have very specific nutritional requirements. For example, they are intolerant of the high carbohydrate levels in most pond foods, and require more protein and energy. In addition they prefer a sinking diet, as this more closely matches their natural feeding behaviour. If you keep Sterlets in your pond, it is essential to feed them **TetraPond Sterlet Sticks** to keep them in good condition. These contain the correct balance of nutrients, in a sinking format that is easy for Sterlets to eat. As Sterlets are usually kept alongside other fish, you will need to feed **TetraPond Sterlet Sticks** in addition to your fishes' normal **TetraPond food**.

Choosing the right diet for your fish will improve their health and condition





Koi

Koi are a popular and striking addition to larger ponds, thanks to their beautiful colours and patterns. To ensure they display their full natural colouration, and remain in good condition, it is beneficial to feed them, a properly formulated diet.

TetraPond Koi Sticks contains additional quantities of high quality carotenoids, which promote and intensify natural colours. In addition, they have been exclusively tested on koi, to ensure they deliver just the right combination of nutrients for health and condition.

If your pond contains a mixture of koi and other fish, offer **TetraPond Koi Sticks** alongside one of **Tetra's** staple foods. For ponds stocked predominately

with koi, **TetraPond Koi Sticks** can be used as the main food. If you're passionate about koi, and want to achieve the very best results possible, then we recommend feeding them on **TetraPond KoiExcellence**.

KoiExcellence is a premium range of pelleted koi foods, formulated specifically for improving and maintaining the condition of top quality koi. For more information on the **KoiExcellence** range and koi nutrition, visit www.koiexcellence.co.uk or ask for our 'Koi Nutrition' brochure.





Feeding Recommendations

The following recommendations are based on common mixtures of pond fish. For more specific information on feeding your own fish, talk to your aquatics outlet, email us at tetrauk@tetra.net, or visit www.tetra.net

	Typical Species	Feeding recommendation
Example 1	<p>Small to medium mixed pond</p> <p>Goldfish Sarassa Comets Shubunkins Golden Orfe Golden Rudd</p>	<p>Staple food: TetraPond Sticks or TetraPond Variety Sticks</p> <p>Special foods: TetraPond Colour Sticks at start of season; TetraPond Koi Sticks Growth during summer; TetraPond Wheatgerm Sticks during winter</p>
Example 2	<p>Large mixed pond</p> <p>Goldfish Sarassa Comets Shubunkins Golden Orfe Golden Rudd Koi Ghost koi</p>	<p>Staple food: TetraPond Sticks or TetraPond Variety Sticks PLUS TetraPond Koi Sticks</p> <p>Special foods: TetraPond Colour Sticks at start of season, TetraPond Koi Sticks Growth during summer, TetraPond Wheatgerm Sticks during winter</p>
Example 3	<p>Koi pond</p> <p>Mainly koi Ghost koi A few other species</p>	<p>Staple food: TetraPond Koi Sticks</p> <p>Special foods: TetraPond Koi Sticks Growth during summer; TetraPond Wheatgerm Sticks during winter</p> <p>*For premium koi use the TetraPond KoiExcellence range</p>
Example 4	<p>Goldfish pond</p> <p>Goldfish Sarassa Comets Shubunkins</p>	<p>Staple food: TetraPond Gold Mix</p> <p>Special foods: TetraPond Wheatgerm Sticks during winter</p>



Bringing out your fishes' colour

The colours displayed by pond fish depend on special pigments (carotenoids) deposited in the skin. They get many of these pigments from their diet, in particular those that are responsible for reds and yellows. If pond fish are to remain colourful, their diet must contain a supply of carotenoids. All **TetraPond** foods contain sufficient carotenoids to maintain good colouration, however at times it can be beneficial to feed a diet with additional quantities.

For example, fish that are newly introduced to a pond, or that are coming out of the winter period, may have reduced colouration. In order to rapidly intensify their natural colours, and bring them in to optimum condition, you can feed

TetraPond Colour Sticks.

These contain additional levels of carotenoids which are quickly deposited in the fish's skin. **Colour Sticks** also contains everything else your fish need for good health, and can therefore be used as a complete diet. You can feed it for short periods to help your fish develop their colours more rapidly, or permanently in place of their normal **TetraPond** staple food.





Seasonal Feeding

Winter

As temperatures fall in the autumn, fish become less active and their appetite decreases. In addition, they find it more difficult to digest ordinary pond foods. However, during days when they are active, it is still important to feed them. This ensures their energy reserves are maintained, keeping them in better condition for the winter and following spring.

TetraPond Wheatgerm Sticks is specially formulated for winter feeding, containing high levels of wheatgerm which is well digested at low temperatures. It is also richer in fibre, which aids the passage of food through the digestive system. Regardless of their normal diet*, pond fish should be fed exclusively on **TetraPond Wheatgerm Sticks** once the temperature falls to around 10°C.

*Sterlets should still be offered **TetraPond Sterlet Sticks** during the winter

Spring

Over the winter, the colouration of your fish may fade a little, as they have been eating less. To restore this, feed **TetraPond Colour Sticks** for 2-3 weeks, once the temperature reaches 10°C. Following this, you can either continue with **Colour Sticks**, or switch back to your usual **TetraPond food**.

Summer

In the summer, fish require more nutrients and energy, and this is when they do most of their growing. To support healthy growth during the summer, you should feed

TetraPond Koi Sticks Growth in place of their normal staple food. This contains more protein and energy, resulting in more efficient growth with less waste. Although it depends on the weather, it is normally advisable to offer **TetraPond Koi Sticks Growth** from late June to August.

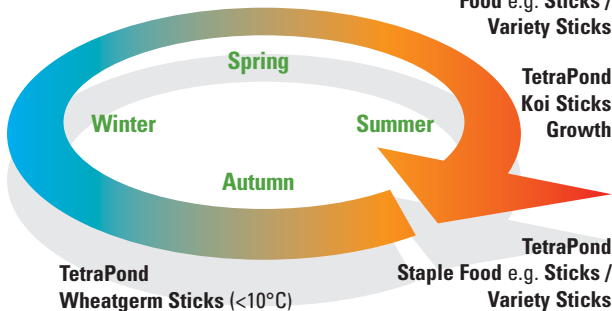
Autumn

During late summer / early autumn, you should switch back to your normal **TetraPond food** (e.g. **Sticks** or **Variety Sticks**). Feed this until the temperature falls to 10°C. At this point, switch to **TetraPond Wheatgerm Sticks**.



TetraPond Colour Sticks (>10°C)

TetraPond Staple Food e.g. Sticks / Variety Sticks



TetraPond Wheatgerm Sticks (<10°C)

TetraPond Staple Food e.g. Sticks / Variety Sticks

Holiday foods

Keeping fish well fed and healthy during holidays is often a concern for pond owners. A lack of food can reduce the health of the fish, whilst relying on a neighbour to look after them can often result in overfeeding. Whilst ponds contain some natural food, this is not usually sufficient to feed an average stock of fish. Therefore, **Tetra** has developed **TetraPond Holiday**, a patented gel-based holiday food containing natural feed ingredients. Unlike plaster-based holiday foods, it is 100% edible and will not alter the chemistry of the water. Simply follow the on-pack instructions to work out how many blocks you need, and add them to the pond before you go away. **TetraPond Holiday** will provide up to 14 days nutrition.

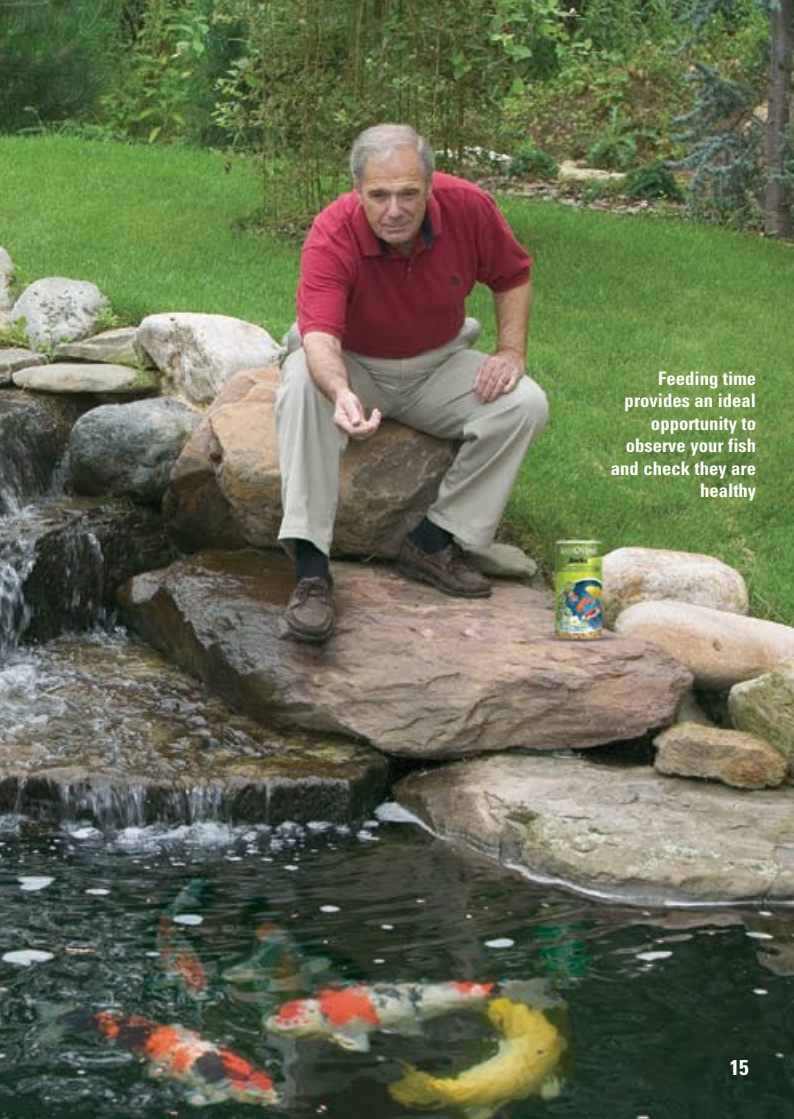


How much to feed

The amount of food your fish need depends on the temperature of the water. Therefore, you should observe your fish feeding and adjust accordingly. A good rule of thumb is to only feed what they can consume within 3-4 minutes at any one time.

The number of feeds per day also depends on temperature, as well as how much time you spend at home. For most of the year, 2-3 feeds per day are sufficient, although in the summer this can be increased to 3-4 if practical. During the winter only one feed per day is necessary.





Feeding time provides an ideal opportunity to observe your fish and check they are healthy

Tetra Pond



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