



Feeding Your Pond Fish

TIPS FOR EVERY SEASON

Note: Numbers listed indicate pond water temperatures.

More than

72° F

THREE OR FOUR TIMES PER DAY

Feed high protein fish food (35%) with color enhancers. Supplement with treats such as shrimp, fruits, and vegetables.



Up to

72° F

ONCE OR TWICE PER DAY

Feed high protein fish food (35%), plus fruits and vegetables. smartpond® Color Enhancing Fish Food provides all the right nutrients.



Up to

65° F

ONCE OR TWICE PER DAY

Gradually increase the protein content of the fish food by mixing high and low protein foods. This is a great time to introduce smartpond® Staple Fish Food.



Up to

60° F

FEED 4-5 TIMES PER WEEK

Feed a low protein food, increasing quantities slowly as temperature increases.



Up to

55° F

FEED 2-3 TIMES PER WEEK

High carbohydrate, low protein foods that are easy to digest are best. Can supplement with Cheerios or other treats (sparingly).



Less than

50° F

DO NOT FEED KOI

Low temperatures means very slow digestion. Fish food given at cold temperatures will do little more than dirty the water and cause the ammonia levels to rise. If temperatures are low for more than one month, consider supplemental foods with very low protein and high carbohydrates like Cheerios.



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Tips:

FEED PROPER AMOUNTS

Only offer as much food as your fish can eat in **5 minutes**. If you're not sure how much food your fish need, drop a little at a time. More food equals more waste, from fish and from decaying food at the bottom of your pond. Both are contributors to poor water quality.

FISH LOVE TREATS

Fish may be skeptical of new treats at first, but once they get a bite, expect a frenzy! If you want to offer treats, feed less regular food as your fish will not be as hungry (see below!).

YOUR FRIENDS CAN LEARN

If you feed your fish at the same spot around the same time, they will anticipate their feeds and come greet you! If you take your time and build trust, you might even be able to get them to eat from your hand.

Food 411: What treats can I feed my fish?

1

AQUATIC PLANTS & ALGAE

- Fish are natural grazers, and will nibble on any soft plants in the water
- To discourage plant eating, use plant baskets with rocks blocking roots and soft areas from hungry mouths

2

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

- Oranges and grapefruit, but limit citrus treats as they may turn their lips pink
- Watermelon
- Thawed frozen peas
- Pretty much any fruits or vegetables!

3

CHEERIOS

- Plain or Honey Nut, your fish will go crazy for Cheerios
- Perfect for feeding in cooler temperatures as a supplement, or at any time for a treat

4

SHRIMP & SILK-WORM PUPAE

- For warm water treats only
- Thawed frozen shrimp provides extra protein, plus fish LOVE these treats!
- Silkworm pupae provide extra protein, but beware of their high fat content which may cause fish to produce excess waste