

ERADICATING WATERWEEDS WITH CHEMICAL FERTILIZER

Begin the treatment in late winter or early spring (preferably in February). Broadcast 8-8-2 fertilizer (or equivalent) evenly over the weedbeds at the rate of 200 pounds per surface acre.

Repeat the application every two weeks until a heavy growth of filamentous algae covers the submerged weeds. These weeds, totally shaded by the algae, die in early to midsummer and the whole mass floats to the top, then sinks to the bottom, and is disintegrated quickly by bacteria. The process takes from four to five months before the weeds are killed and disappear. The pond water turns green after the dead weeds decay.

A proper fertilization program should be followed each year to prevent the weeds from returning. For best results the water should have a pH range of 6.5 to 8.3.

Waterweed eradication will not be successful if the following conditions exist:

1. Excessive waterflow through pond. The total inflow in one month should not exceed volume stored.
2. If there are excessive areas of shallow water less than three feet deep.

Your pond has _____ surface acres. Approximately _____ pounds of fertilizer will be needed to eradicate the weeds.