Pond Weed and Algae Control Tips

**Think Prevention**
- Keep nutrients away from ponds / Limit runoff
- Maintain vegetation around ponds
- Exclude livestock
- Keep ponds aerated

**Techniques for Pond Weed and Algae Control**
- Biological
  - Grass Carp (8-15 / surface acre; use 8-12” fish)
  - Barley Straw (Variable response)
- Habitat Alteration
  - Dyes
    - Works on rooted underwater plants growing at 2-3’ depths.
    - Apply in March / April
    - Maintain concentration
    - Not for muddy water
  - Maintain a deeper water level
- Chemical Control

**Common Algaecides and Aquatic Herbicides**
(Refer to the Label for Specific Rates and Precautions)
- Contact Materials
  - Copper Sulfate
    - Fish are particularly sensitive to it, especially catfish and trout.
    - Treat in early spring before matted growth occurs. Repeat treatment as necessary.
    - Leave untreated areas for fish to move into.
    - Treat no more than ¼ to 1/3 of pond at a time and wait 2 weeks between treatments.
    - May apply using burlap bags.
    - Rate: 2-3 lb/Ac-Ft; Rate may vary between brands.
  - Copper Chelates (e.g. Cutrine-Plus)
    - Do not use in water containing trout
    - Fish toxicity is dependent on hardness of water
    - No other restrictions regarding stock watering, irrigation, fishing and swimming are listed on the label
  - Diquat (e.g. Weedtrine-D; Reward)
    - No stock watering for 1-5 days
- Translocated Materials
  - Fluridone (e.g. Sonar; Avast!)
    - No irrigation for 7-30 days
    - Do not apply within ¼ mile of a functioning potable water intake
    - No stock watering restriction listed on label
2,4-D (Navigate; Aquakleen; Aquacide)
- Refer to label for restrictions
Glyphosate (Rodeo; GlyphoMate 41; Eagre; Aquamaster; Aquastar; Shore-Klear)
- Do not use within ½ mile of a potable water intake (reservoir, lake, stream, river)
- No restrictions listed on label regarding irrigation, stock watering, fishing or swimming

Specific Problems and Possible Solutions
Filamentous & Microscopic Algae – Copper Sulfate; Copper Chelates; Barley Straw; Grass Carp (minimal)
FREE FLOATING WEEDS
Duckweed – Multiple applications of Diquat; Dredging the pond
Watermeal – Fluridone (2 Treatments)
SUBMERSED PLANTS
American Elodea / Pondweeds – Grass Carp; Diquat; Fluridone
ROOTED FLOATING PLANTS
Waterlily – Glyphosate
Watershield – Grass Carp; 2,4-D
Waterprimose – Grass Carp; 2,4-D
EMERGENT PLANTS
Cattail – Glyphosate
Bulrush – 2,4-D; Glyphosate
Spikerush – 2,4-D

Stock Tank Algae Control
- Chlorine Bleach
  - 2-3 oz per 100 gallons every week
- Copper Sulfate
  - 1/8 tsp per 100 gallons
- Zinc Sulfate
  - Dissolve 1 cup in 1 gal water; Use ½ cup solution per 100 gallons
- Goldfish
  - 4-6 per 100 gallons
  - Must be taken indoors in fall

For More Information: Tim Schnakenberg, Agonomy Specialist, University of Missouri Extension Galena, MO 417-357-6812