

MP435

# Aquaculture Producer's

## *Quick Reference Handbook*

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A University of Arkansas COOPERATIVE EXTENSION PROGRAM,  
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# Table of Contents

## **Introduction 1**

## **Important Conversion Factors 1**

## **Determining Pond Areas 2**

Square, Rectangular and Triangular-Shaped Ponds	2
Trapezoid-Shaped Ponds	5
Irregularly-Shaped Ponds	6

## **Estimating Water Volumes 6**

Vats, Tanks, Troughs and Hauling Boxes	6
----------------------------------------	---

## **Levee or Watershed Ponds 8**

Calculating Average Depth	8
Calculating Pond Volume	9

## **Calculating Treatments 10**

Basic Treatment Formula	11
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## **Special Treatments 12**

Chemicals Less than 100% AI	12
Formalin Treatments in Vats	13
Copper Sulfate Treatment	14
Use of Salt	15
Nitrite Treatments	15
Potassium Permanganate Treatment	17

## **Useful Tables and Charts 19**

Table 1. Conversion Factors (C.F.) are the weight of a chemical that must be added to one unit volume of water to give one part per million (ppm). 19

Table 2. Miscellaneous conversion factors for aquaculture use. 19

Table 3. Common weight and volume conversion factors for aquaculture. 20

Table 4. Estimated pond filling time in days at various pumping rates. 20

Table 5. Pumping rate equivalent to gallons per day and acre feet of water per day. 21

Table 6. Estimated discharge rate in fish ponds for short drain pipes with low head pressure. 21

Table 7. Estimated drainage time, hours/days, in fish ponds with short drain pipes and low head pressure.	21
Table 8. Estimated pumping rates from deep wells of various sizes.	22
Table 9. Tons of salt needed to raise chloride concentrations to various levels for specified volume of water.	22
Table 10. Measurement conversion tables weight in grams for spoon and cup volumes for various chemicals.	22
Table 11. Net mesh sizes for grading catfish.	23
Table 12. Bar grader size for channel catfish.	23
Table 13. Length/weight relationship for golden shiners.	24
Table 14. Length/weight relationship for food-size catfish.	24
Table 15. Catfish farmers of America fingerling length/weight chart.	25
Table 16. Centigrade to Fahrenheit temperature conversion chart.	26
Table 17. Saturation level of oxygen in parts per million (ppm) in fresh water at various temperature and at standard sea level pressure, 760 mm Hg.	26
Table 18. Estimated pounds of purged channel catfish that can be hauled per gallon of water per hour transportation time at 65°F using liquid oxygen system.	27
Table 19. Pounds of sportfish that can be hauled per gallon of water at temperatures of 65 to 85°F.	27
Table 20. Stages of channel catfish egg development at 78°F.	27
Table 21. Stocking guide for channel catfish fingerling production during a 120-day growing season.	28
Table 22. Fraction of toxic (un-ionized) ammonia in aqueous solution at different pH values and temperatures.	28
Table 23. Factors for calculating carbon dioxide concentrations in water with known pH, temperature and total alkalinity measurements.	29
Table 24. Personnel and addresses of University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff's Fish and Disease Laboratories.	29
Table 25. Submitting fish and water samples for disease diagnosis.	30
Table 26. Suggested fertilization schedule. Use this as a starting point and modify for your pond conditions by adding more or less of the two types of fertilizer.	31
Table 27. Inorganic fertilizer rate chart.	31
Table 28. Channel catfish fry preparation and fertilization schedule.	32
Table 29. Effect of salinity on channel catfish fingerling production.	32
Table 30. Survival of channel catfish to fingerling size.	33

## **Introduction**

A wealth of information exists concerning most aspects of aquaculture production, cultural practices and treatments. What is lacking is a small, practical, conveniently sized quick reference guide. This booklet is intended to fill that void. In addition to channel catfish, this guide is applicable to baitfish, "feeder" fish, ornamentals, game fish, Chinese carps and other food fish species.

Before any disease treatment or chemical application is made, four important factors must be known.

(1) Know the water, including volume and water chemistry.

(2) Correctly identify the fish, plant or pest species being treated.

(3) Know how toxic the chemical is to the fish, plant or pest species being treated and know what effect the treatment has on the phytoplankton community in the pond. Especially know the label requirements, and keep a copy of the label in your records.

(4) Know the disease or targeted pest being treated. If you don't know, call your nearest diagnostic facility for assistance. Different diseases show the same symptoms and many species of aquatic vegetation look alike, which can add to the confusion.

## **Important Conversion Factors**

Chemicals used in the aquaculture industry are based on treatment in units called parts per million (ppm). Conversion factors are the weight of a chemical that must be added to one unit volume of water to give one part per million. Important conversion factors needed for calculations are listed in Table 1.

## **Determining Pond Areas**

Conversion factors have little meaning if the pond size or volume is unknown. For a successful treatment, the approximate area or volume of water must be known. This allows for the most efficient use of the chemical. The following formulas help in determining areas and volumes. Practical examples are also included.

Keep in mind that ponds are built based on the lay of the land. Pond shape and size are determined by the slope of the terrain, boundaries such as roads and utility right-of-ways, adjacent properties and distances from rivers or streams. With this in mind, very few ponds are perfectly shaped squares, rectangles, triangles or circles. Common area formulas may need a little correction.

### **Square, Rectangular and Triangular-Shaped Ponds**

If a pond is a perfect square or rectangle, the following formula applies:

$$A = l \times w$$

Where A = Area (in square feet)

l = length in feet

w = width in feet

**Example #1. Measurements show a pond to have dimensions of 660 ft by 660 ft. What is the surface area?**

$$A = l \times w$$

$$A = 660 \times 660$$

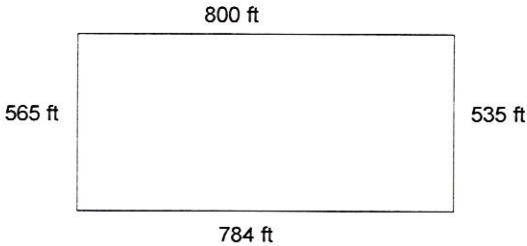
$$A = 435,600 \text{ square feet}$$

To convert square feet to acres divide by 43,560

$$\frac{435,600 \text{ square feet}}{43,560 \text{ square feet per acre}}$$

= 10 acres

To calculate areas for ponds that are not perfectly square or rectangles, adjust the formula slightly. Measure the lengths and add the distances together, then divide by two to get an average. Do the same with the widths. Refer to example #2.



**Example #2. A pond has the above dimensions. What is the acreage?**

$$\text{Area} = \frac{l + l}{2} \times \frac{w + w}{2}$$

$$\text{Area} = \frac{800 + 784}{2} \times \frac{564 + 535}{2}$$

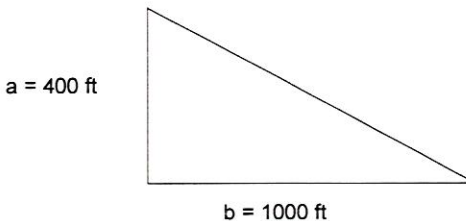
Area = 435,600 square feet

$$\frac{435,600 \text{ square feet}}{43,560 \text{ square feet per acre}}$$

Area = 10 acres

Calculating pond areas for triangular-shaped ponds containing a 90° angle is easy. Just use the following formula:

$$\text{Area} = \frac{a \times b}{2}$$



**Example #3.** Calculate the area of a triangle with the dimension given above.

$$\text{Area} = \frac{a \times b}{2}$$

$$\text{Area} = \frac{1000 \times 400}{2}$$

$$\text{Area} = \frac{400,000}{2}$$

$$\text{Area} = 200,000 \text{ square feet}$$

$$\text{Area} = \frac{200,000 \text{ square feet}}{43,560 \text{ square feet per acre}}$$

$$\text{Area} = 4.59 \text{ acres}$$

The formula used for calculating area of a triangle with a 90° angle also works well for triangles where all sides are equal (equilateral triangle) or where two sides are equal (isosceles triangle).

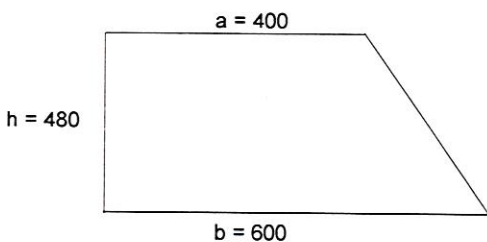


Calculating area for triangular-shaped ponds that have no 90° angles and uneven sides is hard to determine. A complicated formula for calculating the area exists. Contact an Extension specialist or Natural Resource Conservation Agency technician if you encounter this problem.

### **Trapezoid-Shaped Ponds**

To calculate areas for trapezoid-shaped ponds having four sides and a 90 degree angle, use the following formula:

$$\text{Area} = \frac{(a + b) \times h}{2}$$



**Example #4.** Calculate the area of a trapezoid-shaped pond having the dimensions given in the figure above.

$$\text{Area} = \frac{(a + b) \times h}{2}$$

$$\text{Area} = \frac{(400 + 600) \times 480}{2}$$

$$\text{Area} = \frac{1000 \times 480}{2}$$

$$\text{Area} = 500 \times 480$$

$$\text{Area} = 240,000 \text{ square feet}$$

$$\text{Area} = \frac{240,000 \text{ square feet}}{43,560 \text{ square feet per acre}}$$

$$\text{Area} = 5.51 \text{ acres}$$

### ***Irregularly-Shaped Ponds***

For calculating areas for irregularly-shaped or mixed-shaped ponds, divide the pond into regular-shaped sections and calculate those areas. Then add the areas of each section to determine the total area for the pond.

## ***Estimating Water Volumes***

The importance of knowing the correct volume of water bears being repeated. Treatments are based on adding a recommended weight or concentration of chemical to the water. Not knowing the correct volume can result in an overdose, which can kill fish, while under treating is a waste of money and time.

### ***Vats, Tanks, Troughs and Hauling Boxes***

These are normally rectangular-shaped objects. To calculate the volume, inside measurements need to be known. That is the inside length, width and depth. Remember, vats are usually made of concrete blocks or poured formed cement. The walls of the vats are six to eight inches thick. Also note that vats are never filled to capacity and water depth is what counts. Be careful not to overestimate the volume of the vats.

To calculate the volume, measurements must be made and recorded in the same units. Use the following formula to calculate volume:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Volume} &= l \times w \times d \\ \text{where } l &= \text{length} \\ w &= \text{width} \\ d &= \text{depth} \end{aligned}$$

**Example #5. What is the volume in cubic feet and gallons of a minnow vat which is 30 feet in inside length, 5 feet inside width and 2 feet deep?**

$$\text{Volume} = l \times w \times d$$

$$\text{Volume} = 30 \times 5 \times 2$$

$$\text{Volume} = 300 \text{ cubic feet}$$

To convert cubic feet to gallons, refer to Table 1 for conversion factors

$$300 \text{ cubic feet} \times 7.48 \text{ gallons/cubic foot (from Table 1)}$$

$$\text{Volume} = 2,244 \text{ gallons}$$

**Example #6. What is the volume of a hatchery trough which has an inside length of 8 feet, an inside width of 22 inches and a depth of 10 inches?**

In this instance you have mixed units. To simplify things, it would be much better to convert units to feet, so divide inches by 12 to get the units in feet.

$$\frac{22}{12} \text{ inches per ft} = 1.83 \text{ ft} \quad \frac{10}{12} \text{ inches per ft} = 0.83 \text{ ft}$$

$$\text{Volume} = l \times w \times d$$

$$\text{Volume} = 8 \text{ ft} \times 1.83 \text{ ft} \times 0.83 \text{ ft}$$

$$\text{Volume} = 12.15 \text{ cubic feet}$$

To convert to gallons:

$$12.15 \text{ cubic feet} \times 7.48 \text{ gallons/cubic feet (from Table 1)}$$

$$\text{Volume} = 90.88 \text{ gallons}$$

**Example #7. What is the volume of a hauling box (transport box) which is 4.5 feet long, 8 feet wide and 4 feet deep?**

$$\text{Volume} = l \times w \times d$$

$$\text{Volume} = 4.5 \text{ ft} \times 8 \text{ ft} \times 4 \text{ ft}$$

$$\text{Volume} = 144 \text{ cubic feet}$$

$$\text{Volume} = 144 \text{ cubic feet} \times 7.48 \text{ gallons/cubic feet (from Table 1)}$$

$$\text{Volume} = 1,077.12 \text{ gallons}$$

## **Levee or Watershed Ponds**

### **Calculating Average Depth**

Calculating the volume of ponds requires an accurate estimate of the pond's average depth. Miscalculating pond depth by as little as 6 inches can render a pond treatment useless or cause undue stress due to over treatment.



**Example #8. What is the volume of water in a pond which is 10 acres in size, and has an average depth of 5.3 feet?**

$$\text{Acre-feet of water} = A \times D$$

$$\text{Acre-feet of water} = 5.3 \times 10$$

$$\text{Acre-feet of water} = 53$$

$$\text{Volume} = 53 \text{ acre-feet}$$

## **Calculating Treatments**

If an individual raises fish long enough, eventually problems arise which require some type of chemical treatment. Examples of problems include fish diseases, parasites, aquatic vegetation, nuisance algae blooms, and salt and fertilizer applications.

Calculating pond treatments requires the information previously discussed concerning conversion factors and volume calculations. Treatments are not as simple as adding chemical to the ponds behind an aerator and hoping for the best results. In addition to the volume of water, consideration must be given to the concentration and formulation of the chemical of choice. Not all chemical formulations are 100% in strength, and this must be accounted for when treating. Formulation types vary. Some formulations include liquids (L), wettable powder (WP) and emulsifiable concentrates (EC). The type of formulation can determine how the chemical is applied to the pond.

Read the labels carefully and follow any restrictions carefully. Make certain you keep a copy of the label in your records for all chemicals used on the farm.

Restricted use pesticides require you to have taken training to be a **Certified Pesticide Applicator**. Call your county Extension office for information on training sessions.

### **Basic Treatment Formula**

Most chemical treatments can be calculated by using the following formula:

$$\text{Amount of chemical needed} = v \times cf \times \text{ppm desired} \times \frac{100}{\%AI}$$

Where v = volume of water needing treatment  
 cf = conversion factor (on Table 1)  
 ppm = the desired concentration of chemical needed for water volume being treated  
 $\frac{100}{\%AI}$  = 100 divided by the percent active ingredient of the chemical to be used. Most chemicals are considered 100% AI. The percent AI is the percentage of the active ingredient of the product used and is found on the product's label.

**Example #9. A pond needs to be treated with a herbicide. The pond is 11.5 acres and has an average depth of 4.6 feet. The recommended treatment is 2 ppm. The active ingredient is 100%. How many pounds of the herbicide are needed for the treatment?**

Remember, ponds are treated in units called acre feet.

$$\text{Volume} = \text{Area in Acres} \times \text{Average Depth}$$

$$\text{Volume} = A \times D$$

$$\text{Volume} = 11.5 \text{ acres} \times 4.6 \text{ feet}$$

$$\text{Volume} = 52.9 \text{ acre feet}$$

Now, refer to Table 1, Common weight and volume conversions for aquaculture. The conversion factor needed is for acre feet, 2.72 lbs/acre feet = 1 ppm.

$$\text{Amount of chemical needed} = 52.9 \text{ acre ft} \times 2.27 \text{ lbs/acre ft} \times 2 \text{ ppm} \times \frac{100}{100\% \text{ AI}}$$

The 100s cancel out and are not needed when %AI is 100.

$$\text{Amount of chemical needed} = 287.78 \text{ lbs}$$

## **Special Treatments**

### **Chemicals Less Than 100% AI**

Not all chemicals used in fish farming are formulated at 100% active ingredient. One such chemical is Dylox, which is used in the baitfish and ornamental industry to control gill and body flukes. This compound is not legal in states other than Arkansas and is illegal for use on food fish. Permission to use this compound is obtained from the Arkansas State Plant Board.

**Example #10. How much Dylox is needed to treat a goldfish pond which is 2.5 acres and has an average depth of 3 feet. The treatment rate is 0.5 ppm active ingredient.**

Remember Dylox is 80% AI. Also use the correct conversion factor.



Volume = 2.5 acres x 3 ft depth

Volume = 7.5 acre feet

Amount of chemical needed = volume x conversion factors x ppm needed x  $\frac{100}{80\% \text{ AI}}$

Amount of chemical needed = 7.5 acre ft x 2.72 ppm x 0.5 ppm x  $\frac{100}{80}$

Amount of chemical needed is 12.75 pounds

### **Formalin Treatments in Vats**

In many instances, vat treatments are more effective than are pond treatments. This is due to a much smaller volume of water being treated plus less organic material, mud and better water chemistry in vats. Formalin is a chemical used for many vat treatments. Formalin is a solution of 37% formaldehyde gas dissolved in water. Formalin is considered 100% AI.

**Example #11. Catfish fingerlings in a vat need a formalin treatment. The vat holds 3,000 gallons. The treatment rate is 167 parts per million for 1 hour. How much formalin is needed for the treatment?**

Amount of chemical needed = volume x conversion factor x ppm needed

Amount of chemical needed = 3,000 gallons x 0.0038 grams per gallon x 167 ppm

Amount of chemical needed = 1,904 grams

Please note that formalin is slightly heavier than water, having a specific gravity of 1.07, but for practical purposes consider formalin as equivalent in weight to water.

1,904 grams is equivalent to 1,904 cc's or = 1.904 liters

### **Copper Sulfate Treatment**

Copper sulfate is approved as an algicide. Copper can be toxic to fish. The toxicity of copper sulfate to fish depends on the total alkalinity of the water. If the total alkalinity of the water is less than 40 parts per million, the use of copper sulfate is not recommended. If the total alkalinity is over 300 parts per million, then, treatment may be ineffective. The effective copper sulfate dosage can be calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{Maximum safe dose in parts per million} = \frac{\text{total alkalinity (ppm)}}{100}$$

**Example #12. A ponds needs to be treated with copper sulfate. The pond is 10 acres and averages 4.8 feet deep. The total alkalinity of the water is 171. How much copper sulfate is needed for the treatment?**

First, determine the safe dose for copper sulfate in the above situation.

$$\text{Maximum safe dose in ppm} = \frac{\text{total alkalinity}}{100} = \frac{171}{100} = 1.71 \text{ ppm}$$

Now, the calculations can be completed.

Amount of copper sulfate needed =  
volume x cf x ppm desired

Amount of copper sulfate needed =  
48 acre ft x 2.72 x 1.71

Amount of copper sulfate needed = 223 pounds

### **Use of Salt**

Salt has several uses in the aquaculture industry. In the catfish industry salt is primarily used as a preventative measure against methemoglobin or "brown blood disease" and as a hauling aid. In ponds, the standard recommendation is to maintain 100 ppm chloride in catfish ponds at all times, and when nitrite is present, maintain a minimum chloride to nitrite ratio of 12 to 1. When hauling fish, a 26-ounce box of table salt is commonly added to each hauling tank.

In the baitfish industry salt is added to vats as soon as fish from the ponds are emptied into the vats. From a scientific standpoint, the salt improves the osmoregulation of the fish. It aids in the "hardening process" of the baitfish. For vats a good recommendation is to add one pound of salt to each 400 gallons of water, to achieve a salt level of 2.8 parts per thousand (ppt).

### **Nitrite Treatments**

Salt or sodium chloride is the cheapest source of chloride for the producer. Adding 4.5 pounds of salt to one acre-foot of water increases the chloride level 1 ppm. The following examples show how to calculate the amount of salt needed to prevent "brown blood disease."

The first step is to measure the chloride level in the pond. Several common fish farm chemical kits or water test strips are available for testing chlorides. The next step is to calculate how much salt is necessary to raise the chloride level to at least 60 ppm and preferably 100 ppm.

**Example #13. Water testing reveals a pond has 30 ppm chloride. The fish producer wants to raise the chloride level to 100 ppm. So the chloride level must be raised by 70 ppm. The pond is 12 acres with an average depth of 4 feet.**

Remember, 4.5 pounds are needed per acre foot to raise the chloride level by one ppm

$$4.5 \text{ lbs salt} \times 70 \text{ ppm chloride needed} = 315 \text{ lbs of salt/acre-foot}$$

$$315 \text{ lbs salt/acre-foot} \times 48 \text{ acre feet} = 15,120 \text{ lbs salt needed}$$

$$15,120 \text{ lbs salt} \div 2,000 \text{ lbs} = 7.56 \text{ tons}$$

**Example #14. Water testing reveals a pond has 8 ppm nitrite. The chloride level is 60 ppm. The pond is 15 acres with a 4 foot average depth. How much salt must be added to the pond?**

Remember, 12 to 1 is the recommended chloride to nitrite ratio to prevent the formation of "brown blood disease."

$$8 \text{ ppm nitrite} \times 12 = 96 \text{ ppm chloride needed}$$

$$96 \text{ ppm chloride needed} - 60 \text{ ppm chloride present} = 36 \text{ ppm chloride to add}$$

$$36 \text{ ppm chloride to add} \times 4.5 \text{ lbs salt/acre-foot} = 162 \text{ lbs salt/acre-foot}$$

$$162 \text{ lbs salt per acre-foot} \times 60 \text{ acre-feet in pond} = 9,720 \text{ pounds}$$

$$9,720 \text{ lbs} \div 2,000 \text{ lbs} = 4.86 \text{ tons}$$

OR add 5 tons of salt to the pond.

Nitrite prevention is the key. Try to maintain at least 60 ppm chloride level in ponds at all times and preferable 100 ppm level. Always maintain a minimum 12 to 1 chloride to nitrite ratio.

### **Potassium Permanganate Treatment**

Potassium permanganate is used in the aquaculture industry as an oxidizing agent. The chemical helps break down organic material in a pond. Research shows there is no evidence that potassium permanganate adds any oxygen to the water and, in fact, may actually slow a pond's recovery from an oxygen depletion by binding up the phosphorus in the water. Phosphorus is needed in the pond for bloom development.

To calculate the recommended dose of potassium permanganate needed in a pond, the permanganate demand can be tested at a diagnostic laboratory. This is a time-consuming task for the catfish producer and for the laboratory personnel.

A good field test is an initial treatment of 4 ppm (10.8 lbs of potassium permanganate per acre foot), then add the chemical in 2 ppm increments (5.4 lbs per acre foot) until the water holds a permanent pink color for a minimum of 8 hours. If the water turns a dark brown color any time during the treatment, then more

**Table 3. Common weight and volume conversion factors for aquaculture. Source: Third Report to the Fish Farmer. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.**

<b><u>1 acre equals</u></b>	<b><u>1 kilogram equals</u></b>	<b><u>1 pint equals</u></b>
43,560 square feet	2.205 pounds	473.17 ml or cc's
4,840 square yards	35.27 ounces	1/2 quart
4,046.8 square meters	1.0 liters of water	16 fluid ounces
		16.69 ounces of water
<b><u>1 acre foot equals</u></b>	<b><u>1 liter equals</u></b>	1/8 gallon
43,560 cubic feet	33.82 fluid ounces	1.04 pounds of water
325,851 gallons	1.057 quarts	
2,718,144 pounds	0.26 gallons	<b><u>1 quart equals</u></b>
1,233,489 liters	1 kilogram	946.34 ml or cc's
	2.205 pounds	32 fluid ounces
<b><u>1 cubic foot equals</u></b>		4 cups
28.32 liters	<b><u>1 ounce (weight) equals</u></b>	2 pints
28,317 ml or cc's	28.35 grams	1/4 gallon
7.48 gallons	0.063 pounds	2.09 pounds
1,728 cubic inches	0.96 fluid ounces	
0.037 cubic yards		<b><u>1 tablespoon equals</u></b>
62.43 pounds	<b><u>1 ounce (fluid) equals</u></b>	14.79 ml or cc's
957.5 fluid ounces	29.57 grams	3 teaspoons
	29.57 ml or cc's	1/2 fluid ounce
<b><u>1 cup equals</u></b>	1.043 ounces (water)	
8 fluid ounces	1/8 cup	<b><u>1 teaspoon equals</u></b>
1/2 pint	6 teaspoons	4.93 ml or cc's
	2 tablespoons	1/3 tablespoon
<b><u>1 gallon equals</u></b>	<b><u>1 gram equals</u></b>	
3.75 liters	0.035 ounces	
3,785.4 ml or cc's	1 ml or cc	
128 fluid ounces	1.000 milligrams	
8 pints		
4 quarts		
0.013 cubic feet		
133.52 ounces		
8.35 pounds		

**Table 4. Estimated pond filling time in days at various pumping rates.**

Pond size (acres)	Pumping rate (gallons per minute)				
	200	500	1,000	1,500	2,000
1	4.5	1.8	0.9	0.6	0.5
2	9	3.6	1.8	1.2	0.9
5	23	9	4.5	3	2.3
10	45	18	9	6	4.5
12.5	56.5	22.5	11.3	7.5	5.7
15	58	27	13.5	9	6.8

**Table 5. Pumping rate equivalent to gallons per day and acre feet of water per day.**

<b>Pumping rate (gallons per minute)</b>	<b>Gallons per day</b>	<b>Acre feet per day</b>
50	72,000	0.22
100	144,000	0.44
200	288,000	0.88
500	720,000	2.21
750	1,080,000	3.31
1,000	1,440,000	4.42
1,500	2,160,000	6.63
2,000	2,880,000	8.84

**Table 6. Estimated discharge rate in fish ponds for short drain pipes with low head pressure.**

<b>Pipe diameter (inches)</b>	<b>Estimated discharge gallons per minute)</b>
4	125
6	350
8	600
10	1,000
12	1,600
14	2,400

**Table 7. Estimated drainage time, hours/days, in fish ponds with short drain pipes and low head pressure.**

<b>Pipe diameter (inches)</b>		<b>Acre feet of Water</b>				
		<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>40</b>
4	hrs	43.5	217.5	435	870	1740
	days	1.8	9.1	18.1	36.3	72.6
6	hrs	15.5	77.5	155	310	620
	days	.65	3.2	6.5	12.9	25.8
8	hrs	9.1	45.5	90	180	360
	days	.38	1.9	3.8	7.5	15
10	hrs	5.4	22	44	88	176
	days	.23	.92	1.8	3.7	7.3
12	hrs	3.4	17	34	68	136
	days	.14	.71	1.42	2.83	5.7
14	hrs	2.6	13	26	52	104
	days	.11	.54	1.1	2.2	4.3

**Table 8. Estimated pumping rates from deep wells of various sizes.**

Well size (inches)	Discharge (gallons per minute)
4	90
6	400
8	600
10	1,000
12	2,000

**Table 9. Tons of salt needed to raise chloride concentrations to various levels for specified volume of water.**

Volume Acre-Feet	ppm Chloride needed				
	20 ppm	40 ppm	60 ppm	80 ppm	100 ppm
5	.225	.450	.675	.90	1.125
10	.450	.90	1.35	1.80	2.25
15	.675	1.35	2.025	2.70	3.35
20	.90	1.80	2.70	3.60	4.50
25	1.125	2.25	3.375	4.50	5.625
30	1.35	2.70	4.05	5.40	6.75
35	1.575	3.15	4.725	6.30	7.875
40	1.80	3.60	5.40	7.20	9.0
45	2.025	4.05	6.075	8.10	10.125
50	2.25	4.50	6.75	9.0	11.25
55	2.475	4.95	7.425	9.90	12.375
60	2.70	5.40	8.10	10.80	13.50

**Table 10. Measurement conversion tables weight in grams for spoon and cup volumes for various chemicals.**

**Copper sulfate (snow)**

Level	1/4 tsp = 1.6 g
"	1/2 tsp = 3.2 g
"	1 tsp = 6.4 g
"	1 Tbsp = 19.2 g
"	1/4 cup = 76.8 g
"	1/2 cup = 154.6 g
"	1 cup = 307.2 g

**Copper sulfate (powder)**

Level	1/4 tsp = 1.0 g
"	1/2 tsp = 2.0 g
"	1 tsp = 4.0 g
"	1 Tbsp = 12.0 g
"	1/4 cup = 48.0 g
"	1/2 cup = 96.0 g
"	1 cup = 192.0 g

**Dylox\***

Level	1/4 tsp = 0.94 g
"	1/2 tsp = 1.88 g
"	1 tsp = 3.75 g
"	1 Tbsp = 11.25 g
"	1/4 cup = 45.0 g
"	1/2 cup = 90.0 g
"	1 cup = 180.0 g

**Formalin (37% formaldehyde)**

Level	1/4 tsp = 1.3 g
"	1/2 tsp = 2.6 g
"	1 tsp = 5.3 g
"	1 Tbsp = 15.8 g
"	1/4 cup = 63.2 g
"	1/2 cup = 126.4 g
"	1 cup = 252.8 g



**Table 10. Measurement conversion tables weight in grams for spoon and cup volumes for various chemicals (continued).**

<b>Coarse-grain salt</b>		<b>Table salt</b>	
Level	1/4 tsp = 1.2 g	Level	1/4 tsp = 1.6 g
"	1/2 tsp = 2.4 g	"	1/2 tsp = 3.2 g
"	1 tsp = 4.8 g	"	1 tsp = 6.5 g
"	1 Tbsp = 14.4 g	"	1 Tbsp = 19.5 g
"	1/4 cup = 57.6 g	"	1/4 cup = 78.0 g
"	1/2 cup = 115.2 g	"	1/2 cup = 156.0 g
"	1 cup = 330.4 g	"	1 cup = 312.0 g
<b>Potassium permanganate</b>		<b>Sodium bicarbonate</b>	
Level	1/4 tsp = 2.0 g	Level	1/4 tsp = 1.1 g
"	1/2 tsp = 4.0 g	"	1/2 tsp = 2.2 g
"	1 tsp = 8.0 g	"	1 tsp = 4.4 g
"	1 Tbsp = 24.0 g	"	1 Tbsp = 13.2 g
"	1/4 cup = 96.0 g	"	1/4 cup = 53.0 g
"	1/2 cup = 192.0 g	"	1/2 cup = 106.0 g
"	1 cup = 384.0 g	"	1 cup = 212.0 g

**Table 11. Net mesh sizes for grading catfish.**

Square mesh size in inches	Length or weight of fish held
1/4	1 - 2 inches
3/8	3 - 4 inches
1/2	4 - 5 inches
3/4	7 - 8 inches
1	8 - 10 inches (1/2 pound)
1 3/8	3/4 pound
1 5/8	1 1/2 pounds
1 7/8	2.0 pounds

**Table 12. Bar grader size for channel catfish.**

Bar width in 64th inch increments	Weight in lbs per 1,000
27/64	3 inches
32/64	4 inches
40/64	5 inches
48/64	6 inches
56/64	7 inches
64/64	8 inches
96/64	11 inches

**Table 13. Length/weight relationship for golden shiners.**

<b>Total length inches</b>	<b>Weight in lbs per 1,000</b>
2.0	3.9
2.5	5.4
3.0	8.6
3.5	13.5
4.0	19.0
4.5	32.5
5.0	44.0
5.5	60.0

**Table 14. Length/weight relationship for food size catfish.**

<b>Total length (inches)</b>	<b>Weight (lbs per 1,000)</b>	<b>Total length (inches)</b>	<b>Weight (lbs per 1,000)</b>
15.0	1.19	20.5	3.13
15.5	1.32	21.0	3.38
16.0	1.46	21.5	3.63
16.5	1.60	22.0	3.90
17.0	1.76	22.5	4.19
17.5	1.92	23.0	4.48
18.0	2.10	23.5	4.79
18.5	2.28	24.0	5.11
19.0	2.48	24.5	5.45
19.5	2.69	25.0	5.80
20.0	2.91		

Table 15. Catfish farmers of America fingerling length-weight chart.

Length (inches)	# per lb	Lbs per 1,000	Length (inches)	# per lb	Lbs per 1,000
1.0	1,429.6	0.7	5.1	26.8	37.3
1.1	1,250.0	0.8	5.2	25.4	39.3
1.2	1,000.0	1.0	5.3	24.1	41.5
1.3	833.3	1.2	5.4	22.9	43.7
1.4	714.3	1.4	5.5	21.7	46.0
1.5	625.0	1.6	5.6	20.7	48.4
1.6	555.6	1.8	5.7	19.6	50.9
1.7	476.2	2.1	5.8	18.7	53.4
1.8	416.7	2.4	5.9	17.8	56.1
1.9	357.1	2.8	6.0	17.0	58.6
2.0	322.6	3.1	6.1	16.2	61.6
2.1	285.7	3.5	6.2	15.5	64.5
2.2	250.0	4.0	6.3	14.8	67.5
2.3	227.3	4.4	6.4	14.2	70.6
2.4	204.1	4.9	6.5	13.6	73.7
2.5	181.8	5.5	6.6	13.0	77.0
2.6	163.9	6.1	6.7	12.4	80.4
2.7	149.3	6.7	6.8	11.9	83.8
2.8	137.0	7.3	6.9	11.4	87.4
2.9	123.5	8.1	7.0	11.0	91.0
3.0	113.6	8.8	7.1	10.5	94.8
3.1	104.2	9.6	7.2	10.1	98.6
3.2	96.2	10.4	7.3	9.7	102.6
3.3	88.5	11.3	7.4	9.4	106.7
3.4	81.3	12.3	7.5	9.0	110.8
3.5	75.2	13.3	7.6	8.7	115.1
3.6	69.0	14.3	7.7	8.4	119.5
3.7	64.9	15.4	7.8	8.1	124.0
3.8	60.2	16.6	7.9	7.8	128.6
3.9	56.2	17.8	8.0	7.5	133.6
4.0	52.4	19.1	8.1	7.2	138.2
4.1	49.0	20.4	8.2	7.0	143.1
4.2	45.9	21.8	8.3	6.7	148.2
4.3	43.1	23.2	8.4	6.5	153.4
4.4	40.3	24.8	8.5	6.3	158.7
4.5	38.0	26.3	8.6	6.1	164.1
4.6	35.7	28.0	8.7	5.9	169.7
4.7	33.7	29.7	8.8	5.7	175.4
4.8	31.7	31.5	8.9	5.5	181.2
4.9	30.0	33.3	9.0	5.3	187.4
5.0	28.3	35.3			

**Table 16. Centigrade to Fahrenheit temperature conversion chart.**

°C	°F	°C	°F	°C	°F
0	32.0	14	57.2	28	82.4
1	33.8	15	59.0	29	84.2
2	35.6	16	60.8	30	86.0
3	37.4	17	62.6	31	87.8
4	39.2	18	64.4	32	89.6
5	41.0	19	66.2	33	91.4
6	42.8	20	68.0	34	93.2
7	44.6	21	69.8	35	95.0
8	46.4	22	71.6	36	96.8
9	48.2	23	73.4	37	98.6
10	50.0	24	75.2	38	100.4
11	51.8	25	77.0	39	102.2
12	53.6	26	78.8	40	104.0
13	55.4	27	80.6		

**Table 17. Saturation level of oxygen in parts per million (ppm) in fresh water at various temperature and at standard sea level pressure, 760 mm Hg.**

Temperature		Oxygen concentration (ppm)	Temperature		Oxygen concentration (ppm)
°C	°F		°C	°F	
0	32.0	14.6	21	69.8	9.0
1	33.8	14.2	22	71.6	8.8
2	35.6	13.8	23	73.4	8.7
3	37.4	13.5	24	75.2	8.5
4	39.2	13.1	25	77.0	8.4
5	41.0	12.8	26	78.8	8.2
6	42.8	12.5	27	80.6	8.1
7	44.6	12.2	28	82.4	7.9
8	46.4	11.9	29	84.2	7.8
9	48.2	11.6	30	86.0	7.6
10	50.0	11.3	31	87.8	7.5
11	51.8	11.1	32	89.6	7.4
12	53.6	10.8	33	91.4	7.3
13	55.4	10.6	34	93.2	7.2
14	57.2	10.4	35	95.0	7.1
15	59.0	10.2	36	96.8	7.0
16	60.8	10.0	37	98.6	6.8
17	62.6	9.7	38	100.4	6.7
18	64.4	9.5	39	102.2	6.6
19	66.2	9.4	40	104.0	6.5
20	68.0	9.2			

**Table 18. Estimated pounds of purged channel catfish that can be hauled per gallon of water per hour transportation time at 65°F using liquid oxygen system.**

Number fish per lb		Hours of transportation time		
		8	12	16
1	Lbs per gallon	6.30	5.55	4.80
2	Lbs per gallon	5.90	4.80	3.45
4	Lbs per gallon	5.00	4.10	2.95
50	Lbs per gallon	3.45	2.50	2.05
125	Lbs per gallon	2.95	2.20	1.80
250	Lbs per gallon	2.20	1.75	1.50
500	Lbs per gallon	1.75	1.65	1.25
1,000	Lbs per gallon	1.25	1.00	0.70
10,000	Lbs per gallon	0.20	0.20	0.20

**Table 19. Pounds of sportfish that can be hauled per gallon of water at temperatures of 65 to 85°F.**

Number of fish per pound	Total length (inches)	Number fish per gallon	Pounds fish per gallon
25	4	25	1.00
100	3	67	0.66
400	2	220	0.50
1,000	1	333	0.33

**Table 20. Stages of channel catfish egg development at 78°F.**

Distinctive feature	Age (days)
No internal pulsation (heart beat)	1
Pulsation visible	2
Bloody streak visible	3
Entire egg bloody in appearance	4
Eyes visible	5
Eyes prominent, embryo turns in shell	6
Embryo complete, no bloody streaks	7
Hatching begins	8

**NOTE:** For each increase of 2°F above 78°F, subtract one day from incubation time. For each decrease of 2°F below 78°F, add 1 day to incubation time.

**Table 21. Stocking guide for channel catfish fingerling production during a 120-day growing season.**

Number of fry stocked per acre	Length at harvest average length (inches)
33,000	6.1
84,000	4.9
217,000	4.6
560,000	3.7

**Table 22. Fraction of toxic (un-ionized) ammonia in aqueous solution at different pH values and temperatures.**

pH	[Temperature °C]												
	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	28	30
7.0	.0013	.0016	.0018	.0022	.0025	.0029	.0034	.0034	.0039	.0046	.0052	.0069	.0080
7.2	.0021	.0025	.0029	.0034	.0040	.0046	.0054	.0062	.0072	.0083	.0096	.0100	.0126
7.4	.0034	.0040	.0046	.0054	.0063	.0073	.0085	.0098	.0114	.0131	.0150	.0173	.0198
7.6	.0053	.0063	.0073	.0086	.0100	.0116	.0134	.0155	.0179	.0206	.0236	.0271	.0310
7.8	.0084	.0099	.0116	.0135	.0157	.0182	.0211	.0244	.0281	.0322	.0370	.0423	.0482
8.0	.0133	.0156	.0182	.0212	.0247	.0286	.0330	.0381	.0438	.0502	.0574	.0654	.0743
8.2	.0210	.0245	.0286	.0332	.0385	.0445	.0514	.0590	.0676	.0772	.0880	.0998	.1129
8.4	.0328	.0383	.0445	.0517	.0597	.0688	.0790	.0904	.1031	.1171	.1326	.1495	.1678
8.6	.0510	.0593	.0688	.0795	.0914	.1048	.1197	.1361	.1541	.1737	.1950	.2178	.2422
8.8	.0785	.0909	.1048	.1204	.1376	.1566	.1773	.1988	.2241	.2500	.2774	.3062	.3362
9.0	.1190	.1368	.1565	.1782	.2018	.2273	.2546	.2836	.3140	.3456	.3783	.4116	.4453
9.2	.1763	.2008	.2273	.2558	.2861	.3180	.3512	.3855	.4204	.4557	.4909	.5258	.5599
9.4	.2533	.2847	.3180	.3526	.3884	.4249	.4618	.4985	.5348	.5702	.6045	.6373	.6685
9.6	.3496	.3868	.4249	.4633	.5016	.5394	.5762	.6117	.6456	.6777	.7078	.7358	.7617
9.8	.4600	.5000	.5394	.5778	.6147	.6499	.6831	.7140	.7428	.7692	.7933	.8153	.8351
10.0	.5745	.6131	.6498	.6844	.7166	.7463	.7735	.7983	.8207	.8408	.8588	.8749	.8892
10.2	.6815	.7152	.7406	.7746	.8003	.8234	.8441	.8625	.8788	.8933	.9060	.9173	.9271

To calculate the amount of un-ionized (toxic) ammonia present, find the fraction of ammonia that is in un-ionized form for a specific pH and temperature from the table. Multiply this fraction by the total ammonia nitrogen present in a sample to determine the ppm of un-ionized ammonia.

**Table 23. Factors for calculating carbon dioxide concentrations in water with known pH, temperature and total alkalinity measurements.**

<b>pH</b>	<b>5/41</b>	<b>10/50</b>	<b>15/59</b>	<b>20/68</b>	<b>27/77</b>	<b>30/86</b>	<b>35/95</b>
6.0	2.915	2.539	2.315	2.112	1.970	1.882	1.839
6.2	1.839	1.602	1.460	1.333	1.244	1.187	1.160
6.4	1.160	1.010	0.921	0.841	0.784	0.749	0.732
6.6	0.732	0.637	0.582	0.531	0.495	0.473	0.462
6.8	0.462	0.402	0.367	0.335	0.313	0.298	0.291
7.0	0.291	0.252	0.232	0.211	0.197	0.188	0.184
7.2	0.184	0.160	0.148	0.133	0.124	0.119	0.116
7.4	0.116	0.101	0.092	0.084	0.078	0.075	0.073
7.6	0.073	0.064	0.058	0.053	0.050	0.047	0.046
7.8	0.046	0.040	0.037	0.034	0.031	0.030	0.030
8.0	0.029	0.025	0.023	0.021	0.020	0.019	0.018
8.2	0.018	0.016	0.015	0.013	0.012	0.012	0.011
8.4	0.012	0.010	0.009	0.008	0.008	0.008	0.007

To calculate the carbon dioxide level (ppm), find the corresponding factor from the table and multiply that factor times the total alkalinity.

**Table 24. Personnel and addresses of University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff's Fish Disease Laboratories.**

Extension Fisheries Specialist Extension Associate Lonoke Agricultural Center 2001 Hwy 70 East P.O. Box 357 Lonoke, AR 72086 501-676-3124 501-676-7847 (fax)	Extension Fisheries Specialist Extension Associate Chicot County Extension Bldg. 523 Hwy 65 & 82 Lake Village, AR 71653 870-265-8055 870-265-8060 (fax)
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Associate Professor  
Extension Associate  
UAPB Fish Disease Laboratory  
1200 North University Drive  
P.O. Box 4912  
Pine Bluff, AR 71601  
870-543-8034  
870-545-8162 (fax)

**Table 25. Submitting fish and water samples for disease diagnosis.**

**Good Fish Samples**

- 3-5 live fish showing disease or behavior signs of a disease.
- Fresh dead fish with normal eye and normal gill color.
- Be aware that live fish may have pale gills and cloudy colored eyes.
- Observe for lesions, skin breaks, sores, reddish areas, as well as erratic behavior, such as scratching, flashing, piping or swirling.
- Fish can be caught via dipnet, hand or cast net. Note numbers of dead fish.

**Transporting Fish to the Laboratory**

- For trips 1 hour or less, place fish in a bucket of cool water and aerate the water.
- For longer trips, place fish in a plastic bag (no water) on ice. Sample is acceptable for 24 hours.

**Poor Fish Samples**

- Dead fish with cloudy colored eyes.
- Dead fish with pale or white gills.
- Fish which have been dead for several hours.
- Fish caught by hook and line or baited into a net are poor samples. Randomly snagged fish are a little better for samples.

**Collecting Water Samples**

- Use clean bottle or jar (canning jars work well).
- Collect sample below pond's surface and screw lid on the jar below the pond's surface being careful not to trap air bubbles.
- Keep the water sample cool and out of sunlight.
- It is a good idea to place the water sample on ice.



**Table 26. Suggested fertilization schedule. Use this as a starting point and modify for your pond conditions by adding more or less of the two types of fertilizer.**

Organic fertilizer		+	Inorganic fertilizer	
rice bran, cotton seed meal, or alfalfa pellets			liquid 10-30-0 or similar	OR powdered 0-49-0 or similar
day*	pounds/acre		gallons/acre	pounds/acre
1	250		2 to 4**	16 to 32**
8	50		1 to 2	8 to 16
If needed:***				
14	50		1 to 2	8 to 16
21	50		1 to 2	8 to 16
28	50		1 to 2	8 to 16

\* Day 1 is the first day the pond is being filled.

\*\* For ponds with calcium hardness below 50 mg/l, use the lowest rate. For each additional 75 mg/l of calcium hardness, add an additional 1 gallon/acre of liquid or 8 pounds/acre of powdered fertilizer. For example, if the calcium hardness is 200 mg/l, use 4 gallons/acre liquid or 32 pounds/acre powdered. For repeat applications, use one-half of the initial rate.

\*\*\* Continue fertilization if light penetration is greater than 18 inches. Do not add more fertilizer if dissolved oxygen reading is less than 4 ppm or if light penetration is less than 9 inches. If this schedule does not produce an adequate bloom, add fertilizer more often rather than increasing the amount per application.

**Table 27. Inorganic fertilizer rate chart.**

Fertilizer type		Water calcium hardness		
		Low <50 ppm	Medium 50 to 100 ppm	Hard >100 ppm
Liquid 11-37-0	Gallons/acre	1/2-1	1-2	2-4
Powder 10-52-4	Pounds/acre	4-8	8-16	16-32
Granular 0-46-0	Pounds/acre	4-8	8-16	16-32

**Table 28. Channel catfish fry preparation and fertilization schedule.**

**Week 1**

- Fill ponds.
- Add fertilizer following Tables 26 and 27.
- Hatch fish.
- Set up aeration – minimum 1 hp per acre.

**Week 2**

- Add grass carp 15-25 per acre if no weeds present, add 50-100 per acre in weedy ponds.
- Add fertilizer following Tables 26 and 27.
- Stock fry following Table 21.
- Temper water slowly, stock fish in early morning.
- Feed 40-45% protein meal 3 times daily for maximum of 15 lbs/acre/day.
- Monitor oxygen and aerate as needed.

**Week 3**

- Add fertilizer following Tables 26 and 27, if needed.
- Continue feeding, if fish feeding at surface switch to 36% crumbles 2 times daily for maximum of 20 lbs/acre/day.
- Monitor oxygen and aerate as needed.

**Weeks 4-5**

- Fertilize pond following Tables 26 and 27, if needed.
- Continue feeding, gradually increasing rate as fish grow.
- Continue monitoring oxygen.

**Week 6 and on**

- Continue feeding crumbles until fish are 2 inches long, then switch to small diameter pellet.
- Continue monitoring oxygen.

**Table 29. Effect of salinity on channel catfish fingerling production.**

- Growth much better at 1 part per thousand (1,000 ppm) chloride level.
- Growth the same at 0, 2 and 4 parts per thousand chloride level.
- Survival same for 0, 1 and 2 parts per thousand chloride level.
- Survival reduced at 4 parts per thousand chloride level.

**Table 30. Survival of channel catfish to fingerling size.**

- Alabama survey shows fry to fingerlings survival is 56%.
- Survival above 80% is considered excellent.
- To improve survival, prevent oxygen stress, handle fish as gently as possible when moving fish during summer months.

## Notes



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