

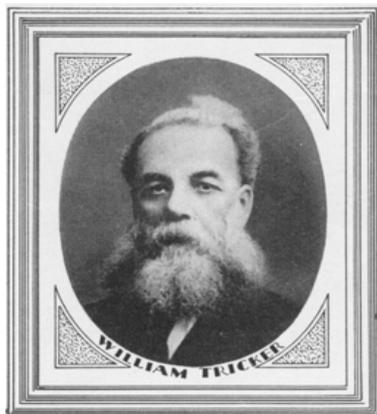


# On Tricker's Pond™

William Tricker, Inc.®

America's Oldest Water Garden est 1892  
\*Spring 2001 Water Garden Newsletter\*

## Welcome to William Tricker, Inc.®



William Tricker  
Founder of William Tricker, Inc.®

### On Tricker's Pond Newsletter

Welcome to "On Tricker's Pond" Newsletter. The season is rapidly coming upon us and we look forward to serving you this year. We at Tricker's thank you for your orders and continued support in our products.

The William Tricker company has a proud history. In the early 1890s an individual by the name of William Tricker (1852-1916) began to hybridize water lilies in the United States. He is known as the originator of commercial water lily culture in the United States and founder of the current William Tricker, Inc.®. He tried to improve the shape, hardiness and colors of water lilies and succeeded into producing some of the finest in existence today. William Tricker established an aquatic company which continued to develop the finest of water lilies and aquatic plants today. In 1927 the company was formally incorporated in Ohio and proudly retained his historic name, William Tricker, Inc.® We hope that you were able to grow some of these fine varieties last year, if not another year is rapidly approaching and again have the opportunity to witness the beauty in your own water garden pool.

**Now, not too Deep!**  
It can be estimated that more than 90% of all hardy water lilies can be planted between a depth of 6 to 10 inches above the crown. And tropical, both day and night bloomers a depth of 6 to 12 inches. Too deep can stunt or inhibit growth.

**FERTILIZER.....**  
**It must be used correctly!**  
Yes, it is possible to "burn" the roots of aquatic plants with too much fertilizer or incorrect type of fertilizer. The amount and type of fertilizer should strictly be adhered to. Too much fertilizer not only can kill the aquatic plants but also can upset the delicate ecological balance in the water garden pool by contaminating with chemicals found within the fertilizer.

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## Tricker's 1892 Catalog revisited....



Tricker's  
1892 Catalog  
Front Cover

**Question:** What was on the 1892 cover of William Tricker's first catalog?

**Answer:** In 1892, the front cover of Tricker's catalog had a photograph of a tropical night bloomer known as "Sturtevantii". This water lily was sold in the 1892 Tricker catalog for \$5.00 each. The written description indicated it was a superb variety of

recent introduction. This fine rosy pink petaled water lily is a night bloomer and was introduced by one of the great water lily experts Mr. E. Sturtevant in 1884. It is an excellent grower and is still sold today at Tricker's.

The 1892 catalog was 20 pages with cover. The catalog had listed "new and rare" water lilies and lotus. The spectacular *Victoria* was also offered for sale in 1892. The Egyptian lotus as well as some of the other standard Japanese lotus were offered each at prices from \$2.00 to \$5.00 depending upon varieties. Many marginal plants and floating plants were offered. The following year, 1893 William Tricker increased the number of pages of the catalog to 27 and increased the offering of aquatic plants. Today at Tricker's were are very proud to offer many of the plants that William Tricker himself selected from the 1890s.



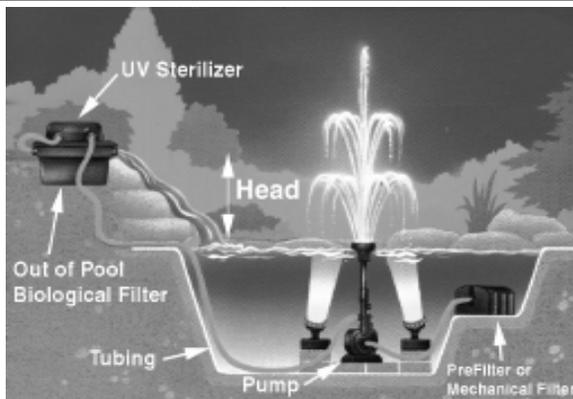
## Hardy Blue Flowered Water Lilies?

To date there has been no hardy blue or purple flowered water lilies, why? The tropical water lilies have a wonderful supply of them, but when it comes to the hardy varieties there are NONE! And to make matters worse, the blue or purple tropical water lilies are so gorgeous! Interestingly, the hardy lotus are also without a blue or purple flowered variety. Could it be linked to the fact of being an aquatic hardy? Well, the hardy aquatic forget-me-not has dainty blue flowers...the hardy aquatic pickerel rush has beautiful deep blue flowers...so it must be something linked to the water lily itself as it evolved over geologic time without the need of a blue shade of petals for competitive survival. Do you have any ideas? Send them in to us....we would like to hear your ideas!

## Pre-filter or Biological Filter....which one do I need?

A **pre-filter** is used to filter any debris from entering an aquatic pump which would lower the performance. They are also known as "**mechanical filters**". Therefore, if you have a water feature such as a fountain display, you will need a pre-filter to filter any debris from entering or clogging the pump. A biological filter, on the other hand, is used to ecologically keep your water in the pool in balance or "clean and healthy". They provide a media for the "good" bacteria to live. These bacteria will break down specific toxic chemicals. Thus, if you have fish, the wastes such as ammonia are detoxified in the biological filter.

Now the big question....**since the biological filter has a pump, does it still need a "pre-filter"?** The answer depends upon the type of biological filter....Tricker's manufactures an in-pool biological filter that uses the biological filter as a biological and pre-filter! Thus no need of purchasing a pre-filter. However, we also sell a out-of-pool biological filter that requires a pre-filter that must be operating before water enters the pump.



## Tub Gardens.... A most fascinating method of Water Gardening.

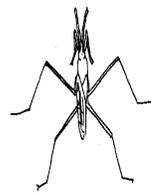


Tub water gardens have been enjoyed for over 100 years...in fact the above drawing of the tub garden was made circa 1900. It was stated by the author that "very pleasing results can be cheaply attained by growing some varieties of Water Lilies in wooden tanks, half barrels or tubs." Today, as true as it was then, the tub garden is often a spectacular site in any yard or porch. Many water gardeners will grow some of their favorite aquatics within touch and sight by using a tub garden container. Something is special by being able to walk up to a tub garden and reach down and touch a true miracle of nature. Or just place your hands into the water and have the fish come to the surface.

The drawing of a tub garden shows beautiful blooming water lilies, however most aquatics can be added into a tub garden. Do not forget to add fish, snails, etc. These will keep your water clean and add a beautiful site.

**HINT: If you decide to not to add fish in the tub garden, then a biological medium such as "mosquito dunks" should be added to prevent mosquitoes. Tricker's mosquito dunks have been tested and found not to harm other life that lives within the water, page 58: 2001 Tricker Water Garden Catalog.**

## What does Michelle Kwan and the Water Strider have in common?



Michelle Kwan and the water strider both are able to glide across the surface of a pond with beauty and grace! However, the water strider doesn't need a frozen surface of ice. So just how does this insect accomplish such a task? How does the common water strider keep from sinking into the water? The "surface tension" of water accomplishes this task. Chemically it can be explained that the water molecules in the water are attracted to each other by intermolecular action. However, water molecules at the surface are only attracted by molecules next to and below them. This unevenness causes them to contract at the surface and makes a "skin". The energy required to overcome this "skin" is called "surface tension". Water molecules have a high surface tension compared to other liquids due to the hydrogen bonding. Now, back to the water strider...it cannot break the surface tension, and can "skate" on the surface tension...worth a medal! But can the water strider get a medal for a triple axel or just a simple lutz?

### Water Quality:



#### 1. Chlorine.

Any newly added water that has chlorine should be dechlorinated. The chlorine can be removed by adding a special chemical. This chemical can be purchased and is on page 54 of Tricker's catalog.

2. **pH.** The pH should be routinely checked to monitor the acidity or alkalinity of the pond. Drastic changes can be harmful not only to the animals in the pool water but the plants.

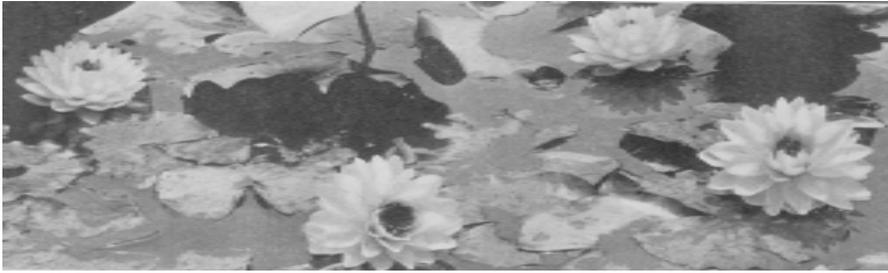
3. **Ammonia.** If you have fish, you definitely must routinely check for ammonia. As the summer temperatures rise the ammonia increases in toxicity. Too much ammonia can easily be removed with chemicals (i.e. Ammonia-Ease, page 54 catalog).

## The Great Impersonator



The Water Pennywort is a miniature lotus leaf impersonator. The leaves are dark green, round, and balanced perfectly atop a sturdy, light green stem. They are very similar to the large lotus plants, but grows only 2 to 12 inches tall. This delightful bog plant adds the beauty and charm of the lotus leaf without demanding full sun and lots of room to grow. The flowers are curious, a round umbel of delicate florets that almost sparkle against the deep coloring of the round leaves. Because of this growth pattern, it can be used as a marginal or centerpiece plant. It can also be grown in a small tub garden. This Lucky Penny of a plant, will thrive year after year with minimal care. It is a fast growing species and will look well established within the first season. The water pennywort is a must for first time gardeners!

## Hardy Water Lily *Richardsonii*...A favorite for over 100 years...



One of our favorite water lilies is *Richardsonii*. The photograph above was taken circa 1906. It is the first double flowered white hardy water lily introduced into the trade. It was introduced by George Richardson in the 1890s from Lordstown, OH which is near Tricker's current location. It still is a wonderful plant and can be purchased today. A true testimony of a hardy and beautiful plant that has endured decades of enjoyment.

## The Umbrella Palm... Put an Oasis in your pool this year!



The umbrella palm is a member of the genus *Cyperus* where you will also find the gorgeous Egyptian Papyrus plant. The greenery of the umbrella palm adds a touch of color to the margins or center of the water garden pool. As the summer breezes blow, the slender umbrella-like leaves will move slightly giving a wonderful and pleasing site. They are extremely easy to grow and can spread rapidly within the planting container. The drawing of the umbrella plant is growing in a attractive pot that

can be brought indoors for the winter months. As long as the roots are keep wet the umbrella palm can be enjoyed indoors during the winter months as a reminder of the calm, summer months next to the water garden pool. When spring returns, the umbrella palm can be returned to the water garden pool.

## Snowflakes....A must in any water garden pool



Snowflakes are one of the most fascinating aquatic plants, not only for the large pool but also for the tub garden. Tricker's offers four varieties. They add a wonderful beauty and charm to the water garden. They appear as small "pygmy" water lilies on the surface of the water.

Although the name implies a plant that enjoys blustery cold winter days, the truth is just the opposite. Snowflakes love sunshine and warm water. The name snowflake describes the delicate flowers that really does look like a snowflake. The plant has six to seven feathery petals to each flower and is only the size of a quarter. They have delicate pads that float on the surface of the water.

The plant grows quickly on the surface by sending out new plantlets throughout the summer and are very quick to bloom. It is not long before a section of the water garden pool will become covered with these prolific and beautiful plants.



## Cardinal Flower:

One of the most beautiful and deepest red flowers can be found in the aquatic cardinal flower. This hardy aquatic perennial plant grows from 4 to 6 feet with deep green lanceolate leaves arranged to form a tidy almost shrub-like appearance. However, once the brilliant, deep red flowers bloom, a most attractive addition to any water garden pool!

Although a member of the the Lobelia family the true aquatic cardinal flower, *Lobelia cardinalis*, should not be confused with other species of Lobelias that are commonly called "cardinal flower". For, example, the "cardinal flower", *Lobelia fulgens (splendens)*, that produces red flowers similar to *Lobelia cardinalis*, is a native of Mexico and is not as hardy as our native variety. Also, the other Lobelias, with differing color flowers, cannot withstand the aquatic environment.

Every water garden should have at least one cardinal flower. They are well known in attracting the ruby throated hummingbird and can be worth growing for that very reason alone.

## Algae: Spring Time Blooms

Increased day light and warming temperatures are two special ingredients that first encounter the pond in the spring. Now all we need is a little phosphorous and nitrogen in the water...and we have the right formula to make a great spring "algal bloom". To prevent or reduce an algal bloom the addition of the "good bacteria" to the pond in the early spring is recommended. Tricker's sells the product "Ultra-Clear" which contains the harmless good biological bacteria. This year, Tricker's added a new product called "sludge digester". It is of a professional quality and will work on the "sludge" that is found on the bottom of the pool. Both products can be used throughout the year.

# On Tricker's Pond Mail Order Specials

The following specials are used in conjunction with the 2001 William Tricker Catalog which will be mailed the beginning of February. All coupon specials expire May 1, 2001, unless stated otherwise. So **Order Early**. Attach the appropriate coupons to your Tricker order blank if ordering by mail. When placing your order by telephone state that you are ordering from the **On Tricker's Pond Specials** list. You will be required to give the sale detail on each coupon. Shipping and Handling charges will be added to the invoice, unless stated on invoice.



**Water Pennywort:**  
The great Impersonator  
**\$1.00 OFF**  
Page 30: Tricker's Catalog  
William Tricker, Inc. 1-800-524-3492 Coupon expires May 1, 2001



**Cardinal Flower**  
Natures deepest red flower!  
(page 28 Tricker's catalog)  
**\$1.00 OFF**  
William Tricker, Inc. 1-800-524-3492  
Coupon Expires May 1, 2001



**Umbrella Palm:**  
Bring an Oasis to your water garden pool today!  
**\$1.00 OFF**  
Page 31 Tricker's Catalog  
William Tricker, Inc. 1-800-524-3492  
Coupon Expires May 1, 2001



**Ultra Clear™**  
The "Good Bacteria", purifies the water, restores clarity, and removes organic matter. Add routinely to your water garden. (see page 3 of newsletter and page 54 of Tricker's catalog).  
**\$1.00 OFF**  
William Tricker, Inc. 1-800-524-3492  
Coupon Expires May 1, 2001



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