



# On Tricker's Pond™

## William Tricker, Inc.®

America's Oldest Water Garden est 1892

Listed in the National Registry of Historic Places, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service

Plants Guaranteed to Grow  
www.Tricker.com  
Issue XIV

## \*Spring 2008 Water Garden Newsletter\*

Welcome to  
William Tricker, Inc.®  
"On Tricker's Pond" Newsletter



William Tricker  
Founder of William  
Tricker, Inc.®

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 an 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 in producing some of the finest in existence today. William Tricker established an aquatic company and 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 the fine Tricker varieties last year. Another year is rapidly approaching and again you have the opportunity to witness the beauty in your own water garden pool.



William Tricker, Inc. is proudly listed in the National Register of Historic Places, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service.

Copyright© 2008 by William Tricker, Inc.® All rights reserved. No part of this newsletter may be reproduced in any form or by any means without the written consent from William Tricker, Inc.®



### Add Special Yellow Flowers to Your Water Garden Pool!

Water Poppy's always have been a favorite for Tricker customers! Make sure to add some to your water garden this year!

### Names of Water Lilies and Collections? What do they mean?

Historic names still prevail at William Tricker, Inc.® When you choose a water lily or collection of plants at William Tricker, Inc.® do you ever think of where the names originated from or how they were introduced? A few names that are found in Tricker's catalog are discussed below:



General  
MacArthur  
1880-1964

**General MacArthur Water Lily Collection.** Did you ever purchase the **General MacArthur** water lily collection? This collection is very popular and consists of three water lilies that have been grown by many Tricker customers over the decades. The collection is a piece of history for Tricker's. It is not unusual to name flowers after famous individuals that contributed to history. The collection was introduced in 1965, the year after the death of General MacArthur at the age of 84. And, now after 44 years his dedication is still offered in Tricker's catalog. He may have passed on, but his memory continues in one of our outstanding water lily collections. Perhaps the only sadder thing would be when a young customer may ask "Who is General MacArthur?" A reflection of history is founded in this collection and hopefully any unfamiliar individual will take the time to explore the life of such a historic individual.



Mrs. Woodrow Wilson

**Mrs. Woodrow Wilson Water Lily.** The blue flowered water lily **Mrs Woodrow Wilson** was hybridized or produced by William Tricker. Mrs. Woodrow Wilson was the wife of Woodrow Wilson (1856-1924), the 28th President of the United States and he is considered by many historians to be one of the greatest Presidents. The water lily was introduced in 1914, the year of Mrs. Woodrow Wilson's death from tuberculosis. What an honor to have a presidential wife memorialized by William Tricker by naming a special water lily which still bears her name after 94 years!

**Shirley-Ann Water Lily.** This beautiful blue tropical water lily was introduced in 1963 by two important individuals at William Tricker, Inc.®: Dr. Charleson and Gilbert Lambacher both having served as Vice-Presidents of William Tricker, Inc.®. The name is derived after Dr. Charleson's wife **Shirley** and Gil Lambacher's wife **Ann**, thus **Shirley-Ann**. All have passed on, however the water lily continues to be a long lasting tribute to their wives.



Shirley-Ann  
Water Lily  
Beautiful Blue  
Flowers



Dr. Charleson (circa 1930s) and Gil Lambacher (circa 1990s) are both shown in the Aquatic Greenhouses of William Tricker, Inc.®



### A New Aquatic Variegated Yellow Taro for 2008



Tricker's this year is introducing a rare **Variegated Yellow Taro**. It stands out from the other taros by having a distinct yellow coloration in the mature leaves. Taros are easy to grow and make a wonderful display in any water garden, large or small. They add a focal point to the any location. And any summer breeze makes a very pleasing sight as it moves the "elephant ear" foliage. Order today with the coupon savings.

# What Makes a "Perfect" Water Garden Pool Pleasing to the eye?

There are many shapes and sizes of water gardens, but the ones shown below can reveal the multitude of features that hold a wonderful setting for the "perfect" water garden pool.

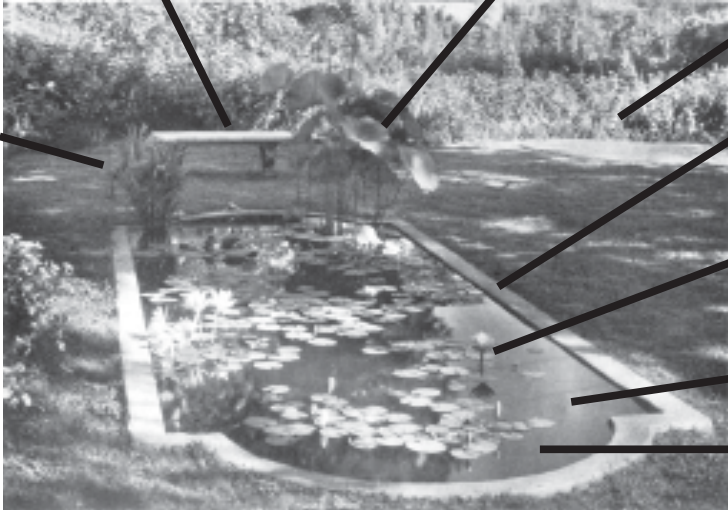
**Bench**, shows the restful place to observe the water garden pool.

**Lotus:** a spectacular site in any pool, with attractive peltate leaves that stand high in the pool and sway in the summer breeze.

Shrubs that surround the area. These enclose the area and complement the water garden pool's attractive border. Many borders follow the outline of the water garden pool. The shrubs add a serene and private atmosphere.

Cluster of **Umbrella Palms**, a popular marginal plant.

Attractive border, shown is a classic formal shape made of concrete. The surrounding area typically will follow the lines of the water garden pool.



Patches of Tropical Water Lilies that produce an abundance of blooms held high above the water level. Note how the flower shows far above the water surface and can be seen from a distance. The water lily flowers also cast a shadow that shows on the water surface.

Fish add a splash of color and life to the pool

Oxygenators will add a place for the fish to lay eggs, swim through for protection and a natural beauty to the pool and help purify the water.

Water garden pool fountain feature. Makes the sight and sound of water a must in most water garden pools. Your senses respond with a calm feeling.

One of two benches that show a restful place to observe the water garden pool.

Entrance Steps welcoming an observer

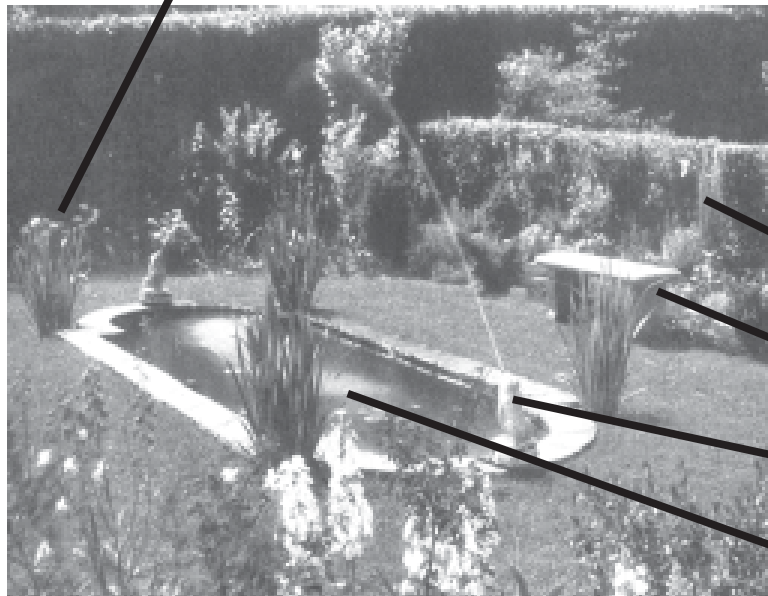
Note in the photograph the patches of water lilies that gently float on the surface. A must for all water garden pools.

Stone fence surrounding that adds a permanence to the yard along with the concrete water garden border.



Plants in pots that add color and beauty.

Plants in the ground at each corner of the water garden pool show a special beauty.



Wonderful surrounding of a shrub border. Note how the shrubs follow the water garden border.

Bench located off the water garden pool near the shrub border. Makes an excellent resting place to observe nature's beauty.

Fountain displays at each end that are a wonderful attraction to the pool. They add a most pleasing sound and sight.

Fish would enjoy the splashing and oxygenation benefits of the fountain display.

## Aquatic Soil: *Like a Fine Wine!*

by Richard Lee, Owner of William Tricker, Inc.®

Decades ago I felt special learning from the "old timers" or shall we say the past water gardening experts of William Tricker, Inc.® on how they grew their wonderful aquatic plants and how the customers took such plants and produced such wonderful, colorful flowers and growth. They would tell of how spectacular the aquatic plants looked in the customer's water gardens all over the world. Old photographs and written testimonies verified what they indicated. A customer of Tricker's from the 1930s writes that the water lily *Blue Beauty*, which continues to be one of our most popular water lilies, has flowers up to a foot across! Have you ever seen this? Tricker's is located at the latitude of Cleveland, OH and this customer was located North of us! *Sunrise*, another popular water lily, is also reported by a Tricker customer having 10-12 inch flowers and described as a large yellow chrysanthemum! *Missouri*, a beautiful white flowered night bloomer, is typical of 12" flowers!



**Charles Tricker**  
1890-1961

**Proudly shows a large wonderful water lily blossom!**

The techniques and preparations the "old timers" used for aquatic plants were from another era and I often thought that "newer" and modern techniques should be tried. After long years of trial and error in testing new aquatic techniques, the old techniques appeared superior. Therefore, decades later, Tricker's still relies on their old, true founded formulas to still produce the best cultivars of aquatic plants in the industry and Tricker customers continue to show us photographs and testimonies of their fantastic aquatic plants!

But how does the customer get the best growth and flower colors as proven with the decades of satisfaction and testimonials? The "old timers" of yesteryear said that the **FIRST** step in making sure the aquatics will continue to prosper and display beauty begins with the planting SOIL...kind of like a "fine wine". It was rather foolish to start with a poorly structured soil. The proven formula is presented in three steps and must be continued throughout the growing season.

### THREE Steps to making the correct AQUATIC SOIL:

- 1. TOPSOIL.** Use a good grade of "top soil". This "top soil" would be a good composted soil (not potting soil) derived from organic matter.
- 2. CLAY.** The top soil is highly recommended to contain clay. Tricker's *AMT*, similar to clay, is an excellent and superior substitute for the clay which is mixed into the soil. Read article below about *AMT* and how it functions in the soil.
- 3. GRANULAR SOIL FERTILIZER.** Add the granular aquatic fertilizer into the top soil and *AMT* mixture. Initially mixing a granular fertilizer into the planting soil before planting aquatics is mandatory. A completely rotted manure base was at one time recommended but hard to find today and if not completely rotted the manure can foul the soil and water. Therefore, completely mix the granular Tricker's *Praefecta* fertilizer into the soil. This fertilizer is a slow release fertilizer that will feed the aquatic plants during the year and by mixing into the soil will be spread throughout the soil.

**Your aquatic plants can now be placed into the aquatic soil mixture (topsoil, *AMT* and fertilizer mixture) and placed into the water garden pool.** The soil mixture is placed into an aquatic planting crate. Tricker's large crates are recommended for water lilies but the x-large will make much larger plants if desired. Typically each water lily will need at least one cubic foot of soil. The lattice sides on the planting containers give more growth than solid sided tubs. After planting the aquatic plants into this rich soil mixture, it is ready for the water garden pool.

**Season Follow-up:** Do not forget to continue to care for your aquatics during the growing season. Remember, most aquatics are heavy feeders. After the plant begins growth, in about a few weeks, the aquatic plant will require fertilizer and this is in the form of a "pellet" known as **TRICO Aquatic Fertilizer**, which has a different formula than the granular fertilizer *Praefecta*. These hard pellets have a fertilizer recipe for aquatics that are simply pushed into the soil next to the roots of the plants.

**Set back, relax, and appreciate the beauty of water gardening as many water gardeners have in the years gone by!**



**AMT**

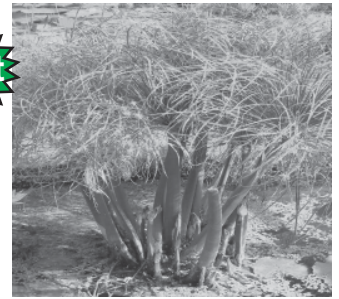
many plant nutrients will not only be lost to the surrounding water in the pool and effect water quality, but the lost nutrients can support the growth of unwanted algae. **Begin this year by adding Tricker's *AMT* in your soil mixture BEFORE planting!**

**What is *AMT*?** It has always been important to have a proportional amount of clay mixed into the organic aquatic soil. Clay acted as a magnet in attracting plant nutrients for the aquatic plants. Tricker's *AMT* or *Aquatic Mineral Transport* is similar to clay (both are alumino-silicates) and has a special function in the aquatic soil. It also, like clay, will attract plant nutrients and when the plant's root requires nutrients will "transport" them from the *AMT* (known as CEC or *cation exchange capacity*). The essential plant nutrients are typically known as *cations* (carrying a positive charge) such as potassium, calcium, magnesium, and ammonium (nitrogen). The *AMT* holding nutrients in the aquatic soil is very important since

## Dwarf Giant Papyrus



**Dwarf Giant Papyrus**



Tricker's has introduced a marvelous plant to our water gardeners. The plant's name **Dwarf Giant Papyrus** (*Cyperus percamenthus*), sounds like an oxymoron. The plant has thick stems which resemble the regular and attractive Papyrus and the plant grows to a height of approximately two to three feet, thus the plant is considered a "dwarf" variety. The plant is extremely attractive and beautiful as the graceful "mop head" sways in the breezes of Summer. In the Winter, the *Dwarf Giant Papyrus* can be enjoyed indoors when placed into a sunny window. The stems, with the thick pulp, can be used to make the age old Egyptian "papyrus paper" as described in Tricker's book **1101 Water Garden Questions and Answers**.

### Spring is coming! What should be done NOW?



As in the past, make sure to use the biological **Ultra Clear**, and if you have sludge built up over the winter use the **Ultra Clear Sludge Digester**. The natural bacteria will work on the sludge and start your pond off to a great ecological start.

### Algae Beware! Green Clean and Ultra Clear are HERE!



Algae is successfully treated with **Green Clean**, but do not forget to use the biological **Ultra Clear** products after you have killed the algae. Once the algae is dead, the **Ultra Clear**, a natural blend of bacteria, will re-establish an ecological pool stabilization. Both have been shown to be compatible when used in the same water garden pool.

### Standing Orders of Daphnia and Duckweed



Already you have discovered the benefits of continual feeding fish with live fish foods: **Daphnia** and **Duckweed**. The hassle was trying to maintain this diet on a routine basis. Then try signing up for "standing orders" of live fish food. *Standing orders* are orders of **Daphnia** or **Duckweed** or both that are routinely (every week or every other week) scheduled to be sent directly to you and, most importantly, your fish! Read about *standing orders* in Tricker's catalog (p. 53) this year and sign up for a convenient routine schedule of feeding live fish food.





# 2008 On Tricker's Pond Mail Order Specials

The following coupon specials are used in conjunction with the 2008 William Tricker Catalog which will be mailed the beginning of February. All coupon specials expire May 1, 2008. **Place your reserved Spring plant order EARLY and include these Special Offers.** Shipping and handling charges will be added to the invoice. Note: *Ultra Clear/Sludge Digester* will be sent ASAP while plant orders are currently being scheduled for Spring shipments.

- 1. Mail/Store:** *Mail:* Attach the appropriate coupons to your Tricker order blank. *Store:* Bring the appropriate coupons into the store.
- 2. Internet On-Line ([www.TRICKER.com](http://www.TRICKER.com))** During checkout put the code **20080501** in the box for any or all special coupons.
- 3. Telephone: (1-800-524-3492)** When placing your order by telephone state that you are ordering from the **On Tricker's Pond Specials** Newsletter and request the use of the coupons.

	<b>Dwarf Giant Papyrus or Variegated Yellow Taro</b>	
<b>\$2.00 OFF</b>		
each		
<p><i>Dwarf Giant Papyrus:</i> Page 34: Tricker's Catalog #10-4998, #10-4999, and <i>Variegated Yellow Taro</i> page 35, #10-5300.                  William Tricker, Inc.® 1-800-524-3492</p>		
<p>Coupon Expires May 1, 2008</p>		

	<b>\$2.00 OFF</b>
<p><b>AMT:</b> The aquatic soil additive that transports nutrients to the plants where it should be! (page 3 newsletter)                  Page 47 Tricker's Catalog #10-7110, #10-7111                  William Tricker, Inc.® 1-800-524-3492                  Coupon Expires May 1, 2008</p>	

	<p><b>Daphnia</b> An excellent treat for ANY fish! Begin this spring by giving your FISH a wonderful nutritious treat of <u>LIVE Daphnia</u>. Page 53 Tricker Catalog #10-8080 #10-8081</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>20% OFF</b></p> <p>Single Orders (not standing orders)                  Coupon expires May 1, 2008</p>	
---	--	---

<b>FAST ACTING on ALGAE</b>	<p><b>GreenClean®</b>  <i>Fast Acting, Safe for FISH!</i>                  Page 56 Tricker's Catalog #26-8000 #26-8001</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>\$1.00 OFF</b></p> <p>William Tricker, Inc.® 1-800-524-3492                  Coupon Expires May 1, 2008</p>
-----------------------------	--

Use with GreenClean	<p><b>Ultra Clear™</b>                  The "Good Bacteria" purifies the water, restores clarity, and removes organic matter. Add routinely to your water garden pool.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sludge Digester</b></p> <p>Put that special blend of professional strength of "good bacteria" to work on your sludge.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>\$1.00 OFF</b> each!</p> <p>Ultra Clear and Sludge Digester <u>are</u> compatible                  William Tricker, Inc.® 1-800-524-3492                  Expires May 1, 2008</p> <p><small>Page 56 Catalog Ultra Clear: #26-7084, 26-7085, 26-7107                  Sludge Digester: #26-7087, 26-7096, 26-7106</small></p>
---------------------	---



**William Tricker, Inc.®**  
 7125 Tanglewood Drive  
 Independence, Ohio 44131  
**1-800-524-3492**  
**www.Tricker.com**

Bulk Rate  
 U.S. Postage  
 PAID  
 Cleveland, OH  
 Permit No. 401



Please Deliver to Current Resident