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to Grow
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Issue XV

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

Spring 2009 Water Garden Newsletter

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



William Tricker
Founder of William
Tricker, Inc.®



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. After a merger, in 1927 the company was formally incorporated in Independence, 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.

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Fish need help in the Spring: **Prevent Diseases is the BEST RULE!**

Do not forget to watch you fish closely in the Spring. A common parasite that typically is found on fish is **Ich**. It causes white spots on the gills and skin and can be deadly. It is simple to prevent by treating your water garden pool with an ich remedy. Read about our special collections of medication that should be used every **SPRING!** Prevent fish diseases in the **SPRING!**

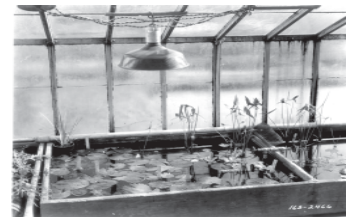
Quiz of Past Newsletters from **TRICKER'S**



This issue is the celebration of 15 years of **On Tricker's Pond!** A tremendous amount of information has been sent to our customers in the water garden newsletter, and now let's see how well you have read some of the articles over the years. Look at each photograph/drawing, which has been in old issues and answer the question, the answers are on the next page.

1. The photograph shows an experiment in 1930s by the Tricker company in one of our aquatic greenhouses by Dr. Charleson, former President of Wm Tricker, Inc. What do you think they were experimenting with?

- A. How to better grow aquatic plants with different fertilizers.
- B. How to better grow aquatic plants under different light conditions.
- C. How to better grow aquatic plants in hot water.
- D. How to better grow aquatic plants in cold water.



2. The two photographs, one of the Spectacular *Victoria* water lily photograph taken in 1927 in Tricker's aquatic greenhouse and the other of Mrs. Gowling holding a picture in 2006, are linked together over 80 years later, what is the link?



Tricker Greenhouse 1927: Victoria Water Lily



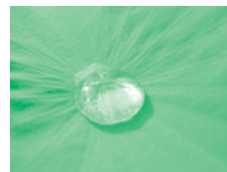
Mrs. Gowling: 2006

- A. Mrs. Gowling is the developer of the *Victoria* water lily.
- B. Mrs. Gowling is the original photographer of the 1927 photograph.
- C. Mrs. Gowling is holding the original photograph that shows her sister and brother on the pads of the *Victoria* water lily in the same Tricker aquatic greenhouse.
- D. Mrs. Gowling is an expert horticulturist and showing random photographs of the *Victoria*.



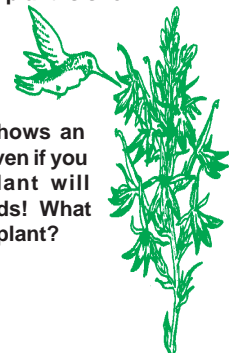
3. The photograph shows an enormous water garden pool at the 1933 Chicago World's Fair with a photograph of Gil Lambacher, former Vice-President of Wm Tricker, Inc. What link was between this spectacular water garden and Gil Lambacher?

- A. Mr. Lambacher selected the plants for the water garden pool.
- B. Mr. Lambacher drove the plants from Tricker's in Ohio and planted the water garden pool.
- C. Mr. Lambacher judged the water garden display.
- D. Mr. Lambacher visited the fair as a spectator.



4. The photograph shows a most unusual trait of a drop of water that resembles Mercury on an aquatic plant leaf. Researchers are using this property to apply to miniature heart valves. What plant is shown?

- A. Shows the drop of water on a water lily pad.
- B. Shows the drop of water on an Arrowhead leaf.
- C. Shows a drop of water on Marsh Marigold leaf.
- D. Shows a drop of water on a Lotus leaf.



5. This is reproduction of an oil rubbing on cotton from the tomb of Tutankahamen. In the upper right hand corner is shown something that is made from an aquatic plant. What is it?

- A. Paper that is made from *Papyrus* Plant.
- B. An inscription on the wall embedded in color.
- C. Curtains of various sizes.
- D. Ancient drawings on the stone.

6. This drawing shows an aquatic plant, that even if you have only one plant will attract hummingbirds! What is the name of this plant?

- A. Dwarf Sweet Flag
- B. Flowering Rush
- C. Hardy Calla
- D. Cardinal Flower

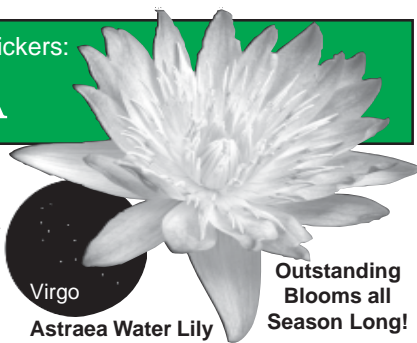
Answers are found on the page 3, by the Tricker truck.



NEW Water Lily Introduction at Trickers:

ASTRAEA

An old time favorite water lily here at Tricker's and we are introducing for 2009! The name **Astrea** is found in Greek mythology and translated as "star maiden". *Astrea* and her mother were both personifications of justice and she was considered the last of the immortals to live with humans. She fled from wickedness of humanity and ascended to heaven and became the constellation *Virgo* and the scales of justice she carried became the nearby constellation *Libra*.



Virgo

Astrea Water Lily

Outstanding Blooms all Season Long!

Page 2 of Tricker's 2009 Annual Catalog shows this magnificent blue flowered water lily. Look for it when you get your catalog and reserve one at a discounted price (see page 4).

Astrea is a cross between *N. gracilis* and *N. zanzibariensis* hybrids. The pads are a deep green above and tinged purple beneath. The blossoms are a very attractive blue and are star shaped. The petals are blue shading to white at the base. Stamens are an attractive yellow against the blue petals. The blue flowers are held high above the water level and can be seen at a distant! You deserve a special treat this year!

O₂ Oxygenators: The heart of your POOL!



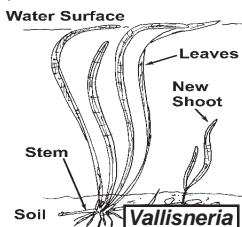
The oxygenators are the **heart** of your water garden pool. The oxygenators provide **oxygen** in the water to keep it pure. Besides the fact that the oxygen is used by the "good" bacteria to break down dead and decaying matter they have the unusual characteristic of directly taking ammonia out of the water.



Anacharis planted in a crate

WOW, the Oxygenators can directly uptake ammonia from the water! Ammonia buildup in any water garden pool is deadly to fish and other pond life. The oxygenators are great in absorbing the toxic build up of ammonia directly from the water. Thus, they differ from the other aquatic plants that uptake only nitrates. In fact, oxygenators such as **Anacharis** prefer ammonia over nitrates! Many water gardeners work tirelessly trying to rid the ammonia in the water with filters, however here is a group of plants that can absorb the ammonia directly from the water. If you have fish and the

oxygenators are growing rapidly, then they are really doing their job but be careful that if you remove these excess plants the ammonia may begin to build up. On the other hand, too many oxygenators can cause oxygen deprivation in the night since at night the oxygenators are not producing oxygen but require oxygen along with other animal pond life such as fish. A balance of oxygenators must be sought in all water garden pools.



What oxygenators are the BEST for the water garden pool? The top of the list has always been **Anacharis**. Much research has been done with the benefits of this oxygenator in water. It is attractive, produces an abundant amount of oxygen, fish love to swim around the leaves, and is especially easy to grow. Another great oxygenator is **Vallisneria**. This plant is extremely attractive in any water garden pool especially with movement of the water by a waterfall or fish. The fish love to hide and play in the long leaves that sway in

Other popular or common aquatic plants that prefer ammonia over nitrates and can absorb the ammonia directly from the water are: *Water Hyacinth*, *Shell Flower*, and *Salvinias*.

Want an Aquatic Rainbow Plant to add to your Water Garden Pool? NEW for 2009

Rainbow Water Celery (*Oenanthe javanica*) is a wonderful addition to any water garden pool. The leaves are colorful and serrated cream, green and pink. In the summer it produces small carrot-flowered umbels. It is a very active grower and will grow to about six inches but can reach a foot. It is a fast grower. The leaves have been dried in



overseas countries and used as a tea, whereas it is reported to have medicinal or health promoting properties. It is mentioned in ancient or classical Chinese herbal texts as having curative values.

Planting: *Rainbow Water Celery* can be planted into a small crate and placed into a few inches of water over the crown. The plant also does well in partial shade. It will typically begin to grow within the crate and produce stolons with foliage that will grow across the surface of the pool making a most attractive sight.

Live and Dried DUCKWEED

A Most Nutritious Fish Food and a "TONIC" in the water



DUCKWEED

Duckweed is a most spectacular plant when added to your water garden pool. It is used as a fish food since fish love it and the nutritious value is extraordinary! The plant is high in proteins with essential amino acids that closely resemble animal protein. Read additional features about the nutritious value of duckweed in our Tricker 2009 catalog.

The best fish food for fish is the **Live Duckweed**, however Tricker's also offers **Dried Duckweed** that can be used as a vegetable supplement when feeding the commercially prepared dried fish foods. **Dried Duckweed** also has the proteins and pigments found in the **Live Duckweed**. The dried duckweed, however, can be stored for up to 2 years thus can be used throughout the regular season in conjunction when feeding the dried fish foods. Either way, your fish should be given a diet of **Duckweed!**



Standing Orders of Daphnia and Live 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 2009 catalog this year and sign up for a convenient routine schedule of feeding live fish food.

Grown a Taro? How about a Dwarf Taro?



Dwarf Silver Taro

Taros are a great addition to water garden pools. At Tricker's we receive many photographs of water garden pools and a common plant in the photographs is the wonderful Taro. The leaves gently move in a summer breeze and they add a wonderful color combination within a water environment. Taros grow rapidly. But, have you grown a dwarf taro. One special one Tricker's offers is the **Dwarf Silver Taro**. It is a very attractive plant, and maintains the dwarf

characteristic that complements the other aquatic plants in your water garden pool, whether it is large or small. It grows from 8-12 inches tall. But, if you have a tub garden, the plant is a real show case. The **Dwarf Silver Taro** leaves have a "silvery" appearance down the mid vein, hence the name, and is very attractive against the distinct dark green leaves.

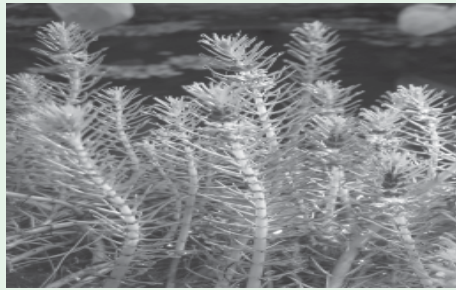
Algae Beware! Green Clean and Ultra Clear are HERE!



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. Order **Green Clean** now on Sale to our newsletter readers. See coupon in back of newsletter.

Dwarf Parrot Feather! NEW for 2009

If you have ever grown the Parrot Feather it produces wonderful delicate, green leaves and is an excellent water garden plant. But, have you tried the **Dwarf Parrot Feather** (*Myriophyllum propium*)? The leaves are sturdier and the plant grows smaller in size than the familiar Parrot Feather. But, the most interesting trait is that it produces small maroon flowers at the tips of the plant that contrast the green foliage. As it grows, it will gently spread across the surface of the water garden pool.



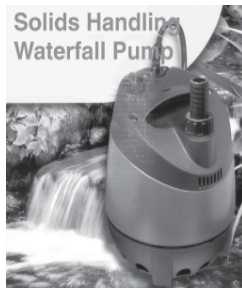
Dwarf Parrot Feather

Clogging of Pumps a Problem? Simple solution!



As the pumps draw water from the water garden pool they tend to bring in debris. And this debris can clog the operation. One of the easiest ways to prevent this is to use the **Pump Sock Filter**. Just place your pump into this sock filter and it will now filter the debris from getting into your pump. Attachable string to gain access to the pump. It's that easy, no trying to configure the correct size fit for any pump. Check our catalog for the Pump Sock! See page 67 of Tricker's Catalog.

What is a Solid Handling Pump?



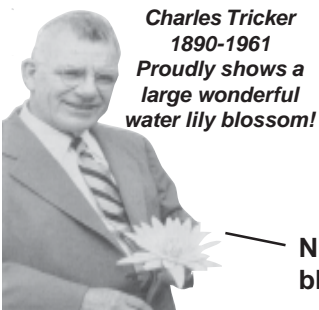
Want to have a pump that larger debris just passes through and with a good gallon per hour flow? Then try the **Solid Handling Pumps**. Tricker has two offers: one will pass up to 3/4 inch solids and the other will pass up to 1/2 inch solids. The pumps can also be used similar to a sump pump by emptying your water garden pool by suction down to 1 inch! They are known as the Work Horse of all pumps! (**Max Flow Power Pump** and **Little Giant 6E-CIM Pump** are both solid handling pumps)

Safety with Electricity around the POOL!



If you have any electrical device used in the water garden pool, it is VERY important that you check to see if the circuit where you plug into is protected with a **GFCI (Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter)**. Do not confuse this with the standard circuit breakers we are all familiar with that is in our homes. This **GFCI** is designed to be used around water and moisture where electricity is most dangerous. This device (about 2 feet long) is simply plugged into any cord that comes from the electrical devices such as a pump, lights, pool heater, etc. and is then plugged into any electrical outlet. The **GFCI** differs from the standard circuit breakers in the home by being very, very sensitive to electrical discharge and will cut off the electricity well before the standard circuit breaker will, thus protecting you! If you still do not understand this device, please call and speak with one of our store clerks. We use them at Tricker's and there is no reason you should not use them for your electrical devices used with the water garden pool.

Keep those Large Water Lily Blossoms Coming!



Charles Tricker
1890-1961
Proudly shows a large wonderful water lily blossom!

Do not forget that correct planting rewards the water gardener with spectacular displays of blossoms all summer! In the last issue of our Tricker Newsletter we indicated how the spectacular blooms were achieved by former water gardeners. Do not forget to use a good **topsoil** that contains clay (if necessary add the **AMT**, see below), the granular aquatic fertilizer **Praefecta** mixed into the soil, and the use of Tricker's **Trico Tablets** to fertilize during the growing season.

Note in the photograph of Charles Tricker, the blossom he is holding is the size of his head!

What is AMT? It has always been important and recommended 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 aluminosilicates) 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

AMT

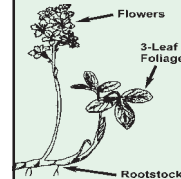
important since many plant nutrients will not only be lost to the surrounding water in the pool and effect water quality, but the lost nutrients can support the growth of unwanted algae. **Begin this year by adding Tricker's AMT in your soil mixture BEFORE planting!**

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.

A water garden plant that can store nitrates inside the plant?



Bog Bean

Bog Bean (*Menyanthes trifoliata*) is a true bog plant as its name suggests. In bog conditions there is typically low oxygen in the soil media. Thus, the plant food source of nitrates (nitrification requires oxygen) that need oxygen to become useful to the plant would be limited in this bog soil (anaerobic soil). Thus, how does the plant utilize nitrates that is in the soil since it is low in oxygen? Simple, it can absorb and even store the nitrates inside the plant and then brings or produces oxygen from the leaves to utilize as plant food! Nature at its best!

Growing Bog Bean: The *Bog Bean*, which is a native bog plant found throughout the United States, has three leaves and is one of the earliest of the aquatic plants to produce blooms in the Spring. Plant the *Bog Bean* you receive into a crate of soil, set it into your water garden pool with a few inches above the crown of the plant. The plant will then grow and float across the surface of your water garden pool creating a wonderful sight.

Answers to Quiz on Page 1



1. **(B)** Note the light above the aquatic growing tank. Tricker's was experimenting with aquatic plants in extending the growing season with particular wavelengths and amount of sunlight. If you guessed **(A)** you were close since it was Dr. Charleson, a chemical engineer, who also experimented with and formulated our aquatic Tricker fertilizers.
2. **(C)** Mrs. Gowling, after 80 years returned to Tricker's to visit where her father was recruited in the 1920s from England to work here at Tricker's. As a child she has fond memories of playing in the aquatic greenhouses with the frogs, dragonflies, and other attractive pond life.
3. **(B)** Mr. Lambacher drove from Ohio to the 1933 Chicago Worlds Fair and had a wonderful experience promoting water lilies from Tricker's. In Chicago, he did not stay at a hotel, but stayed with offers from the kind folks of Chicago.
4. **(D)** Anyone that has grown lotus will witness the "mercury-like" drops of water from rain as they roll off the leaves. If you have not witnessed such a sight, grow a lotus today and see for yourself, it is most unusual.
5. **(A)** The photograph was used to show ancient papyrus paper that can be made from the **Papyrus** plant and the directions to make papyrus paper are in our book **Tricker 1101 Water Gardening Questions and Answers**.
6. **(C)** A single true *Lobelia cardinalis* or *Cardinal Flower* will attract hummingbirds.

2009 Mail Order Specials: Order TODAY!

The following coupon specials are used in conjunction with the Tricker On-Line Store and the 2009 William Tricker Catalog which will be mailed the beginning of February. All coupon specials expire May 1, 2009. **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/AMT* may be sent ASAP while plant orders are currently being scheduled for Spring shipments.

We are scheduling 2009 Order's NOW!

1. Mail/Store: Mail: Attach the appropriate coupons to your Tricker order blank. Store: Bring the appropriate coupons into our store.

2. Internet On-Line (www.TRICKER.com) During checkout put the code **20090501** 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.

15% OFF EVERY ITEM listed:



Catalog Number 10-1075**Astraea Water Lily**
A beautiful blue flowered water lily

15% OFF Introductory Catalog Price!

Coupon Expires May 1, 2009

See page 2 of Newsletter



AMT: The aquatic soil additive that transports nutrients to the plants where it should be! (page 3 newsletter)

Catalog #10-7110, #10-7111
Coupon Expires May 1, 2009

15% OFF



Live Daphnia 15% OFF

An excellent treat for ANY fish! Tricker Catalog #10-8080
Single Orders Only (not standing orders) #10-8081

Coupon expires May 1, 2009



15% OFF GreenClean

Fast Acting, Safe for FISH!

Tricker's Catalog #26-8000 #26-8001

Coupon expires May 1, 2009

For ALGAE PROBLEMS



Use with GreenClean

15% OFF Ultra Clear



The "Good Bacteria" purifies the water, restores clarity, and removes organic matter. Add routinely to your water garden pool.

15% OFF Sludge Digester

Put that special blend of professional strength of "good bacteria" to work on your sludge. Coupon expires May 1, 2009

Ultra Clear and Sludge Digester are compatible



You read about these in the newsletter, now try some!

Aquatic Plants 15% OFF: *Anacharis, Vallisnaria, Rainbow Water Celery, Dwarf Silver Taro, Bog Bean and Dwarf Parrot Feather.* **Any quantity.**
Coupon expires May 1, 2009



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