

Salt.

There is no doubt that the addition of salt to a pond can have positive effects, perhaps curing or preventing various ailments.

It should however be noted that salt should not be considered the goto treatment for every problem.

It is very important to test water parameters, pH, Ammonia, Nitrites etc on a regular basis.

If you suspect your fish are infected with parasites there are several treatments that can be much more effective.

Adding salt directly to the pond.

Salt is often added as a general tonic before the onset of winter. It can help rest the fish and prevent parasite and bacterial problems.

Salt can be added to a pond when there are high levels of Nitrite. The salt helps to reduce the toxicity of the nitrite.

It can also be used at other times when the fish appear stressed or fatigued.

NEVER MIX SALT WITH OTHER TREATMENTS ESPECIALLY FORMALIN!

Recommended Dose for general pond use is

1.5kg per 1000 ltrs. (3.3lb per 220 gallon).

0.15% Concentration.

Mix the salt with pond water in a bucket. Whisk up to dissolve then disperse into the pond.

Remember that the salt will not naturally dissipate. The salt will remain in the pond until it is diluted with water changes.

To check and maintain the concentration an inexpensive meter can be useful.

It is generally not recommended to run the pond permanently with salt as it is believed the effectiveness of the salt can be reduced over time.

Short term salt bath.

A salt bath can be useful in a variety of circumstances.

Salt baths can be used to treat parasites or bacteria on a koi fish's body.

Salt baths can stimulate the development of a healthy mucus layer.

Some people dip Koi before introducing them into a pond containing existing fish. This is done to reduce the possibility of transferring parasites and to de-stress after transportation. The need for this and effectiveness is questionable.

Salt baths are a good option when there is an issue with a particular fish but you are unsure exactly what the problem is and would like to try something.

To administer a salt bath a suitable container should be filled with pond water.

Mix in the salt ensuring it is dissolved.

**Recommend dosage for a 10 minute dip is.
20g per ltr of water. (3oz per gallon).**

Place an air stone in the container.

Transfer the fish to the container and supervise.

If the fish becomes agitated or rolls over, remove immediately.

After 10 minutes, return the fish to the pond.

Dispose of the bath water after use. (It makes a good weed killer!)

Salt baths can be repeated after a day or so as required.

If you would like to see more about salt I can recommend these YouTube videos.

