

# MICROBE-LIFT NEWSLETTER

## IN THE NORTH



Think spring! In some areas, winter has only just begun, but do take this time to relax and plan strategies for next year. This is a good month to spend with family and friends, exchange koi-related gifts with each other, share photos of the good season we just had and is now behind us. Sit by the fire with a mug of cocoa or ale and figure out what you'd like to do "better" next year. Put a Garden Diary on your holiday wish list so you can keep more accurate records (maybe) of when you added that Microbe-Lift/PL, and how large the koi were in spring as compared with fall. I'm sure your favorite garden store is all fixed up for the holidays and have plenty of "early buy" sales to offer you now. The only questions I've had from hobbyists are about the directions on the Autumn Winter Prep box—is it one or both packets that get tossed into the pond in the 2<sup>nd</sup> application? Well, it's one packet



in the 2<sup>nd</sup> month and the other packet in the 4<sup>th</sup> month. I hope that helps anyone who is still confused. And if you happened to toss both packets in on the 2<sup>nd</sup> month and have none for the 4<sup>th</sup> month, you can get JUST the packets in Spring Summer Cleaner. It's the same packet, so you can use them in fall or spring. Also, continue doing water tests but bring the water sample inside, allow the water to warm up to room temperature, and then proceed with your Test Strips. Tests work best between 70-90F.



## IN THE SOUTH



Funny thing, we celebrate the same holidays in the same ways down here as y'all do up north. We string holiday lights outside (on our palm trees, mostly), but we don't have to fight the freezing wind and snow taking them down in January. Our fish might not live as long as the northern koi simply because they don't get the winter "dormancy", but if you give them the proper nutrition and care, they will do

great. In fact, they may reward us by outgrowing their northern cousins. This time of year they will do well with Legacy Cold Weather wheat germ food (or, depending upon how far south, maybe the Summer Staple). Continue adding PL and other bacteria as long as your water temps remain above 50F. Beware of air borne predators because the food supply becomes limited as the weather cools down. Keep a first-aid kit on hand... just in case! And remember to use PL and Nite Out II to cycle a Quarantine/Hospital tank quickly.



**Upcoming Events**

**\*\*Feb 12-14, 2010**  
Koi Club of San Diego's 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Koi Show at Del Mar Fairgrounds  
koiclubsandiego.org

**\*\*March 12-14, 2010**  
Central Florida Koi Show  
Holiday Inn Resort Orlando, Florida  
Michael McMahon  
michael.mcmahon@akerman.com or go to www.cfks.org

**March 26-28, 2010**  
The 10th annual Koi Health Seminar will be held in Athens Georgia- contact Vicki Vaughan at 706-247-6274  
vicki@flatrockkoi.com

Send info to Carolyn to display your show here.  
\*\*The shows with asterisks are where you will find me. Please introduce yourself. I'd love to meet you! And, if you'd like me to come to your koi show, send me an email with the information as soon as possible, carolynw@microbelift.com

### DID YOU KNOW?

The exact water parameter measurement is not important. What IS important is that you know when things are changing in the water (up or down). Every pond is different. Water tests are fundamental to pond care.

Water clarity problems can be traced to 3 sources: over-stocking, under-filtering, and over-feeding.

Topping off the pond due to evaporation (winter or summer) does not constitute a water change.

Meet Carolyn ("MicrobeliftLady") at [www.KoiFace.com](http://www.KoiFace.com). We may be starting a Microbe-Lift Q&A chat room, if anybody's interested.

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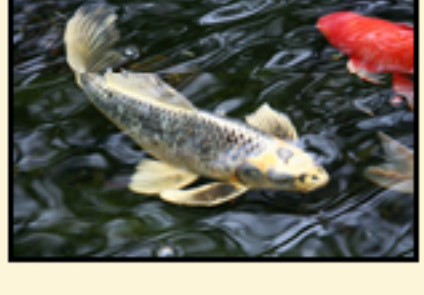
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## ANNOUNCEMENT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



The much-sought-after online:  
**MICROBE-LIFT WATERGARDENER MAGAZINE**

can be found at <http://www.microbelift.com/>. This is the Spring/Summer issue- better late than never! You will find more helpful information in caring for your pond, plants and fish in this issue. Since Carolyn went on a self-guided pond tour earlier this spring, the photography was selected from various areas, with many of the ponds in the Bradenton/Sarasota area of Florida. You might even see your own pond in there!



LOW REZ LINK (for viewing on computer screen; quick loading):  
[http://www.microbelift.com/uploadme/93MLSprSum\\_Mag\\_LoRes.pdf](http://www.microbelift.com/uploadme/93MLSprSum_Mag_LoRes.pdf)

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