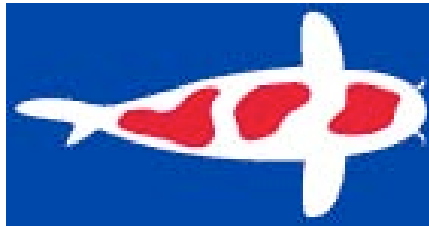


Koi (*Cyprinus carpio*)



Koi are very popular in background pond settings. More options are available to homeowners to set up their new pond. It is very important to quarantine new arrivals. New koi can introduce parasites, bacteria, or viruses to your established fish. A minimum of 14 days; an ideal is 60-90 days quarantine. Maintain a separate, well-aerated tank with regular water changes.

Water quality will always be one of the most important health maintenance issues. Owners should regularly test nitrite, ammonia, pH, and salinity. Tetra makes an advanced koi testing kit. Leaks allow water to leave and bad stuff to come in. Water handling systems should be evaluated regularly by service personnel.

Warmer temperatures can markedly alter the water quality and the koi health. More frequent water changes and provision for shade can be helpful. Take care to prevent predation by raccoons, hawks, and cats. In many cases, dumping chemicals into the pond when you think you have a problem not only won't help but can harm the fish and the water system. Under no circumstances should you ever dump formalin into a pond.

Common problems in koi include *Aeromonas columnaris* disease, external parasites, chemical damage, biologically toxic water, and cancer.

If you are experiencing koi mortality or illness, any dead koi should be bagged and refrigerated (no freezing) immediately. Make arrangements for veterinary visit ASAP. If you do a water change before the veterinary visit, please save a jar of the old water in a clean jar and refrigerate.

Be sure to have a functional net that is effective to capture any koi needing examination. Any diets, supplements, or other products used should be available for review.

