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THE EAST LONDON KHV

I could this article the title “Eastern Cape Koi Herpes Virus” but that would be unfair to koi keepers in other parts of Eastern Cape. It makes me mad when people say the Eastern Cape has KHV. Yes, the dreaded disease has stuck its head out here and how far it has spreaded we cannot tell until we have full co operation of all whom have affected koi. I do think that all East London koi keepers hope to hear soon that the problem is solved as this virus can be spread from pond to pond in various ways. This will become an Eastern Cape Koi Keepers committee problem to solve as it can affect our future activities. Our biggest concern is that if KHV affects the Carp in our rivers we will have big problems with the government. I truly sympathize with all koi keepers whose koi are affected but plead to them to co operate and do the right thing. This problem must have come via Japan imported koi as a friend of mine, with very expensive koi also bought imports from Japan and now has to kill all his koi. At this stage ask the SAKKS committee members before buying any koi as we are in close contact with koi keepers. My personal opinion is that importing koi from overseas should be stopped. At the moment there are top quality koi in RSA and many belong to importers who have got koi farms.

ABOUT KHV

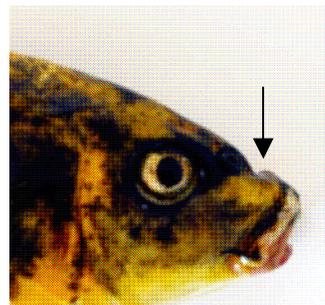
Spike Cover, Director, AKCA Project KHV, Mission Viejo, CA,

KHV is a virus that causes disease in koi and common carp only, is highly contagious, can kill most of the koi in an infected system and has spread world-wide. Survivors of infections can be carriers. Hobbyists and dealers can help protect themselves by:

1. Buying from reputable sources that adequately quarantine all fish arriving at their facilities and operate under Best Health Management Practices,
2. Adequately quarantining new fish (and fish returning from outside the facility) prior to (re)introducing them into the general fish populations. **This is the single most effective action within the fish owners’ control,**
3. Disinfecting, or otherwise verify the safety (non-infectivity), of everything that comes in contact with water of existing pond/system or new fish,
4. Depopulating all koi and carp exposed to KHV,
5. Supporting efforts to educate the koi community and to find new ways to control and ultimately eradicate this disease.

Testing for antibodies to KHV (an indication of past exposure or vaccination) and for the virus (during active disease) can now be done without killing the fish.

There are many symptoms that indicated that koi are affected with KHV and every collection can have different symptoms but here are two common signs. The gills rot. There comes a dent between the eyes and the nose.



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WHAT THIS LITTLE GIRL IS SAYING IS: “FIND A CURE BEFORE I GROW UP”



This candle is for all who suffered with cancer or who are still suffering

Please support CANSA

### MY PROBLEMS

Ok! I suppose you have problems of your own and don't want to listen to mine. No Man! That is not scriptural as the good book says: bear one another's burdens and fulfill the law of love, even if you just listen.

#### PROBLEM ONE: THE BRUL PARRA'S

You won't believe me how many bull frogs there are. The male just waits to hitch a lift to the pond so that the sports can begin. One night I caught thirty bullfrogs which I took to the Stream next to our church and from there they went to visit Wouter's pond. I have learnt the sound when the male is hitching a lift and the sound when she says jump on. Even when I am fast asleep and with the first Qaaaaack! All my hair on my body stands up and I charge with the long braai tongs like the legendary Don Quixote's in the Man of La Mancha. In spite of my efforts to keep them out the pond, one pair still made love and gave me hundreds of Tadpole babies. My grandson and I took out many of them which he took to school to sell for one cent each. We now have got small frogs in the pond, filter and garden. The tree frogs have now also laid eggs in my filter but I don't mind them, their whistle is so cool.



#### SECOND PROBLEM: HAMMER KOP

I woke up one morning just as it became light and by my baby pond stood mister HAMMER KOP. I have never crossed paths with such an ugly creature. He must have eaten about 400 babies in the previous days. I counted 700 babies when I put them in the pond and have now only about 300. It thought he was at Ilandre's KFC Drive thru and asked for "koi ala king". The first thing I thought of is shooting the XYZ with a pellet gun but remembered one of our koi members who was falsely accused on a Dispatch pole board: "COP SHOTS MY PUSSY CAT". The next thought that came in my mind was I will catch it with a large net and HAMMER its ugly KOP flat. I think that is where the name comes from. I bought two plastic snakes in Mossel Bay two weeks ago and put them on the side wall of the pond. The brown one has already given me two frights.

#### THIRD PROBLEM: DON'T DIVE INTO YOUR KOI POND

Our local doctor told my wife to tell me that koi pond water is not healthy to drink nor to swim in. When my grandsons are hot or bored I tell them to swim in the koi pond to get them off my back. Grant dives into his koi pond of 100 000 liters looking for mermaids and comes out with a long strings of blanket weed. But here is some advice. Don't dive into your pond without blocking your ears with Tick tack or Pratley putty or Silicone or Chappies or something similar. When I dived down to the bottom of my pond looking like a hippo with goggles and a snorkel the pressure at the bottom kept on pushing me up, I could not stay at the bottom. That lets me think that I am not so fat it is all the wind in me.

The following week I had to take dear wife Sarie to the kidney specialists in Cape Town as she is going to donation a kidney to my son on the 27<sup>th</sup> of March. The second morning I woke up and felt my right ear was deaf. That frustrated my wife as I could not hear the GPS and missed some turn off's. She wanted to trade me in as her blood pressure shot up to 177 over 94 and that is no good for a kidney donor.

At Vredenburg I went to a doctor and he said I have middle ear inflammation with a lot of water behind or in the drum. I realized I have got that unhealthy pond water in my ear which I should not drink nor swim in; as my doctor said. I am on the second lot of pills and eardrops but my ear is still pond water jammed. BE WARNED!

#### PRAYER LIST

Wow! It sounds like my church bulletin. It came to me if believers pray for their food at dinner table why can't we pray over our koi when we feed them. I believe in the power of prayer as through it we receive protection, perseverance, provision and peace. Go for it. Try it. It is only you and the Lord at the pond.

Keep in our thoughts Estelle Viljoen – Late Emile's widow. She is alone on the koi Farm and needs to sell urgently. Thanks for the kind wishes and support our family receives from many koi keepers as Sarie endeavors to help our son. Please keep us in your prayers on the 27<sup>th</sup> March when the kidney transplant will take place.

### NEWS AROUND THE PONDS

Those ponds, those ponds, those leaking ponds. It is amazing how many koi keepers had serious leaks in their ponds recently and which cost a arm and a leg to repair.

\*Wouter's pond is 35 000 liters of water and had to broke a piece of the wall off on one side of his pond. He did a good job as I saw the pond today and I could not see leaks.

\*Grant had major repairs to his 100 000 liter pond. He had to throw a 150mm concrete floor and seal his whole pond with Matcrete and a membrane. We will see if the water drops when he has filled the pond.

\* Leon's new pond leaked at the settlement chamber and after a lot of frustration is was sealed. His pond must also be about 100 thousand liters.

### FOR SALE – TE KOOP

These koi keepers who have got koi for sale do not have problems with their koi.

\*Grant has got some koi for sale. 0824780063

\*Leon has got a lot of beautiful koi for sale. 0833205024

\*Andre also has koi for sale. 0836574761

\*JP has koi for sale 0833555134

\*I have got a good second hand Resun AC – 9400 air pump with 4 outlets 8 watt. for sale For R220.00. A second hand 15 watt UV light with new UV globe for R400.00. 0712030794

\*Shane Ashby has got an almost new vat for sale. 0825698755



The Rockies are not in Australia it is here at Roy and Lee Ann's home. What a beautiful rock pond. "Poor Roy"



Part of Ray and Dee's massive natural pond before it was filled with water. The pond is on their farm in Port Alfred

### LET THE KOI SAFARI'S BEGIN!

Although I am tied down a lot these days I feel it is time to have our first koi safari this year. What about Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup> of March in the Nahoon area. There are ponds that belong to Dr. Pedro Sanches, Martin Goosen, Shaun Petersen that I have seen and know that we will enjoy viewing their collection and pond set up. If you are in that suburb and would like us to view your pond please let me know. I will still contact the last mentioned friends and find out if we are able to view their koi and ponds. I will contact all soon about this event.

## The poisons, Chlorine, Chloramine, and Pollutants

by Norm Meck

Koi Club of San Diego

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### **Chlorine**

#### **Measurement:**

Chlorine (Cl), measured in ppm, is a gas which has been added to tap water to control harmful bacteria. City provided tap water is normally found to have 0.5 - 3.0 ppm but higher surges are sometimes observed. Some city water supplies can still be found that either do not require chlorination or may have the chlorine removed before the water is distributed. This would not be of concern to those who take their tap water directly from a private well. Droplet, powder, and pill colorimetric test kits are available. Recommended test kit range 0 - 4 ppm. A chlorine test kit is not considered necessary for the average pond. Acceptable range 0

#### **Effects:**

Chlorine is a quick killer in fairly low concentrations (less than 0.5 ppm). Even in very small concentrations, it burns the edges of the gills with long term after effects. It also can be deadly to the bio-converter bacteria.

#### **Treatment:**

In an open container, water will release about 1/4 of the chlorine concentration per day to the air. Water that has set in an open container for a week or just for a couple days if heavily aerated, is normally safe to use or better yet, pretreat tap water with one of the commercial chemical products. Follow the manufacturer's directions. (Or make your own)

#### **Homemade Chlorine Neutralizer**

Make a solution consisting of 4 oz (1/4 lb) Sodium Thiosulfate crystals (technical grade) dissolved in 1 gallon of distilled water. Use 5 ml (1 teaspoon) of the solution per each 10 gallons of makeup water to neutralize up to 3.75 ppm chlorine. One measuring cup full can be used for each 500 gallons. (The entire gallon of solution will treat about 7500 gallons of tap water.) The shelf life of the solution is about six months when stored in a cool location. The sodium thiosulphate crystals will keep for several years if kept dry.

When pre-treating replacement water, the dosage is for the quantity of water being replaced, not the total pond capacity! Although it would be better to treat all tap water being added, small amounts of replacement water without dechlorination treatment are often added without noticeable effects to the fish. It is recommended that any time more than one percent of the pond water is being added, it be treated. Do not use chlorinated tap water to clean your bio converter (filter) media unless you are actually trying to sterilize it. Water from the pond is a much better choice for this task.

### **Chloramine**

Chloramine is a compound of chlorine and ammonia that also may be added to tap water to control bacteria. It can also be formed by adding water containing free chlorine to a pond containing ammonia. If any ammonia is present in a pond, be sure and treat it before adding any tap water containing chlorine. Chloramine can be detected using the same test kit used to test for ammonia. Chloramine is difficult to measure quantitatively in low concentrations, and particularly when a combination of chlorine and chloramine are present. Acceptable range 0

Chloramine does not decrease concentration nearly as fast as chlorine when exposed to air. It produces the same general effects as chlorine but is usually found in the lower concentrations that result in long term damage to the fish. The same treatment actions as for chlorine apply except that the ammonia remains after neutralization. A "healthy" bio-filter will take care of the ammonia or a chemical treatment may be used. Some commercial products incorporate treatment to neutralize both the chlorine and ammonia components at the same time. Check the manufacturer's directions.

## **Pollutants**

This catches all categories of Pollutants means anything added to the pond that is not wanted in the pond. Pollutants can consist of items which may or may not be harmful to the fish and they may or may not be visible. They may float on the surface, sink to the bottom or dissolve into the water. They may come from outside the pond or from within the pond itself, i.e. oil leaking from a submerged pump. Some pollutants are easy to identify and control and/or remove, i.e. leaves, pollen, dead rats, etc. Some just add to the filter load if not removed but cause little other problems if not in excessive amounts, i.e. bird droppings. Most of the harmful pollutants that dissolve into the water are hard to identify or quantify. Surface water runoff that can enter the pond is often a major source of pollutants. This is why all ponds should be designed with a raised edge or at least some type of channel around them so that the surface water will not enter the pond. Other than preventing pollutants from being introduced into the pond, they can only be controlled through water change out procedures.

Here in sunny southern California, where we get very little rain, heavy buildups of "stuff" on the covers, shade cloth, or trees hanging over our ponds often occur. When it does rain, all of a sudden there is a large amount of this material that is washed off and added to the pond water with possible detrimental effects. (We are all familiar with oil coming up from the roadways during a rain following a dry spell and how the cars go slip-sliding down the interstate.) If the material overhanging the pond is rinsed off with a hose every couple of weeks, then the individual additions are much smaller and are more easily controlled through the routine water change outs. This rinse down of overhanging material should be part of each pond keeper's weekly or at least biweekly pond maintenance during dry spells.

### **Toxic Plants**

One pollutant area that is often overlooked by pond keepers has to do with the plants in the pond or those that are part of the landscaping around (and over) the pond. The seeds of many plants can swell and plug up the digestive tract of the Koi. A partial list of the plants or parts of plants that have been reported as toxic to Koi for various reasons include:

Amaryllis - bulbs	Marijuana - all parts
Baneberry - berries, roots	Mayapple - all parts
Bird of Paradise - seeds	Mistletoe - berries
Black Locust Bark - sprouts, foliage	Mock Orange - fruit
Boxwood - leaves, stems	Morning Glory - all parts
Buttercup - sap, leaves	Narcissus - bulbs
Calla Lily - leaves	Oak - acorns, foliage
Cherry - bark, twigs, leaves, pits	Pine - sap
Coral Plant - seeds	Poinsettia - leaves, flowers
Daffodil - bulbs	Potato - eyes, new roots
Datura - berries	Privet - berries, leaves
Death Camas - all parts	Prunus varieties - seeds, some parts
Eggplant - all but fruit	Redwood - sap (from decks also)
Elephants Ear - leaves, stem	Rhubarb - leaves
English Ivy - berries	Ranunculus - all parts
Foxglove - leaves, seeds	Snapdragon - all parts
Hemlock - all parts	Snowdrop - all parts
Holly - berries	Tiger Lily - all parts
Hyacinth - bulbs	Tomato - leaves
Indian Turnip - all parts	Tulip - bulbs
Iris - bulbs	Have you identified all the plants in, over, and around your pond?
Jasmine - berries	
Java Bean - uncooked bean	
Lantana - immature berries	
Laurel - all parts	
Locoweed - all parts	

## **Water Change Outs**

Partial water change outs can reduce the amount of anything dissolved in the water but not totally remove it. Although it is sometimes necessary, draining and refilling a pond should only be used as a last resort! Do not use large water change outs to clear green water conditions. A large water change out will normally make the situation worse, not better. Often, several partial water change outs, performed over a period of days or even weeks, can reduce the concentration of an undesired item to acceptable levels without serious after effects. A water change out reduces the amount of a substance in the water by the same amount as the percentage of water replaced. Remember the concentrations of any "good" stuff in the pond is being reduced at the same time as the "bad" stuff. Also the water being used for replacement may have undesired components as well.

A water change out is considered to be when a measured amount of water is drained from the pond and then replaced. Just adding water and letting the pond overflow will not accomplish the desired results unless significantly more water is transferred. Water added to replace that lost by evaporation is not part of a change out.

Example:

It is desired to decrease the Salt in a pond by one half. Any of the following will have the same approximate result:

- a. Seven successive 10% change outs.
- b. One 25% change out followed by four 10%.
- c. Two successive 25% change outs followed by one 10%.
- d. One 50% change out.

Depending on the urgency to carry out the action, the largest number of change outs over the longest time would be the best approach.

Unfortunately, this does not apply in the same way to pH. The change in pH for a given water change is dependent upon the Alkalinity and pH in the pond as well as the Alkalinity and pH of the replacement water. Adding water with a higher pH than the pond water will raise the pond water pH but it is difficult to predict how much. Remember that if the water being added to the pond has a pH higher than that of the pond, make sure any ammonia in the pond has been treated before adding the new water.

It is considered appropriate to change out from 5 to 10 percent of a pond's water per week. A small pond (500 gallons or less) should receive the 10% weekly change out. The 5% change out is appropriate for a large pond (5000 gallons or more). Any water replaced after a weekly backflush of a filter system or other maintenance actions should be included as being part of the weekly change out amount.

When making the water replacement with tap water that contains chlorine or chloramines, it would be better to pretreat the water with the chlorine neutralizer before adding it to the pond (particularly small ponds). If this cannot easily be done, use a fine spray of water over the pond and divide the total computed neutralizer dosage into two to four parts and add while the makeup water is being added. Don't Forget To Turn Off The Water! Set a timer or something to remind you that makeup water is running into the pond. Inexpensive flow timer shutoff devices that hook directly on the hose are available and are a good safety item to use.

## **Final Thoughts**

Keep good records of your pond. A chronological log of chemical test results, treatments, maintenance actions, water change outs, and even addition or removal of fish can help determine the cause (and required treatment) of a future problem. I keep mine in a computer file but just a simple notebook is all that is needed.

Keep chemical test apparatus clean. Scrub out the test vials periodically. Just rinsing with pond water doesn't get out all the residue buildup. Whenever you buy a test kit, write the purchase date on it. If not otherwise stated on the test kit, replace any liquid based test kits every year. Replace the sealed packet dry powder and pill based kits every two years. Be careful about anything that you put in your pond. Know your pond capacity and carefully calculate and measure dosages. Know what you are treating for; it is usually better not to treat at all than to dump in something because you think there might be a problem. Second only to ammonia poisoning, more Koi have died from improper treatment with medicines and chemicals than for any other reason.

Many times, the first indication of a problem can be detected by simply watching the behavior of the fish. Changes to their normal activities means it is time to get out the test kits. This is the best part of having the pond anyway so spend some quality time with your Koi and get to know them.

## **THE GREAT NEWS LAST BUT NOT THE LEAST**

While I am writing this letter our ADSL line is down after the lightening storm but I believe it will be restored so I can send it to you.

That clever boy, Peter Stockenstrom has brought koi keeping in the Eastern Cape to a new level. With our last SAKKS meeting he proposed a website for us in the Eastern Cape All koi keepers can be involved and communicate with the whole "box 'n dice." Wow! Thank you Peter . We are going to discuss the website further during our next SAKKS meeting on Monday the 5<sup>th</sup> March. There is a koi article library, Goods for sale and many more.

To view what is going on contact Peter until I get the link address:  
peter.stockenstrom@gmail.com

# ROY KOI CARE

**EDUCATING ENCOURAGING EQUIPPING**

## **MEDICINES**

- ❖ BOA BIO WOUNDMED (60 SHOTS PER BOTTLE)  
. It helps to avoid scars after the wound is healed)
- ❖ PARASITE KILLER (BROAD SPECTRUM).  
(Kills skin and gill flukes, Costia, Chilodonella, Trichodina and White spot.)
- ❖ VIRKON S 50 GR
- ❖ TERAMYCIN (AS PRESCRIBED)
- ❖ SYRINGES

## **POND WATER IMPROVEMENT**

- ❖ BOA BIO POND PILLS (ONE MONTHS SUPPLY)  
Contains natural occurring bacteria, prevents the occurrence of bacterial ulcers, and reduces ammonia, nitrite, nitrate and phosphate.
- ❖ BOA BIO 1 KG AQUA CLAY (10 GR TO 20 GR PER 1000 LITER WATER)  
Replenishes trace minerals and micro nutrients, improve water clarity, and enhances luster and color of the koi.
- ❖ DECLORINATOR.  
(1 X TEASPOON FOR EVERY 1000 LITERS) Dilute in container with water and add to pond

## **FILTER IMPROVEMENT**

- ❖ BOA BIO CLEAR BACTERIA BOOSTER ( A start up and boost for biological filters)  
200 MIL (ADD 2 MILS PER 1000 LITERS OF WATER)  
100 MIL (ADD 2 MILS PER 1000 LITERS OF WATER)
- ❖ FILTER BAGS. (They are light and easy to lean)
- ❖ BARLEY STRAW 100 GRAMS (10 GRAMS TREATS 10000 LITERS OF WATER)

### **SHOGUN KOI NUTRITION**

- ❖ BOA BIO NUTRIPRO. (ANTIBACTERIAL, ANTIFUNGAL, ANTIVIRAL, ANTIINFLAMMATORY AND IMMUNOSTIMULANT PROPERTIES)
- ❖ (Mix with one liter of water, then spray it on the food you are about to feed your koi. Because it is so concentrated it can last for more than one month.

PROTEIN (min) 44%: FAT (min) 4%: FIBRE (max) 3%: ASH (max) 9%; MOISTURE (max) 10%:  
CALCIUM (max) 2.2%: PHOSPHOROUS (min) 1.80%

WOW! Compare the above ingredients with any koi food in the world and you will see why so many koi keepers insist on Shogun Koi Nutrition and Sakura Koi Nutrition.

### **SAKURA COLOR ENHANCEMENT KOI NUTRITION**

Sakura has the same ingredients as Shogun koi nutrition and has 1.2% Spirulina to enhance the color. The price and transport of Sakura has gone up sells now for R60.00 per Kg.

**BARLEY STRAW** 100grams treat 10 000 liters of water

### **POND ACCESSORIES**

- ❖ P C 1800 & 36000 PUMPS
- ❖ SPAWNING BRUSHES 65CM
- ❖ TRICKLE FILTERS
- ❖ PROTEIN SKIMMERS
- ❖ BUBBLE BEADS FILTER
- ❖ PLASTIC PELLETS
- ❖ LARGE OVAL KOI NETS
- ❖ MEDIUM OVAL KOI NETS
- ❖ MIRACLE SAND FILTER CLEANER
- ❖ 2.00 METRE POND VACUUM

*Bakki filter trays are now available for only R60.00 ea*

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EVERY THING THAT GROWS  
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