

## Aquatic Plant Food Retail Product Comparisons\*

Product Characteristics	AQUATIC-TABS® AQUATIC-SPIKES™	Pondtabbs™ Lilytabs™ Tetra Lily Gro™	Laguna® Fertilizer Spikes	Highland Rim™ Tablets	Aquascape EcoTabs™	TECHNICAL NOTES
<b>Formulation</b>	<b>10-20-10</b> (Tabs-5gm) <b>20-5-10</b> (Tabs-5gm) <sup>3</sup> <b>12-20-8</b> (Spikes-2.1gm)	<b>10-14-8</b> (4.5gm)	<b>16-9-12</b> (15gm)	<b>10-26-10</b> (10gm)	<b>15-5-10</b> (7gm)	Aquatic-Tabs 1:2 ratio of Nitrogen and Phosphate provides the best nutrient combination for most waterlilies and flowering pond plants.
<b>Length of Feeding</b>	<b>Tabs Spikes</b> <b>45 Days 6-9 Months</b>	<b>15 Days</b>	<b>6-9 Months</b>	<b>30 Days</b>	<b>45 Days</b>	Aquatic-Spikes feed longer than most pond plant foods. Most pondowners prefer feeding plants once-a-year.
<b>Nutrient Release</b>	<b>Binary - Both</b> <b>Fast &amp; Time-Release</b> <b>Polymer Coated</b> <b>Aquatic</b> <b>Formulation</b> <b>Feeds at 2 locations</b>	<b>Feast &amp; Famine</b> Clay Binder Fertilizer Formulation	<b>Osmocote®</b> <b>Time-Release</b> <b>Polymer Coated</b> Low Blooming Formulation	<b>Feast &amp; Famine</b> Excess Phosphate Formulation Feeds Fertilizer in 1 location	<b>Feast &amp; Famine</b> Low Phosphate Formulation	Aquatic-Tabs and Aquatic-Spikes ingredients are polymer coated before they are pressed into tablets and spikes. Most plant foods feed by 'feast' (release most nutrients within 2-5 days) and then by 'famine' (very little nutrient release after 7 days). Excess phosphates release into surrounding environments and can cause algae growth.
<b>Micronutrients</b>	<b>7 Essential &amp; Humic Acids</b>	<b>6 Essential</b>	<b>7 Essential</b>	<b>6 Essential</b>	<b>6 Essentials</b>	Aquatic-Tabs and Aquatic-Spikes contain the highest micronutrients of any Pond Plant Food. Humic Acids build pond planting media.
<b>Trace Minerals</b>	<b>76 Essential</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	Most pond soils lack essential minerals. Aquatic-Tabs and Aquatic-Spikes add trace minerals and organics to the soil for proper plant growth.
<b>Plant Vitamins BioStimulants</b>	<b>Natural Plant Fish Extracts</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	Aquatic-Tabs and Aquatic-Spikes contain a blend of natural rooting biostimulants and vitamins to expand rooting and increase nutrient uptake.
<b>Average Retail Price<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>\$ 9.99 \$4.99</b> 100 Tabs 8 Spikes	<b>\$9.59</b> (60 Tabs)	<b>\$4.99</b> (3 Spikes)	<b>\$8.95</b> (36 Tabs)	<b>\$9.98</b> (25 Tabs)	Aquatic-Tabs and Aquatic-Spikes have high impulse buying packages and have higher retail turn rates.
<b>Cost to Feed Pond Plant for 30 Days<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>\$0.20 \$0.21</b> (2 Tabs) (2 Spikes) <b>One Feeding</b>	<b>\$0.32</b> (2 Tabs) <b>Two Feedings</b>	<b>\$0.27</b> (1 Spike) <b>One Feedings</b>	<b>\$0.25</b> (1 Tab) <b>One Feeding</b>	<b>\$0.40</b> (1 Tab) <b>One Feeding</b>	Aquatic-Tabs are the most economical way to feed your pond plants. Applying 2 Aquatic-Tabs supplies nutrients to 2 soil locations – better for roots; unlike Highland Rim at 1 location.

\*This table is for comparisons and benefits only - actual survey results may vary depending on method of sampling. <sup>1</sup>Average pricing information based on published prices and store retail prices.

<sup>2</sup>Cost based on the average cost to feed a one gallon pond plant for 30 days during growing season at 75° average pond water temperatures. <sup>3</sup>Low Phosphate Product Available Upon Request.

Other survey results - As of 2006, Professional Growers and Homeowners prefer a Once-A-Year Feeding. Osmocote shells tend to clog plastic tube openings and not release all nutrients.

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