

POND MANAGEMENT

STOCK IT RIGHT

MANAGE IT RIGHT

Predator/Prey Relationship

- Predator = Largemouth bass
- Prey = Bluegill
- Inverse relationship

POND CHARACTERISTICS

< 1/2 ACRE OR MURKY – C. CATFISH ONLY

Rate=200/acre

> 1/2 ACRE & > 12" WATER CLARITY

➤ LARGEMOUTH BASS, BLUEGILL, AND

➤ CHANNEL CATFISH

FISH SUPPLIERS

- KANSAS PRODUCERS
- OUT OF STATE PRODUCERS

STOCKING RATIOS/COST

■ Species (FING.)	#/ACRE	COST
■ LARGEMOUTH BASS	100	\$ 75
■ CHANNEL CATFISH	100	\$ 50
■ BLUEGILL	500	\$ 250
■ FATHEAD MINNOWS	3 LBS	\$ 26
■ TOTAL COST /ACRE		\$ 401

STOCKING STRATEGY

- WATER DEPTH – 6 FOOT MIN.
- SEASON – SPRING OR FALL
- ALL OR SPLIT
- CONTAINERS
- WATER QUANTITY – 35 gal/700 fing
- ACCLIMATION

SUPPLEMENTAL STOCKING

- Channel catfish – Dependent upon harvest, number restocked = # harvested + 10%, must exceed 8" long
- Largemouth bass – Normally not necessary
- Bluegill – Normally not necessary

Corrective Stocking – No or Low Largemouth bass density

- Stock 50 8-12 inch largemouth bass per acre

FISH MANAGEMENT

- INITIAL 4 YEARS – 15" MINIMUM LENGTH LIMIT ON LARGEMOUTH BASS

MANAGEMENT OPTIONS

- PANFISH OPTION
- ALL PURPOSE OPTION
- BIG BASS OPTION

PANFISH OPTION

- OBJECTIVE – BIG BLUEGILL
- NEED GOOD WATER CLARITY, AT LEAST 18"
- 15" MINIMUM LENGTH LIMIT – LM BASS

ALL PURPOSE OPTION

- OBJECTIVE – DECENT ALL AROUND FISHERY
- CHANGE TO 12-15" SLOT LENGTH LIMIT ON LARGEMOUTH BASS
- HARVEST 30, 8-12" LM BASS/ACRE/YR

BIG BASS OPTION

- OBJECTIVE – PRODUCE TROPHY LM BASS
- CHANGE TO 12-15" SLOT LENGTH LIMIT
- HARVEST 30-50, 8-12" LM BASS/ACRE/YR
- HARVEST 5, 12-15" LM BASS/ACRE/YR
- OPTIONAL – STOCK GIZZARD SHAD

FEEDING

- Sinking or floating
- Water Temps > 60
- 15 minute clean-up
- Maximum 20 lbs/acre/day

Stunted Largemouth bass

- Enjoy the big bluegill !
- Or implement a 12-15 slot length limit on largemouth bass, and harvest 30 8-12 inch bass/acre/year. May have to increase harvest rate to 50 bass/acre/year, if 30 does not work.

Sources

- Kansas Wildlife and Parks Website
www.kdwp.state.ks.us
- Kansas Aquaculture Association Website
www.kansasaquaculture.org
- Dunn's Fish Farm Website
www.dunn'sfishfarm.com

