



Pond Check

SUITABLE PLANTS FOR PONDS



The following is a selection of the many native plants that could be established in and around ponds.

PLANT NAME	COMMENTS
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Angelica
Angelica sylvestris

Plants for wetlands Tall, grows in large clumps. Attracts insects.



PLANT NAME	COMMENTS
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Branched bur-reed
Sparganium erectum

Emergent plants Common and widespread. Can be invasive in shallow water (0.5m). Water up to 1m deep. Provides sites for nesting birds. Seeds eaten by wildfowl.



Amphibious bistort
Pesicaria amphibia

Floating plants On banks and water up to 1m. Tolerates extended drying. Seeds eaten by wildfowl. Attracts insects.



Brooklime
Veronica beccabunga

Plants for wetlands In marshes or shallow water. Attracts insects



Bog bean
Menyanthes trifoliata

Emergent plants Grows out from margin across water by floating stems. Good habitats for invertebrates and amphibians.



Common bulrush
Scirpus lacustris

Emergent plants Grows out from margin across water by floating stems. Good habitats for invertebrates and amphibians. Seeds eaten by wildfowl. Cover value.




Contact: pondcheck@cornwt.demon.co.uk
For more information visit www.nonnativespecies.org

www.ercis.co.uk/projects/investigate_invasives/pondcheck/

All other photographs: Environment agency. All other illustrations Sarah McCartney, Cornwall Wildlife Trust



PLANT NAME	COMMENTS	
Cuckoo flower <i>Cardamine pratensis</i>	Plants for wetlands Common in wet meadows. Food plant for orange tip butterfly.	

PLANT NAME	COMMENTS	
Lesser spearwort <i>Ranunculus flammula</i>	Emergent plants In marshes or shallow water. Stems used by emerging dragonflies	

Gypsywort <i>Lycopus europaeus</i>	Plants for wetlands Medium sized. Grows in narrow stands. Attracts insects.	
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Marsh marigold <i>Caltha palustris</i>	Pond edges Attracts insects.	
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Hemp agrimony <i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>	Plants for wetlands Medium sized. Grows in stands. Attracts insects	
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Marsh speedwell <i>Veronica scutellata</i>	In marshes or shallow water. Attracts insects	
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Hornwort <i>Ceratophyllum demersum</i>	Submerged plants Prefers calcareous water. Can take over pond Good habitat for invertebrates and amphibians.	
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Meadowsweet <i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>	Tall and grows in stands. Large white scented flowers. Normally grows in marshes and wet meadows etc. Attracts insects.	
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PLANT NAME	COMMENTS
Pondweed <i>Potamogeton polygonifolius</i>	Root in water from 0.3-3m deep, with floating leaves. Common in bogs and acid pools. Good for insects. Stems used by emerging dragonflies. Wildfowl food.



PLANT NAME	COMMENTS
Royal fern <i>Osmunda regalis</i>	



Small pondweed <i>Potamogeton berchtoldii</i>	Pond edges. Attracts insects. Good habitat for invertebrates and amphibians.
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Spike-rush <i>Eleocharis palustris</i>	Submerged plants. Prefers calcareous water. Can take over pond. Good habitat for invertebrates and amphibians.
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Purple loosestrife <i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	Tall with attractive purple flowers. Grows in large clumps. Good for insects.
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Ragged robin <i>Lychnis flos-cuculi</i>	Medium sized with pink flowers.
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PLANT NAME COMMENTS

Water forget-me-not
Myosotis scorpioides

Marshes and wet edges of pond. Attractive blue flowers.



Water mint
Mentha aquatica

Medium sized. Heady minty scent. Good for insects.



Water plantain
Alisma plantago-aquatica

Roots in shallow water. Stems used by emerging dragonflies.



PLANT NAME COMMENTS

Water starwort
Callitriche stagnalis

Abundant in still and moving water. Roots in water up to 1m deep with leaves and flowers submerged or floating. Good habitat for invertebrates and amphibians. Eaten by wildfowl.



Yellow flag
Iris pseudacorus

Pond edges. Quick growing. Helps stabilise banks. Provides stems for emerging insects.



Yellow loosestrife
Lysimachia vulgaris

Tall. Grows in clumps. Good for insects.

