

**Trial to demonstrate the effectiveness of a
'PondTec 50' Ultrasonic Unit
in eliminating a bloom of blue-green algae
Oscillatoria sp
in
"The Match Canal"
Whitmore Fisheries
Nr Blackpool
Lancashire**

September 2010

Sustainable Soil & Water Ltd

**Main UK & Ireland Distributor of PondTec and PoolTec
Ultrasonic Algae Control Products**

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Background Information:

Whitmore Fisheries has had a problem with this blue green algae in a number of its pools for about 4 years. Various treatments had been tried to eliminate the algae, but to date, none of them have had any effect.

Although this species of *Oscillatoria* is non-toxic, it did produce an unattractive surface 'scum'. It is a very 'efficient' species and out-competes the beneficial algae which are an essential part of the fish's food chain. As a result, zooplankton had virtually disappeared from the infected pools – this is also because most zooplankton find blue green algae inedible.

On the positive side, oxygen levels had always been good. Blue-green algae are very efficient producers of oxygen and unlike other green algae, do not take up oxygen during the night, so no overnight oxygen level drops were experienced.

In mid September 2010 a PondTec 50 ultrasound unit in the Match Canal. During the period of the trial, the pond was aerated using an aerator supplied by Aquaculture Equipment Ltd – this was an important requisite because as the blue-green algae was killed off, oxygen levels would drop with the potential for major fish kill. The results were very impressive.

For the first 2 weeks of the trial, water from the also infected East Lake was over-flowing into this pool making the task difficult. Once this flow was halted, the *Oscillatoria* was eliminated within 10 days. Water temperature was not a contributing factor here, as the blue-green algae in the West Lake was still in abundance.

During the period of the trial, fishing was totally unaffected – in fact, a match was held during the trial on this pool and the peg with the second biggest catch was only a few metres from the ultrasonic unit.

The following pictures speak for themselves.

Whitmore Fisheries Layout



The East Lake was the primary source of the algal infestation. This lake overflows into the Match Canal. The presence of the blue-green algae is clearly visible in the East Lake and Match Canal even in this satellite photograph.



The PondTec 50 Unit



Looking towards Ultrasound unit. Above before – below after treatment



Aerator unit



Other side of the pool. Above before – below after treatment





Close up of pool. Above before – below after treatment

