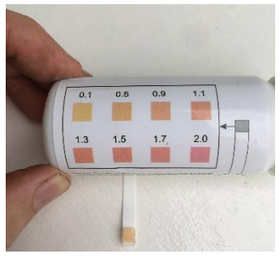
when wet. When dry, dusty residue can be irritating.

Can I use a metal screw if I misplace or break the nylon screw that came with unit?
NO, a metal screw will interfere with the ionization process and will “fuse” into the copper. It must be non-metallic.

Testing
Copper particles into the pond water which will build up over time. The solar pond ionizer is allowed to float every day in the first week, with the objective to obtain the concentration of ions, and then a couple days to maintain the appropriate level of ions. Test strips will tell you when can remove the unit. If excess 0.2 ppm, take it out from the pond, or water will turn unhealthy. And put it back to the pond when less than 0.1ppm. (test strips included in units)



Note: Test strips supplied provide a basic guide to copper contents in water. If you have fish or other invertebrates in your pond we strongly suggest purchasing more highly sensitive equipment. For instance, Hanna HI-747 Copper Checker which measures between 0 and 999 parts per billion, so low doses down to 0.05 parts per million can be measured.

Troubleshooting – Is my Blanket Weed Blaster working?
First, check to see if ionizer is working okay. Remove the basket, but leave the anode screwed into the solar pool ionizer. Put the anode/coil into a clear glass of water. Make sure it’s sunny outside. Look carefully at the coil/anode through the glass of water. After a few seconds, you should see bubbles form. That bubbles will look almost like “mist” or “cloud” coming off of the coils. These are tiny bubbles of gas that’s released with copper ions that are going into the water. If you do not see these tiny bubbles contact the dealer you purchased from.

Limited Warranty
This product is guaranteed for a period of 12 months from the date of purchase for material or manufacturing defects. The guarantee covers the substitution of defective parts. However, the guarantee is considered null and void in the case of improper use, improper handling or negligence on the part of the buyer. The copper anode is not guaranteed. If your PondHero item fails please take it back to the retail outlet from where it was purchased. You will be required to provide your receipt/proof of purchase. This does not affect your statutory rights.

PondHero
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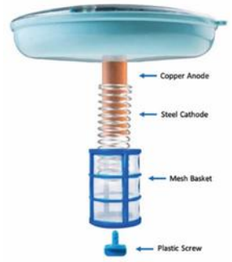
Billingham
TS23 4BU
UK 01642 370898

Your appliance contains valuable materials which can be recovered or recycled. Leave it at a local civic waste collection point.

PondHero Blanket Weed Blaster
Solar Pond Ioniser Instruction Manual

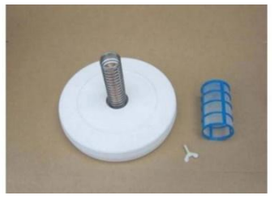
Drastically reduces pond maintenance caused by unsightly slimy algae and string algae.
For all ponds sized up to 35,000 litres volume.
Safe for use in swimming pools and hot tubs too.

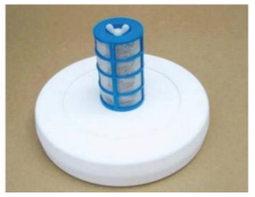


Specification: Power 2W; 6V
Dimensions: Diameter: 21 cm – Height: 13 cm
Contents: Solar ionizer unit (solar panel integrated), water test strips and cleaning brush included.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE Blanket Weed Blaster
PondHero brings a revolutionary system to the market that eliminates fibrous and slime algae from your garden pond in a way that is quick and effective. The core of the Blanket Weed Blaster consists of an anode, made from a mineral copper alloy and a stainless-steel cathode spring. Pulses are generated, which are led to the core of the Blanket Weed Blaster. Through these pulses, positively charged copper ions are released, also known as mineralization. These ions form a natural barrier against algae.
Place on the pond surface and copper ions are released slowly.
No electric power is needed thanks to integrated silicone monocrystalline solar panel.
Copper ions slow down the growth of algae and other microorganisms.

Easy Assembly





Important – Read before use!
1. Use only when water above 12 degrees centigrade (typically late spring onwards)
2. Use when growth of algae in pond is visually observed
3. Do not use if sodium (pond salt) is present in your pond water
4. Do not use other treatments/chemicals while using Blanket Weed Blaster

5. Extra care needed if your pond contains fish (some studies koi health can be negatively affected by levels as low as 0.005mg/L in soft water or 0.03mg/L in hard water).
6. Ensure pond pH rating of 7.0 or higher (lower than this and toxicity of copper is greatly enhanced)
7. Safer in hard water pond conditions. Fish require a stable pH to thrive and this is easier to provide when the KH (water hardness) level is high (KH of between 6 and 15°d KH more desirable).
8. Excess copper ions can be detrimental to pond life – monitor water quality regularly & use carefully and sparingly.
9. Removal of algae will reduce overall water oxygen levels. Consider replacement sources of oxygen such as electric/solar air pumps or addition of water plants.

Anode typically lasts 1-3 seasons, depending on the ionization level it is operated at, size of pond and water parameters of the water feature.

ALGAE IN YOUR POND – Important information

A pond is a closed eco-system in which plants and fish live together. Algae are vegetable organisms that need sunlight (photosynthesis) as well as nutrients (carbon dioxide, nitrogen, and phosphates) to grow and produce oxygen. Pond fish need this oxygen to live. A pond is a relatively small area in which the balance between these processes can be easily disturbed. When you remove algae, you take away an important source of oxygen too.

!!Extra water aeration may then be necessary to ensure a sufficient oxygen supply for the fish!!

Nutrients may accumulate and can cause harm to the fish. To avoid this, we recommend that you add nutrient absorbing materials such as zeolite to your pond filter or that you partially refresh the water on a regular basis.

Blanket Weed Blaster is safe to use as directed. However, as the environment and composition of pond water will differ from pond to pond, PondHero cannot exclude chance of death or ill-health of fish

After activating the system, the fish may exhibit a shock reaction lasting a few days.

This has no side-effect and after a short time, normal behavior is restored. If fish should go on behaving in a deviant way, we recommend to remove the Blanket Weed Blaster from the pond.

It is a generally known fact that copper (Cu) ions with a concentration of 0.2 to 0.3 ppm (ppm stands for parts per million - 0.2 to 0.3 mg per litre water) hinder algae growth.

According to the European drinking water standards, even a Cu ion concentration of 2.0 ppm presents no danger for people and animals, with the exception of invertebrates such as snails and mussels. But see above notes on a threat to fish health can occur in rates as low as 0.005ppm. The Blanket Weed Blaster has been constructed so, that normal pond water, having a pH value 7 or higher, should not contain too high concentrations of Cu ions. However, because PondHero has no supervision over individual use of this apparatus and has no input regarding the environmental circumstances of the pond, PondHero bears no responsibility for possible failures or damage.

INSTALLATION

Product should be used between mid- spring and summer. Wait until algae is observed and when pond water temperature is a minimum 12 degrees C. By late summer (eg, Aug/Sept) water temperature will reduce and Blanket Weed Blaster can be removed from pond. Blanket Weed Blaster should be dried and cleaned and stored in a frost-free dry location until the following season.

Copper ion depletion – Anode replacement

In proportion to the amount of use, the size of the anode will decrease. If the anode needs replacing replacements are available.

Continuous use during very sunny weather may cause the anode to be replaced after only a few months. With variable use, it can be active from a few months to a few years.

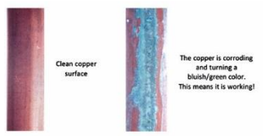
Test Strips

1. Before installation check with normal natural pond water, and normal pH for your pond.
2. Check for presence of copper ions in the water with the ion test kit. See ‘TESTING'. The typical reading at this point is zero to trace amount (.0 - .1 ppm). If higher concentrations are detected, this is usually caused by the previous addition of a copper-based algaecide, if so do not use product until this amount reduces.
3. The target is .1 to .2 ppm (the test strip should read between the 0.1 and the 0.5 on the bottle), which upon reaching, algae reduction may begin.
4. If the ion reading climbs to .5 ppm or more, remove the unit from the water for a few days while monitoring ion level
5. Once the level drops to .1 ppm or less, resume floating the unit and continue weekly ion checks.
6. If the ion level maintains at .2 ppm, then continue floating full time.
7. NOTE: The test strips have a date of manufacture on the label. As long as the test strips are not opened, they will last several years. (You will use them much sooner than they will expire)

The purpose of ion testing is to initially determine that it is safe to reduce algae, and subsequently to establish a floating schedule which results in a steady ion reading of approximately .2 ppm. Depending on conditions, ponds with 35,000 litres or more usually require full time floating. Smaller ponds will usually maintain an adequate ion level with a part time floating schedule. For example, one day in, one day out, two days in, one day out, one week in, one week out, etc. Ponds with screened enclosures will probably require full time floating as the output will be about half of that with normal full sun.

Anode Corrosion and cleaning

Discoloration of anode means it is working! You will need to clean the copper anode every week or two in hot weather, otherwise buildup may occur in the basket preventing the mineral being released in the water properly. Also, this may cause a tear in the basket.



Remove the unit from pond, inspect for any damage on the panel and around the unit.

Flip the unit over onto a soft surface such as grass (you may want to have a rubbish bag underneath the unit) and gently remove the nylon screw and basket from the anode. Remove the anode from the unit and give it a little scrub with the wire brush provided. HINT: Easier to clean