

**PONDLAB****Nitrate (NO₃⁻) (30 tests)**

Toxic waste Ammonia is broken down into Nitrite, by Nitrosomonas Sp. bacteria, and this is then broken down into Nitrate by Nitrobacter Sp. Bacteria. This process forms the biological filtration system and is called the Nitrogen Cycle.

Nitrate itself is relatively non-toxic, and will not cause troubles at low concentrations. However Nitrate can cause problems as the level rises;

Nitrate is a plant nutrient, thus the plant, and algal life in the pond or tank will consume it for growth, thus removing it from the system. High levels of nitrate can encourage excessive growth of algae and blanket weed in some circumstances.

Monitor the level of nitrate in your pond, using a Nitrate Test Kit on a regular basis. When the level becomes too high for your particular system perform a partial water change to lower the nitrate concentration.

For more information on nitrate, and how to control it in ponds, see Methods of Nitrate Reduction in the Technical Information pages.