ALL CHOKED UP!
PREVENT POND PESTS
DON'T BUY THEM – DON'T SPREAD THEM

Pond pests are exotic plants that escape from garden ponds into the wild, choking our rivers, ponds and waterways and damaging our native wildlife.

Why are pond pests a problem?
Not all exotic species are harmful, but many are causing real problems in our towns and countryside. Invasive plant pests grow rapidly, blocking and shading the river bed and taking over from native plant species. Large sums of money are spent every year cleaning these plant pests out of waterways, ponds and lakes. They can also create a flood risk.

What action can you take as a consumer?
If you see these plants on sale, PLEASE DO NOT BUY THEM and alert the store manager to the problems they cause. These plants may be sold under different names, so check with the supplier if you are not sure. If you have these plants in your garden and need to dispose of all or some of them, DO NOT PUT THEM DOWN THE DRAIN OR IN THE RUBBISH; instead compost, burn or bury them. Do not transfer any plants, frogspawn or anything else between ponds as this may spread these invasive plants. Use alternative oxygenators such as spiked water milfoil (Myriophyllum spicatum), rigid hornwort (Ceratophyllum demersum) or common water starwort (Callitriche stagnalis) – see The Wildlife Trusts’ website for more information.

How can you help as a supplier?
Please ensure that customers are aware of the dangers of buying these invasive species and their impact on the environment. Stock alternative oxygenating plants. Please display a copy of our free Pond Pests poster. See horticultural code of practice at: www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/non-native/pdf/non-nativecop.pdf

PLEASE JOIN OUR CAMPAIGN TO HELP PREVENT POND PESTS!