



**Virginia Green Industry Council**

For Immediate Use

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[www.viriniagreen.org](http://www.viriniagreen.org)

## **A Water Gardener's Top Ten Plants**

The delicate appearance of aquatic plants is somewhat deceptive. According to Richard Koogle, director of operations at Lilypons Water Gardens, "Most aquatic plants are hard to kill. All they really need is still water, sunlight, and a few fertilizer tablets." Koogle spoke with the American Nursery and Landscape Association (ANLA) about choice plants for water gardens.

1. 'Pink Beauty'--"The perfect beginner's lily," is how Koogle describes this inexpensive, easy-to-grow wonder. It adapts well to smaller tub gardens--another reason novices should try it.
2. 'James Brydon'--This hardy lily floats right on the water's surface and blooms from late May through Labor Day in all but the hottest climates.
3. 'Indiana'--Changeability is this lily's claim to fame--its blossoms turn from yellow to russet in five days.
4. 'Giverny Red'--A brilliant red lily, this prolific variety is well suited to hot weather regions.
5. 'Panama Pacific'--Lilypons' top seller, 'Panama' is a tropical lily with purple flowers and butter yellow centers. This exotic bloomer peaks in summer months, but some gardeners grow it year round.
6. 'Momo Boton'--In the case of this lotus, good things come in small packages. It's a bathing beauty with rose and white double flowers that open over a four to six-week period.
7. Variegated Japanese iris--Koogle calls it, "an extremely attractive early bloomer."
8. Taro--The black and green leaves and dark centers of 'Black Magic' and 'Black Princess' lend a mysterious, tropical look to ponds.
9. 'Golden Reed'--Similar to ornamental grass, its yellow striped foliage contrasts nicely with lilies while lending height and structure to water gardens.
10. Variegated cattails--A natural choice for watery settings, the striped foliage and dark catkins of this striking plant make a bold statement.

Go to our consumer website for additional gardening information at [www.VirginiaGardening.com](http://www.VirginiaGardening.com)

The Virginia Green Industry Council is the voice of the horticulture industry in the Commonwealth and is dedicated to enhancing the beauty of the state's environment, the well-being of our citizens, improving our state's economy, and improving the health and wellness for everyone in Virginia. The Council is made up of providers and consumers of horticultural products and services. The Council works to provide public and industry education, environmental guidelines and other information that will keep Virginia green and growing. For more information, visit [www.viriniagreen.org](http://www.viriniagreen.org). 540-382-0943 FAX: 540-382-2716 E-mail: [info@viriniagreen.org](mailto:info@viriniagreen.org)

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