**Pond-Snails** - clean-the-pond-plants

Trapdoor snails (Viviparlis malleatus) - Black Japanese Trapdoor snails are the preferred species of pond snail that will NOT overpopulate and does not lay eggs. This snail is black in color, body and shell. Trapdoor pond snails are one of the few larger varieties that can survive the winter in northern states as well as all southern states. This snail is a great asset in ridding ponds of algae as they will groom your plants, planting pots and watergarden walls. They also clean the pond bottom and eat decaying matter such as plant leaves and fish food waste. Full grown snails can reach 2"-3". Use about 10 per 100 gallons to keep a pond truly clean.

Survives in warmer ponds: Yes
Survives in cold ponds: Yes (ponds that freeze in the winter)
Plant eating capacity: Low to none
Algae eating capacity: Moderate to High
Breathing: Pulmonate

From Robyn's Pond Snails page (fishpondinfo.com/snail2.htm)

A pond is not complete without aquatic snails. Many people add them in aquariums as well. If you set out to create a snail-free pond, they will always mysteriously show up. Whether they survived a chemical dip on plants or took a ride on a bird's legs to get there, if you build it, they will come. Aquatic snails are the clean-up crew for the pond. Most of them will eat surface algae, small pieces of plants, dead animals, and leftover foods. Some of them will damage plants. Most of them will only improve the overall health of the pond. Snails, along with tadpoles, are often added to eat pond algae. It is rare for snails to overpopulate a pond as they do in aquariums. This may be due to the larger number of natural predators present and other natural factors.

(don’t pay $2.49 per pond snail) get them as low as **.80 cents each at www.PondMegastore.com**

**ADDING SNAILS TO THE POND**

When snails arrive take them inside, gently open the bag and add some fresh pond water. Wait 10 minutes and place the snails in a shallow area of the pond 2-15 inches deep. Over the next 24-36 hours they will begin sailing around the pond. They may not move for a few hours as they adjust to the ponds temperature. These Pond snails are very valuable cleaners of every water garden. Call us if you want to order some by phone, ask for our current deals. We grow our own snails and offer them at great prices to the public throughout the year.

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