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Bottom Barriers for Lakes and Ponds: Sources of Supply

By **Tadd M. Barrow, Water Resource Specialist, and
John C. Holz, Research Assistant Professor**

Bottom barriers are sheets of synthetic or natural material anchored to the bottom of the lake to obstruct sunlight, which controls the growth of aquatic plants. There is a variety of “bottom barriers” or “screen” products available that aim to suppress aquatic plant growth by reducing or blocking light. Burlap is inexpensive and porous, but it is a natural fiber that decomposes and may lose its effectiveness within two years. Geotextile fabric products are superior to burlap or plastic sheet liners as they are rot-, tear-, and puncture-resistant, permeable enough to allow gas evacuation, and have a density greater than water. NebGuide G03-1529 has additional information on these materials and their proper use. Because users often have difficulty locating suppliers, below is a current list of suppliers that carry bottom barrier products.

Current Distributors of Bottom Barrier Geotextile Fabrics

NYP Corporation

805 East Grand St.
Elizabeth, NJ 07201
Phone: (800) 524-1052
FAX: (908) 351-0108
(Ask for a product called TAC-150)
<http://www.nyp-corp.com>

Aquatic Control Technology Corp.

11 John Road
Sutton, MA 01590
Phone: (508) 865-1000
FAX: (508) 865-1220
<http://aquaticcontrol.com>

Current Distributors of Burlap

Menards— Columbus, Fremont, Grand Island, Hastings, Kearney, Lincoln, Nebraska City, Norfolk, Omaha

Most local garden centers carry burlap in varying sizes.

Earl May Nursery & Garden Center— Beatrice, Columbus, Fremont, Grand Island, Hastings, Kearney, Lincoln, Norfolk, Nebraska City, North Platte, Omaha, McCook, York.

Campbell's Nurseries & Garden Centers Inc.

7000 S. 56th St.
Lincoln, NE 68516
Phone: (402) 423-1133

Mulhall's

3615 N. 120th St.
Omaha, NE 68164
Phone: (402) 496-0700

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C-2, Ponds and Streams

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