

The demand for carp in the State is far beyond our present ability to supply. This is not surprising when it is known that they grow from minnows to three and four pound fish in one summer. And this is not all. They do this without being artificially fed; and if it should for any reason become desirable to feed them, they will eat grain and vegetables freely. Names are daily added to the list of applications. It is a great pleasure to note this fact, but we beg all those who applied later than January 20 not to expect any fish before October or November, for it is impossible to supply them.

The board of agriculture, at the last meeting, favored the construction of suitable ponds for breeding the carp at home. Much care has been taken in the selection of a site for the ponds near Raleigh. We propose to build breeding ponds and hatch sufficient quantities annually to supply many ponds throughout the State.

From many sources I learn that dams have broken, and that the carp have escaped, and as a general thing the application is renewed. Now, it cannot be expected that we should furnish such ponds with another shipment the present season, until we have sent each applicant one lot. This we have to refuse, for we cannot get fully around the first time with the short stock at our command.

The dams should be packed down and built at least two feet above the level of the water, and as a rule, the waste water should be carried around one end of the dam, through the hillside.

No time should be lost during the present spring season to introduce water plants into the ponds containing the carp. For this purpose the water lilies and cresses are excellent, and in no case should the ponds be left unprovided.

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**SPAWNING OF CARP IN A SMALL BASIN AT BRENHAM, TEXAS.**

**By T. W. MORRISS.**

(Letter to Prof. S. F. Baird.)

Two years ago I procured of your department some carp. The largest are now about 2 feet long. This spring I constructed a small basin in my yard in which I placed five of them—a haphazard move, for I did not know the male from the female. About the 10th of this month I discovered a large number of young fish, which are now about 2 inches in length. My object in this arrangement is to hatch them in my small pools and, when large enough to take care of themselves, to place them in my ponds, of which I have four separated by dams. The ponds altogether are about 400 yards long, from 50 to 60 feet wide, and varying in depth from three to ten feet, with muddy bottom.

BRENHAM, TEX., *May 17, 1882.*