

Hozelock Aquaforce 8000 - Extra Wildlife Protection

A while ago I purchased the **Hozelock Aquaforce 8000** pond pump. It feeds a **FishMate 15000 Bio** pond filter (that's the model without the UV lamp).

Hozelock introduced a **Wildlife Protection System** into some of their products which is an excellent idea and one of the deciding factors for purchasing this type of pond pump.

You might ask, why do you need a pump in a wildlife pond? It's a compromise. I do like clear water and I'm not the most patient person on the planet. The creatures get their domain and I get the following benefits.

- A means to drain the pond quickly if such a necessity arises (hopefully never)
- Circulation of water and the removal of any pond contaminants
- Aeration of the pond
- A relaxing sound as the water returns to the pond

However, I need to be very careful that I don't end up harming the very creatures I want to use the pond.

Hozelock's Aquaforce 8000 pump has a **WPS** (Wildlife Protection System) which reduces the maximum solid intake to **2mm**. Without this protection cage the pump can take solids up to **10mm** which is too big for my peace of mind. Some may say even 2mm is too big but again, it's a compromise.

Whilst the plastic clamps on the pump do a good job of keeping the outer cage closed, I've come to realise that an extra precaution needs to be put in place.

If you look at the picture below, you can see I've used three **200mm x 2.5mm cable ties** to help ensure that the plastic clamps don't pop open when relocating the pump in the pond.



Another good precaution to stop creatures from being caught up in the pump is to use a **pond pump net**, as is shown below together with the Hozelock Aquaforce WPS cage.



Thanks for reading.

Updated: 2023-07-23