



Levington®

a guide to

feeding your plants

2014 edition



lovethegarden.com



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**For strong, healthy and beautiful plants,
just follow the hints and tips in our handy guide.**

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The need to feed your plants

The difference between sufficient food and not enough is obvious in people. Our body uses energy reserves, loses weight, becomes thin and usually we become very ill. Plants also need a balanced diet of nutrients in the soil to grow strong, healthy and perform to their full potential.

Garden compost and farmyard manure added to the soil will supply some plant nutrients, but the amounts are rarely sufficient for good plant growth. That's why you need to feed your plants.

Specially formulated plant foods are made from minerals that are naturally available in the soil. They supply the nourishment plants need, replacing the soil minerals or nutrients used by the plants or washed out of the soil by rainfall or watering. The main plant nutrients are **Nitrogen**, **Phosphorous** or **Phosphates** and **Potassium** or **Potash**. These are needed in relatively large amounts. Other nutrients, called micronutrients or trace elements, are like our vitamins and are needed in smaller but essential amounts.

Miracle-Gro plant food contains

- Nitrogen which makes sure your plants have healthy, lush, green leaves.
- Phosphate which makes sure you get strong roots.
- Potash which gives you more flowers and makes your plants more resistant to disease and drought.
- Micro-nutrients - Essential for all round plant health.

Grows plants twice as big...guaranteed!

Not fed vs Fed regularly with Miracle-Gro all purpose soluble plant food

UK Fertiliser Declaration

| EC FERTILISER | | NPK Fertiliser blend 24-8-16 with Micro-nutrients: | |
|---|-----------------|--|-------|
| Nitrogen (N) total | 24.0% | Boron (B) soluble in water | 0.02% |
| Ammoniacal nitrogen (N) | 3.5% | Copper (Cu) soluble in water | 0.03% |
| Ureic nitrogen (N) | 20.5% | Iron (Fe) soluble in water | 0.19% |
| Phosphorus (P) soluble in neutral ammonium citrate and in water | 8.0% (13.3% P) | Manganese (Mn) soluble in water | 0.05% |
| of which soluble in water | 8.0% (13.3% P) | Molybdenum (Mo) soluble in water | 0.00% |
| Potassium (K) soluble in water | 16.0% (13.3% K) | Zinc (Zn) soluble in water | 0.03% |

RoI Fertiliser Declaration

| EC FERTILISER | | NPK Fertiliser blend 24-3-5-13.3 with Micro-nutrients: | |
|---|-------|--|-------|
| Nitrogen (N) total | 24.0% | Boron (B) soluble in water | 0.02% |
| Ammoniacal nitrogen (N) | 3.5% | Copper (Cu) soluble in water | 0.03% |
| Ureic nitrogen (N) | 20.5% | Iron (Fe) soluble in water | 0.19% |
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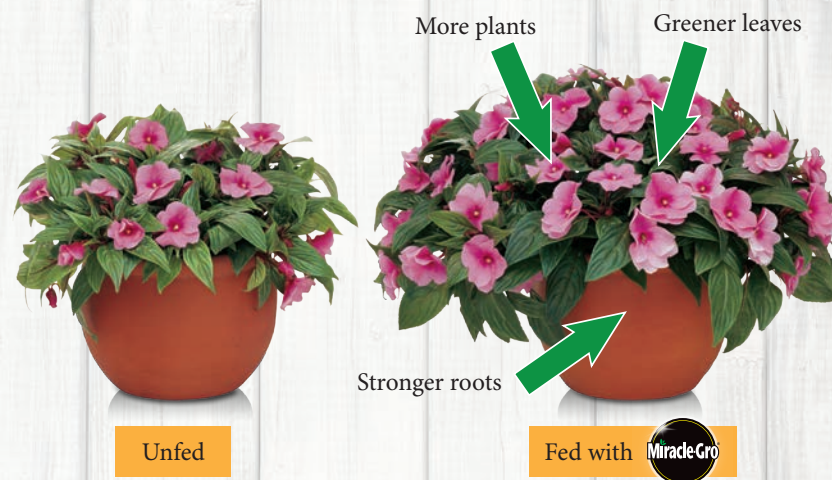
pH range for a good stability of chelated Micro-nutrients, until pH 6.5



These are listed as the NPK ratio on the feed container or box and show how much of each nutrient that plant food contains. This can be likened to the boxes found on our food, which show what vitamins, minerals, salt and fats are present in the food.



The difference feeding can make...



You may think that plants get everything they need to grow and flower from the air and soil around them. But when you start feeding you really notice the difference.

But not all the differences are visible. You will also get a stronger root system, which allows the plants to take up more water and nutrients and so grow, flower and fruit better and make them stronger to fight off pest and disease attacks.

If added into your normal gardening routine, feeding is a wonderful way of ensuring that your garden looks beautiful and healthy all year round. We have a range of feeds, which have been designed to suit all gardeners - from those who are short of time to those that enjoy spending time in their garden caring for their plants.

Personalise your plant feeding

There are different ways to feed your plants depending on what plants they are, where they're growing and how much time you have to spend on gardening.

Liquid feeds

These feeds are either liquids that need diluting in water before they're ready to use, or ready-to-use liquids that are pre-diluted. They give fast results as they start feeding immediately. However they are used up by the plants quite quickly, so they have to be applied regularly - usually every couple of weeks while the plants are growing during spring and summer.

It's easy to achieve, since you'll need to water your plants regularly during this time, and it's a simple matter to just add the feed to your watering can or use a hose-end dilutor, such as Miracle-Gro® LiquaFeed™ or the Miracle-Gro® Feeder.



Granular feeds

These feeds are applied dry and are simply sprinkled around the plants on the soil or compost. They start to work when the granules are broken down in the soil, so are slower to start working.

The main advantage of these plant foods is that they feed for longer, so you don't have to apply them so often; many will feed for up to 6 weeks! We recommend that you apply them at least a couple of times in the spring and summer to get the best from your plants.



Continuous-release feeds

Controlled-release or continuous-release feeds are really "smart feeds". They release their nutrients only when the conditions are right for plant growth and when the plants need them. They feed plants for up to 6 months, so one application in spring is usually all the plants need for the whole growing year!

They are also perfect for using in the planting hole, when planting out new plants because, as they release their nutrients slowly, they won't burn or damage the sensitive plant roots.

You can apply these feeds early in the year and they will only start working when temperatures get warmer and plants start growing - that's when the plants need the nutrients - so there's no wastage. They really are very intelligent!

So now you can relax and really enjoy your garden, safe in the knowledge that your little bit of extra care and attention will produce a glorious, colourful and productive garden to be proud of.

Balanced feeds and individual nutrients

Plants need a carefully balanced mix of nutrients to grow and perform perfectly and ensure a beautiful garden - see 'The need to feed your plants' on [page 02](#).



But sometimes they may need a specific nutrient, or nutrients, to encourage certain aspects of growth - such as more flowers or stronger roots - or for fixing certain problems, like leaf yellowing. In these situations you need a feed that only provides these nutrients. You can find out more about individual plant nutrients on **page 25**.

Special feeds

Most plants - especially summer-flowering plants - will grow and perform perfectly with an all purpose feed. Such feeds contain all the nutrients needed. But there are some plants that have such specific feeding needs that, although they will grow fine with an all purpose feed, they will do even better if fed with a feed that contains the right mix of nutrients. So we have produced a range of feeds especially for them.

Roses, shrubs and shrubby climbers, like clematis, honeysuckle and wisteria, grow and flower far more profusely when fed with a rose & shrub feed. See **page 15**.

Lime-hating or ericaceous plants have very specific soil and nutrient needs and will only perform to their full potential with a feed that conforms to these needs. If they lack the right nutrients you will see the leaves turning yellow and a lack of flowers. See **page 17**.

Tomatoes and other fruiting crops produce larger crops of better tasting fruit if fed with a high potash feed with added seaweed extract specifically formulated for them. See **page 21/22**.



The do's and don'ts of plant feeding



The do's

- ✔ Do start to feed plants as they start to grow – for most plants this is in early spring or when the temperatures start to warm up.
- ✔ Do continue to feed while they're growing throughout summer.
- ✔ Do feed as you water or just afterwards, as plant nutrients can only be absorbed when there is sufficient moisture in the soil or compost.
- ✔ Do choose a plant food that is right for your plants. Some plants need specific nutrients. See Feeding Shrubs and Roses & Acid-loving Plants on **pages 15, 16, 17 and 18.**
- ✔ Do choose a plant food that is right for you. If short of time for example, choose continuous release granules.
- ✔ Do feed with liquid feeds every 7-14 days for best results.
- ✔ Do continue to feed container plants even if the compost already contains plant food. Container plants are extra hungry and use up the feed quickly.
- ✔ Do enjoy feeding your plants - you will be amazed at the difference! You could do an experiment to see this difference. Grow some plants in a bed or two pots and feed and water half of them and just water the others. If you have children, this is a great way to involve them and they will love it! We'd love to see your results and we are confident that you will be pleased with the difference.

The don'ts

- ✘ Don't feed outdoor plants in late autumn or winter as this encourages soft growth that is prone to cold and frost damage.
- ✘ Don't overdo it! Adding a little extra feed 'for luck' won't encourage better growth and performance - and may have the opposite effect.
- ✘ Don't feed and water during hot, sunny weather as most of the water will evaporate and feed and water on the foliage may cause leaf scorch. The best time to do this is in the evening, which will give the plants time to absorb the feed and water, getting them ready for hot weather the following day.
- ✘ Don't forget about your houseplants - they need feeding just as much as your outdoor plants.
- ✘ Don't use a watering can that was previously used for weedkillers - use a specific watering can for watering and feeding and another for weedkillers.
- ✘ Don't think that feeding is unnecessary - it really does make a difference to your plants. And they will show their appreciation by looking wonderful!
- ✘ Don't see feeding as a chore - use a plant feed that suits you and your lifestyle. See **page 04.**





Feeding beds and borders

Why you need to feed beds and borders

Whether you're creating a new bed or border, or maintaining an existing one, good feeding and, where necessary, regular watering will work wonders. It will help produce stronger, healthy plants with luscious foliage, abundant flowers and spectacular displays.

TOP TIP 1

Start the growing season as you mean to go on by giving all your plants a well-deserved feed as they come into growth in spring or when the temperatures start to warm up.

TOP TIP 2

Mixed beds and borders, especially those with lots of annual and perennials flowering plants can be fed with an all-purpose feed. Shrub borders and rose beds should be given a feed specific for them.

TOP TIP 3

Come late autumn, your plants will stop growing and will need a well-deserved rest, so stop feeding until they start again in spring.



Feeding pots and hanging baskets

Why you need to feed pots, containers and hanging baskets

Pots, containers and hanging baskets are the mainstay of many gardens and patios, adding colour to your outside space. As the roots are restricted to the container and can't spread to find nutrients, they need you to tend to them to ensure they produce fabulous displays. With so many plants in a small amount of compost they are prone to drying out and use a lot of nutrients, so need diligent watering and careful, regular feeding.

TOP TIP 1

If your compost does not contain plant food, start feeding a week after planting up the container or basket and feed every week with a liquid feed until flowering has stopped. If you tend to forget to feed your plants, simply push Miracle-Gro® All Purpose Continuous Release Plant Food Tablets into the compost for all season feeding.

TOP TIP 2

Remember to water your pots and hanging baskets frequently, particularly in hot weather. To prevent them drying out between watering, use Miracle-Gro® Moisture Control™ Pots and Basket Gel, which acts as a reservoir and helps retain water, ideal for when you go on holiday.

TOP TIP 3

Feeding is essential for best results. Miracle-Gro® composts already contain plant food and most will feed for up to 6 weeks after planting up (although some will feed for longer), so you need to start applying additional feed after 6 weeks.

All purpose liquid feeds

All purpose feeds for beds, borders, containers and hanging baskets.

Miracle-Gro® All Purpose Soluble Plant Food

Formulated to help plants grow twice as big, Miracle-Gro® All Purpose Soluble Plant Food contains the perfect mix of nutrients to ensure healthy growth and an abundance of beautiful blooms. Easy application - use every 2 weeks for stunning results that will last all season.



Miracle-Gro® All Purpose Concentrated Liquid Plant Food

This will feed plants in pots, containers and hanging baskets, as well as beds and borders, giving bigger, lusher plants with noticeably more blooms. Simply mix with water in a watering can. For maximum effect wet leaves as well as root area.



Miracle-Gro® LiquaFeed™ All Purpose Plant Food Starter Kit

The ultimate in convenience by feeding and watering at the same time; automatically mixes the right amount of plant food and water so that you don't have to. Simply attach the feeder to your hose, click in a bottle of the pre-mixed plant food and spray. Feeding a standard sized garden takes just 20 minutes.



All purpose granular feeds

Miracle-Gro® Growmore Garden Plant Food

A balanced mix of nutrients for all plants and is ideal for top dressing the lawn. Nitrogen encourages strong growth and healthy strong green leaves for up to 4 weeks. Phosphate promotes vigorous root growth. Potassium promotes flower production and improves ripening of fruit and vegetables.



Miracle-Gro® Bone Meal Root Builder

A slow-release, long-lasting plant food and natural root builder. Phosphate promotes vigorous root growth and helps establish new plants quickly. Nitrogen encourages strong growth and healthy, lush green foliage. Organic matter naturally encourages micro-organisms to improve the soil fertility and structure.



Miracle-Gro® Fish, Blood & Bone Natural Plant Food

All purpose plant food that boosts soil fertility and promotes healthy growth. Contains readily available nitrogen with organic nitrogen that slowly and steadily releases for up to 8 weeks, encourages strong growth and healthy rich green foliage. Phosphate slowly and steadily releases to promote vigorous root growth. Potassium enhances plant health and flower and fruit production.



All purpose granular feeds

Miracle-Gro® Chicken Manure Soil Enricher

Chicken Manure releases nutrients to improve the soil and is a good all purpose food for use with most plants. Nitrogen quickly encourages strong growth and healthy, rich green foliage and continues to feed for up to 6 weeks. Phosphate slowly and steadily releases to promote vigorous root growth. Potassium enhances plant health and flower and fruit production.



All purpose continuous feeds

Miracle-Gro® All Purpose Continuous Release Plant Food

This is the once a year plant food! Simply sprinkle the granules around the plants' root area in early spring and they will benefit from slowly released nutrients every day for up to 6 months. Can also be used in the planting hole when planting out any new plants. Feeds exactly when your plants need it with no fuss!



Miracle-Gro® Moisture Control™ Pots & Baskets Gel

Water storing crystals that absorb and release water when plants need it, reducing the need for watering. Works all season, ideal for pots, tubs and hanging baskets.



Feeds for shrubs, rose and climbing plants

Miracle-Gro® Rose & Shrub Plant Food

Rich in all the essential nutrients, this feed will help your roses to grow bigger and stronger and produce even more flowers. Contains added magnesium, which promotes healthy leaf growth. For best results, feed twice a year - after the first pruning in early spring and then again in early summer to encourage further flushes of flowers.



Miracle-Gro® Rose & Shrub Continuous Release Plant Food

Roses are hungry plants and need a lot of nutrients to perform and flower well each year. The easy way to feed them is to use this handy 'shaker jar'. Simply sprinkle around the plants' root area at the start of each growing season or in the hole at planting time. One application will provide all the nutrients needed and feeds for up to 6 months.



Feeding acid-loving plants

Why acid-loving plants are different

Acid-loving plants (also called lime-hating or ericaceous plants), such as rhododendrons, camellias and azaleas, need special care as they have quite specific feeding requirements - needing several micronutrients or trace elements. So they have to be fed with an ericaceous plant food.

Also they don't like hard (limy) water or alkaline, chalky soil. If your soil is very alkaline, you will have to grow them in containers filled with ericaceous compost. If the soil isn't too alkaline, you can increase the acidity by using Miracle-Gro® Sulphate of Iron Ericaceous Plant Food, which also supplies iron to improve the leaf colour.

Or you could try growing them in the ground by lining the planting hole with a well pierced polythene sheet, which will prevent lime leaching in from the surrounding soil and fill with Miracle-Gro® Azalea, Camellia & Rhododendron Enriched Compost.

TOP TIP 1

When buying plants, check the care label to see what type of conditions they prefer. If they are acid-loving you'll need to make sure you have the right plant feeds and compost. Miracle-Gro® ericaceous plant feeds and composts have pink labels and packaging for easy identification.

TOP TIP 2

Watch out for yellowing of the leaves. This indicates a nutrient deficiency, and you will need to feed with a suitable ericaceous feed; see below and the following page.

TOP TIP 3

It's not only ornamental plants that are acid-loving. Raspberries and blueberries, for example, are both acid-loving fruits.

Acid-loving plant feeds

Miracle-Gro® Azalea, Camellia & Rhododendron Liquid Plant Food

Perfect for acid-loving plants, this Miracle-Gro® liquid plant food ensures plants flourish and guarantees to grow twice as big! This fast-acting tonic gives unhealthy plants an extra boost and it also prevents yellowing leaves caused by a lack of iron.



Miracle-Gro® Azalea, Camellia & Rhododendron Soluble Plant Food

This specially formulated plant food is just what acid-loving or lime-hating plants need for healthy growth. And here comes the science bit... it contains sequestered iron which is easy for ericaceous plants to take up even in alkaline soil and is essential to prevent leaf yellowing.



Acid-loving plant feeds

Miracle-Gro® Azalea, Camellia & Rhododendron Continuous Release Plant Food



This easy to use 'shaker jar' is the simple way to feed your ericaceous plants for 6 months from one application! Sprinkle the granules around the plants' root area at the start of the growing season - no need to water in. Can also be used in the hole at planting time. It contains all the nutrients acid-loving plants need.

Miracle-Gro® Sulphate of Iron Ericaceous Plant Food



Ideal for ericaceous (acid loving/lime hating) plants such as Rhododendron, Azalea, Camellia, Heather, Pieris, Hydrangeas, Roses, Blueberries and Acers. Helps make soil nutrients available to plants allowing them to take up the nutrients they need. Prevents and cures leaf yellowing caused by iron deficiency.



Feeding fruit, vegetables and herbs

Why you need to feed fruit and vegetable plants

There's no secret to really tasty home-grown fruit and vegetables - the answer is in the feed you give them. Left unfed your plants will also be more prone to pests and diseases, produce fewer crops and won't have the same mouth-watering flavour. By feeding your plants you're providing the ideal blend of nutrients to help grow strong roots, healthy plants and bountiful crops.

TOP TIP 1

For best results and bumper crops, apply a suitable plant food to the soil about two weeks before sowing or planting out any crops.

TOP TIP 2

If you are growing in raised beds or containers, take extra care to give plants all the food they need, as they are reliant on you for all their nutrient needs.

TOP TIP 3

Tomatoes and other fruiting crops are especially needy plants. Check daily to ensure they have enough water and feed once a week with Levington® Tomorite® for bumper, tasty crops.

Fruit, vegetable and herb feeds

Miracle-Gro® Gro Your Own Vegetable & Fruit Concentrated Liquid Plant Food

Fruit and vegetables really benefit from a weekly liquid feed - especially tomatoes and strawberries. This concentrated liquid is ideal, as it allows you to do those regular feeds 100% organically. Simply use the measuring cap supplied to mix the right amount of food into your watering can.



Miracle-Gro® Gro Your Own Vegetable & Fruit Plant Food

This granular plant food will ensure plants produce more fruit and vegetables completely organically. Made from 100% naturally occurring materials, specially formulated to improve soil fertility and provide the right balance of nutrients for delicious tasting crops. Simply sprinkle around the base of plants to feed for up to 8 weeks.



Levington® Tomorite®

Tomatoes and all fruiting crops really appreciate a high potash feed. Tomorite® is ideal as it contains the potash needed as well as seaweed extract, which supplies micronutrients, essential for maximum growth and better crops. This feed is especially good for plants growing in grow bags, planters or pots, producing top quality, full flavoured tomatoes.



Fruit, vegetable and herb feeds

Levington® Tomorite® Pour & Feed™

Tomorite® is the perfect feed for tomatoes and all fruiting crops and this easy to use feed is ready mixed for maximum convenience. Tomorite® Pour & Feed™ can simply be poured onto the compost and one 3 little bottle is enough to feed a Levington® Tomorite® Giant Planter for a whole season!



Miracle-Gro® Bone Meal Root Builder

A slow-release, long-lasting plant food and natural root builder. Phosphate promotes vigorous root growth and helps establish new plants quickly. Nitrogen encourages strong growth and healthy, lush green foliage. Organic matter naturally encourages micro-organisms to improve the soil fertility and structure.



Miracle-Gro® Chicken Manure Soil Enricher

Chicken Manure releases nutrients to improve the soil and is a good all purpose food for use with most plants. Nitrogen quickly encourages strong growth and healthy, rich green foliage and continues to feed for up to 6 weeks. Phosphate slowly and steadily releases to promote vigorous root growth. Potassium enhances plant health and flower and fruit production.



Fruit, vegetable and herb feeds

Miracle-Gro® Growmore Garden Plant Food

A balanced mix of nutrients for all plants. Nitrogen encourages strong growth and healthy strong green leaves for up to 4 weeks. Phosphate promotes vigorous root growth. Potassium promotes flower production and improves ripening of fruit and vegetables.



Miracle-Gro® Fish, Blood & Bone Natural Plant Food

All purpose plant food that boosts soil fertility and promotes healthy growth. Contains readily available nitrogen with organic nitrogen that slowly and steadily releases for up to 8 weeks, encourages strong growth and healthy rich green foliage. Phosphate slowly and steadily releases to promote vigorous root growth. Potassium enhances plant health and flower and fruit production.



Miracle-Gro® Magnesium Salts Natural source of Epsom Salts

A natural source of Epsom Salts (magnesium). It is ideal for tomatoes, lettuce and brassicas. Contains 50% more magnesium than Epsom salts, providing longer-lasting action. Cures magnesium deficiency common in tomatoes.



Fruit, vegetable and herb feeds

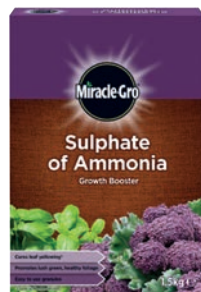
Miracle-Gro® Superphosphate Fruit & Vegetable Ripener

Encourages plants to establish quickly, especially when planting out fruit trees, shrubs or vegetables. Also helps plants benefit from other nutrients, such as nitrogen and potassium, so use this feed in combination with organic material or other complete fertilisers for fabulous all round results.



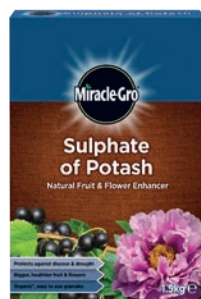
Miracle-Gro® Sulphate of Ammonia Vegetable Food

A quick acting source of nitrogen. This growth booster can be used all around the garden on all plants to promote strong, healthy, green leaves. It helps cure leaf yellowing. Especially good for leafy green vegetables.



Miracle-Gro® Sulphate of Potash Fruit & Flower Enhancer

Ideal for all flowering and fruiting plants, especially shrubs, climbers and roses. A fast-acting source of potassium. Also improves health and vigour as well as improving resistance to disease, drought and cold weather. Improves colour and quality of yield.



Single plant nutrients

Miracle-Gro® Lime Natural Soil Improver

Lime is a fast-acting soil improver that also reduces acidity and increases alkalinity in soils. An important source of calcium, which ensures strong growth and fruit and leaf quality. Helps break down heavy clay soil, improving structure and quality. Helps prevent brassica clubroot disease, tomato blossom end rot and apple bitter pit.



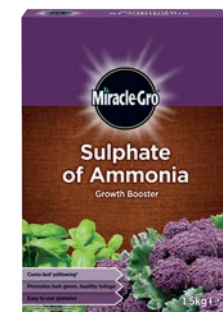
Miracle-Gro® Magnesium Salts Natural source of Epsom Salts

A natural source of Epsom Salts (magnesium). It is ideal for tomatoes, lettuce and brassicas. Contains 50% more magnesium than Epsom salts, providing longer lasting action. Cures magnesium deficiency common in tomatoes.



Miracle-Gro® Sulphate of Ammonia Growth Booster

A quick acting source of nitrogen. This growth booster can be used all around the garden on all plants to promote strong, healthy, green leaves. It helps cure leaf yellowing. Especially good for leafy green vegetables.



Single plant nutrients

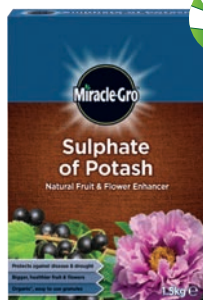
Miracle-Gro® Sulphate of Iron Ericaceous Soil Conditioner

Ideal for ericaceous (acid-loving/lime-hating) plants, such as rhododendrons, azaleas, camellias, heathers, pieris and hydrangeas, roses, acers, blueberries and raspberries. Lowers soil alkalinity and helps make other nutrients readily available to plants. Prevents and cures leaf yellowing caused by iron deficiency.



Miracle-Gro® Sulphate of Potash Natural Fruit & Flower Enhancer

Ideal for all flowering and fruiting plants, especially shrubs, climbers and roses. A fast acting source of potassium. Also improves health and vigour as well as improving resistance to disease, drought and cold weather. Improves colour and quality of yield.



Miracle-Gro® Superphosphate Fruit & Vegetable Ripener

Encourages plants to establish quickly, especially when planting out fruit trees, shrubs or vegetables. Also helps plants benefit from other nutrients, such as nitrogen and potassium, so use this feed in combination with organic material or other complete fertilisers for fabulous all round results.





Feeding naturally

Why feed?

If you're growing your plants more naturally, you still need to feed them to help them grow big, strong and healthy. This is especially true if you are growing your own fruit and vegetables - added naturally-occurring ingredients will ensure you'll have stronger, healthier plants and tastier, more plentiful crops throughout the year.

TOP TIP 1

It doesn't have to be just fruit and vegetables. You can feed all your plants in beds, borders, pots and containers naturally.

TOP TIP 2

Just because it's all 'natural' it doesn't mean 'the more the better'. You can still overfeed with natural products, so read the instructions carefully.

TOP TIP 3

Bulky organic matter, such as well-rotted manure and garden compost, improve the soil structure, but actually contain very few plant nutrients. So it is important to top these up to get the best results. We recommend that you complement them with natural feeds for best results.

Natural feeds

Miracle-Gro® Bone Meal Natural Root Builder



A slow-release, long-lasting plant food and natural root builder. Phosphate promotes vigorous root growth and helps establish new plants quickly. Nitrogen encourages strong growth and healthy, lush green foliage. Organic matter naturally encourages micro-organisms to improve the soil fertility and structure.



Miracle-Gro® Compost Maker



Use to make rich, dark nutrient rich compost by recycling garden and kitchen plant waste materials. Nitrogen rich, to stimulate bacteria growth, in turn speeds up the composting process. Use on all garden waste and vegetable kitchen waste, including egg shells. Helps produce a nutrient rich compost.



Miracle-Gro® Fish, Blood & Bone All Purpose Plant Food



All purpose plant food that boosts soil fertility and promotes healthy growth. Contains readily available nitrogen with organic nitrogen that slowly and steadily releases for up to 8 weeks, encourages strong growth and healthy rich green foliage. Phosphate slowly and steadily releases to promote vigorous root growth. Potassium enhances plant health and flower and fruit production.



Natural feeds

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Miracle-Gro® Lime Soil Improver

Lime is a fast-acting soil improver that also reduces acidity and increases alkalinity in soils. An important source of calcium, which ensures strong growth and fruit and leaf quality. Helps break down heavy clay soil, improving structure and quality. Helps prevent brassica clubroot disease, tomato blossom end rot and apple bitter pit.



Miracle-Gro® Organic Choice™ All Purpose Plant Food

This plant food is guaranteed to give more blooms and more vegetables... organically! It's made from 100% naturally occurring materials and is 100% chemical free. Just sprinkle round the base of plants and water in.



Natural feeds

Miracle-Gro® Gro Your Own Vegetable & Fruit Concentrated Liquid Plant Food

Fruit and vegetables really benefit from a weekly liquid feed - especially tomatoes and strawberries. This concentrated liquid is ideal, as it allows you to do those regular feeds 100% organically. Simply use the measuring cap supplied to mix the right amount of food into your watering can.



Miracle-Gro® Gro Your Own Vegetable & Fruit Plant Food

This granular plant food will ensure plants produce more fruit and vegetables completely organically. Made from 100% naturally occurring materials, specially formulated to improve soil fertility and provide the right balance of nutrients for delicious tasting crops. Simply sprinkle around the base of plants to feed for up to 8 weeks.



Feeding houseplants

Why you need to feed houseplants

You don't need green fingers or have special equipment to have thriving houseplants - a little loving care is all that's needed. You need to water them regularly as and when they need it and feed them when they're growing in spring and summer. It sounds simple really - and it is!

If you check your plants, you'll soon realise that different plants have different needs and you'll begin to learn when more water is required. We have a range of feeds suitable for houseplants - from soluble ones, including pre-diluted, that are simply watered onto the compost, to continuous release that feed for up to 6 months from one application.

TOP TIP 1

Feed regularly (every 10 days or so with a liquid feed) when the plant is actively growing in spring and summer or when flowering, but give a resting period in winter by reducing watering and stop feeding.

TOP TIP 2

Don't let your plants stand in water - pour out any excess to prevent the roots rotting and taking up too much food and potentially being damaged.

TOP TIP 3

If you've just potted up your plants, check if the compost contains plant food. If it does you won't need to feed straight away, but you will need to start feeding after 6 weeks.

Houseplant feeds

Miracle-Gro® Pour & Feed™ Ready to Use Plant Food

A ready-diluted plant food that can be poured directly onto the compost of all established houseplants. For bigger, more vibrant plants and beautiful blooms simply apply a capful every couple of weeks and water in.



Miracle-Gro® All Purpose Soluble Plant Food

Formulated to help plants grow twice as big, Miracle-Gro® All Purpose Soluble Plant Food contains the perfect mix of nutrients to ensure healthy growth and an abundance of beautiful blooms. Easy application - use every 2 weeks for stunning results that will last all season.



Miracle-Gro® All Purpose Concentrated Liquid Plant Food

Simply dilute with water in a watering can and use it to feed all your houseplants. For better, more vibrant plants and beautiful blooms simply use every 2 weeks from spring to autumn.



Houseplant feeds

Miracle-Gro® All Purpose Continuous Release Plant Food

This is the once a year plant food! Simply sprinkle the granules on the surface of the compost in early spring – there's no need to work them in. Your plants will benefit from slowly released nutrients every day for up to 6 months. Feeds exactly when your plants need it with no fuss!



Miracle-Gro® All Purpose Continuous Release Plant Food Tablets

A truly 'smart' plant food, these special granules release a steady amount of food only when your plants are growing. The nutrients are slowly released, when your plants need them, every day for up to 6 months. Apply once a year and never worry about under or over feeding.



Plant Feeding FAQs

Q When is the best time to feed my garden?

A Plants need feeding just before they start to grow, and while they are actively growing. For most plants this is in spring, when new growth is being produced, and during summer. Don't feed outdoor plants in late autumn or winter as excessive nitrogen may encourage growth that is more prone to frost damage or the unused nutrients will build up and damage the roots.

Q There are several different formulations of feeds, which one should I use?

A It all depends on your personal preferences and time available. Continuous release feeds are great if you have little time as they feed for up to 6 months, so you can feed and forget about them. If you prefer feeding regularly as you water, then use a liquid feed every 7-14 days, ideally in the evening or early morning, avoiding watering during the midday sun as you'll lose a lot of the water to evaporation and risk scorching the leaves.

Q Should I water before I feed, and is it possible to give my plants too much food?

A Roots can only absorb plant food when there is sufficient moisture in the soil or compost - if it is dry, you need to water before feeding. Applying the right amount of feed is important in order to achieve the best results. Overdosing is not only wasteful, but could harm your plants. Always make sure you read the on-pack instructions to use the right amount of plant food.

Q What's the advantage of using a continuous-release plant food over a soluble one?

A Both methods are effective, and it really comes down to your personal preference. One application of a continuous-release plant food will feed your plants for up to 6 months, releasing nutrients depending on

moisture content and soil temperature (the warmer the soil, the more nutrients are released). Alternatively, you can feed and water every fortnight with soluble food or a liquid concentrate. This is particularly beneficial if you are growing lots of flowering bedding plants that need regular watering and feeding to thrive.

Q I have bought composts that contain plant food that lasts for 3 or 6 months. Do I still need to feed?

A Yes you do, especially as plants growing in containers tend to become cramped in a small space and use up the food quicker. If the leaves or your plants begin to turn pale or their performance is reduced, then this is an indication that they need more food and it's time to start feeding.

Q Will I get better results if I use a continuous-release plant food when planting out?

A Yes you will. One of the advantages of continuous-release plant foods is that they can be used directly in the planting hole at planting time. There is a difference between continuous release and slow release feeds, although most people think they are the same.

Unlike slow-release feeds, the nutrient release won't burn or damage the roots. Close placement next to the roots is far better for the plants, as it ensures the nutrients are immediately ready for the roots to use, and ensures they are used efficiently with minimal wastage. This leads to fast establishment and better quality plants.

Q Can I use all of your plant feeds on edible crops?

A Yes, but in order to ensure your fruit and veg obtain the correct balance of nutrients, we always recommend using a plant food specifically formulated for this purpose.

Q How can I tell the pH of my soil?

A The best way is to buy yourself either a soil pH testing kit or a soil pH meter. Or you can see what plants are growing in your neighbours' gardens. If rhododendrons, azaleas, camellias, pieris and other acid-loving/lime-hating plants are growing well, then it's fairly safe to

Plant Feeding FAQs

assume your soil is acidic. Another indication is the flower colour of hydrangeas; if they're pink, then the soil is alkaline, if they're blue, then it is acidic.

Q What is the shelf life of plant feeds?

A Plant feeds will remain stable for a number of years if kept in dry and frost-free conditions out of direct sunlight.

Q My garden has been very wet in the winter and parts have been flooded. What can I do to help it recover?

A Few garden plants, apart from willows and those that naturally grow in water, can survive prolonged periods of waterlogging or flooding. The water replaces the air in the soil and as roots need air to breathe, they literally drown, start to rot and die. As soon as plants come into growth in spring, apply foliar feeds of **Miracle-Gro® All Purpose Soluble Plant Food** to encourage new root, leaf and stem growth. Feed with **Miracle-Gro® Continuous Release Plant Foods** to continuously release nutrients into the soil over several months to help build up the strength of plants.



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