

A BOOSTER FERTILIZER... for mid season

THE NITROGEN-PHOSPHORUS-POTASH MIXTURE IS THE MAIN FERTILIZER TO USE BEFORE PLANTING. YOU WILL ALSO NEED A HIGH NITROGEN BOOSTER FERTILIZER IN MID SEASON.



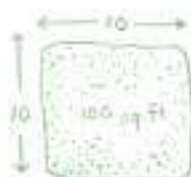
ABOUT THE 4TH OF JULY



OR



FOR



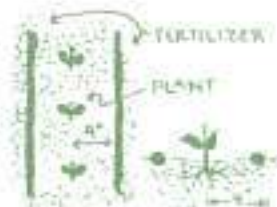
APPLY
 $\frac{1}{3}$ LB = $\frac{3}{4}$ CUP
AMMONIUM NITRATE
(33-0-0)

OR
 $\frac{1}{4}$ LB = $\frac{1}{2}$ CUP
UREA (46-0-0)

FOR EACH
100 SQUARE
FEET OF SOIL

THE "PUT-ON"

AMMONIUM NITRATE AND UREA ARE STRONG FERTILIZERS AND MAY BURN THE PLANTS. TO PREVENT BURNING, PLACE THE FERTILIZER IN A STRIP OR RING ABOUT 4" FROM THE PLANT.



STRIP



RING

ORGANIC MATTER

YOU CAN MAKE COMPOST BY COLLECTING LEAVES, STRAW, GRASS CLIPPINGS, VEGETABLE PEELINGS AND ANIMAL DROPPINGS IN A PILE. ALTERNATE LAYERS OF COMPOST WITH LAYERS OF FERTILIZER (ABOUT 3 CUPS FOR EACH BUSHEL OF COMPOST). WHEN THE ORGANIC MATTER (COMPOST) HAS DECOMPOSED, SPREAD A TWO-INCH LAYER OVER THE GARDEN. ORGANIC MATTER IS GOOD FOR THE SOIL. IT HELPS DRY SANDY SOILS TO HOLD WATER LONGER - THE VEGETABLES WON'T GET SO THIRSTY. HARD WET CLAY SOIL IS LOOSENED UP BY OM SO THE VEGETABLES WON'T DROWN.

NATURE'S GARBAGE DISPOSAL



Keep the pile moist



Compost pile showing layers of organic matter and fertilizer



KEYS TO SUCCESS

START EARLY, BUY RECOMMENDED VARIETIES AND USE FERTILIZER.

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1P 1.75 30M-UP

Family
**Vegetable
Garden**
Series

EXTENSION BULLETIN E-824(2)

START
WITH

SOIL

by nancy e. smith and j. lee taylor
DEPT. OF HORTICULTURE

SOIL...

SOIL IS ALIVE!

IT IS A SPECIAL MIXTURE OF MINERALS, DECAYING LEAVES, PLANT STALKS, ANIMAL WASTES, AIR, WATER AND MANY VERY TINY LIVING PLANTS AND ANIMALS. SOIL GIVES YOUR VEGETABLES THE NUTRIENTS AND WATER THEY NEED TO GROW.

YOU CAN HELP THE SOIL. SPADE OR TILL IT TO LOOSEN IT UP SO WATER CAN SEEP IN. KEEP THE SOIL LOOSE AND HEALTHY BY ADDING SOME ORGANIC MATTER. MOST SOILS DO NOT HAVE ENOUGH NUTRIENTS TO GROW LOTS OF REALLY GOOD VEGETABLES. SO, IT IS IMPORTANT TO USE FERTILIZER.

TOOLS YOU WILL NEED

NEW TOOLS ARE NOT NECESSARY. YOU CAN PICK UP OLD ONES CHEAPLY AT A GARAGE SALE OR AUCTION. BUY TOOLS TO FIT YOUR SIZE. A SMALL MAN OR WOMAN CAN DO MORE WORK AND BE LESS TIRED IF THEY USE SMALL TOOLS. HAND TOOLS LAST LONGER IF YOU CLEAN THEM AFTER USE AND OIL THEM LIGHTLY AT THE END OF THE SEASON. YOU MAY RENT A ROTOTILLER, OR SHARE THE COST OF ONE WITH A NEIGHBOR. BE SURE TO TILL TO A DEPTH OF 8" THIS MEANS YOU MUST GO SLOW.

ROTOTILLER: NOT NECESSARY
BUT A REAL WORK-
SAVER.



HOE

SPADING
FORK
OR
SPADE

METAL RAKE

HAND TROWEL



FERTILIZERS

FERTILIZERS OR PLANT FOOD SUPPLY VEGETABLES WITH THE THREE MOST IMPORTANT NUTRIENTS: NITROGEN, PHOSPHORUS AND POTASH. THE LABEL TELLS HOW MUCH OF EACH NUTRIENT IS IN THE FERTILIZER.

WHAT THE LABEL MEANS

FERTILIZER SALE

Frankly, I don't know what the numbers mean unless its the odds on the weeds winning!

THE 3 NUMBERS STAND FOR THE
% NITROGEN
% PHOSPHORUS
% POTASH
IN THE FERTILIZER.

1ST: NITROGEN 5% — 2ND: PHOSPHORUS 20% — 3RD: POTASH 20%

NITROGEN MAKES LEAVES GROW.

PHOSPHORUS MAKES FRUITS AND FLOWERS GROW.

POTASH MAKES ROOTS GROW.

SPREADING FERTILIZERS

MEASURE OUT THE CORRECT AMOUNT AND SPREAD THE FERTILIZER EVENLY OVER THE GROUND. YOU CAN TOSS IT FROM THE PAIL BY HAND OR USE A SPREADER.

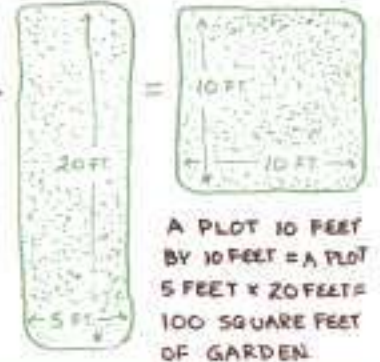


HOW MUCH TO USE:

USE 2 LBS 5-20-20 FOR EVERY 100 SQUARE FEET
OR 3 LBS 8-16-16
OR 4 LBS 5-10-5

ADD THE CORRECT AMOUNT TOO MUCH WILL KILL THE PLANTS.

2 CUPS = 1 LB.
4 CUPS = 2 LBS OF FERTILIZER



PREPARE THE SOIL

FIRST: CLEAR THE GARDEN OF CANS, STICKS, ROCKS AND ANY OTHER TRASH.



NEXT: PICK UP A HANDFUL OF SOIL. SQUEEZE IT. IF THE SOIL FALLS OUT IN PIECES, IT IS DRY ENOUGH TO DIG. IF IT STAYS IN A MUD BALL, IT IS TOO WET. TRY AGAIN TOMORROW.



WHEN THE SOIL IS DRY ENOUGH: SPREAD 1/2 THE FERTILIZER AND ORGANIC MATTER OVER THE GARDEN SURFACE THEN,

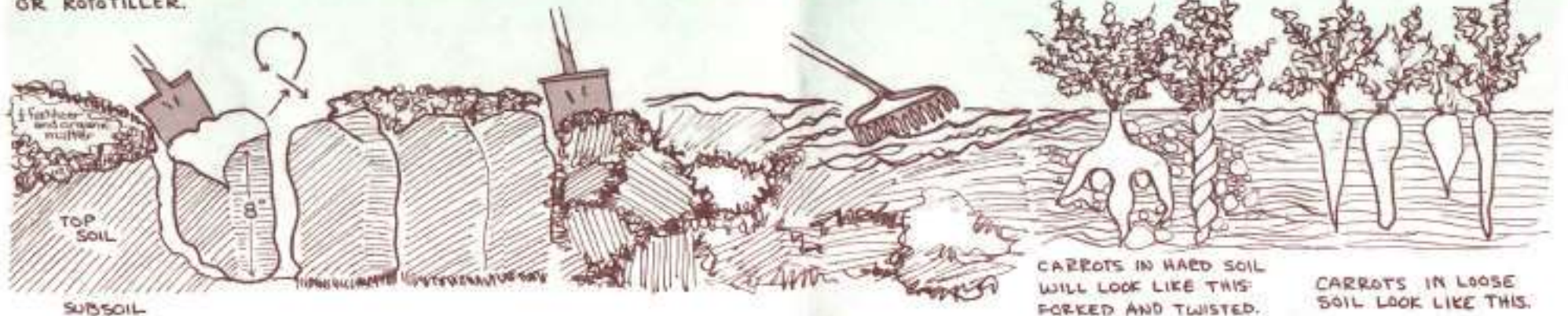
DIG IN

1. TURN OVER THE SOIL TO A DEPTH OF 8". USE A SPADE OR ROTOTILLER.

2. APPLY OTHER HALF OF THE FERTILIZER AND ORGANIC MATTER.

3. WORK THESE INTO THE SOIL AND RAKE UNTIL SMOOTH AND FREE OF LARGE STONES

4. CONTINUE RAKING INTO THE SOIL UNTIL IT IS SMOOTH AND READY FOR PLANTING.



CARROTS IN HARD SOIL WILL LOOK LIKE THIS: FORKED AND TWISTED.

CARROTS IN LOOSE SOIL LOOK LIKE THIS.