

## Soil Amendment Guidelines

Garden plots shall be maintained pest, weed and disease-free. Synthetic fertilizers and pesticides are prohibited, and efforts to maintain the garden plot should be in accordance with organic standards. These standards will be communicated and monitored by the Management Team. Use of all inputs, whether soil amendments, fertilizers or pesticides must be communicated to and approved by the Soil Manager.

If wanting to purchase fertilizers, perform a soil test and seek a reputable fertilizer recommendation. Use only OMRI\* listed fertilizers and fertilize carefully. See below list for A (Acceptable) and NA (Not Acceptable) amendments.

A/NA	Fertilizer	DE	OE	PV	SD	SF	SS	WO	Notes
A	Alfalfa Meal	X		X		X	X	X	Down to Earth is OMRI
NA	Blood Meal	Not recommended because of the possibility of Mad Cow Disease							
NA	Bone Meal	Not recommended because of the possibility of Mad Cow Disease							
A	Borax			X	X	X			Only add what is needed.
A	Copper Sulfate			X	X				
NA	Cottonseed Meal	-	-	-		-	-	-	Hard to find organic
A	Crab Meal Fines			X				X	Reported effective against symphylans
A	Feather Meal			X					
NA	Fish Meal	X		X		X	X	X	Some may contain heavy metals
A	Granite Meal								
A	Greensand	X	X	X		X	X		
A	Gypsum		X	X	X	X	X	X	(Calcium sulfate) Use if recommended
NA	Hoof/Horn Meal	Not recommended because of the possibility of Mad Cow Disease							
A	Ferrous Sulfate			X	X				(Iron sulfate)
A	Kelp Meal	X	X	X		X	X	X	Use only cold-water kelp
A	Lime, Dolomitic		X	X			X		Don't use if soil is good in magnesium
A	Lime, Hi-Cal		X			X	X	X	Agricultural lime, 97% calcium carb.
A	Magnesium Sulf.			X			X		
A	Manganese Sulf.			X	X				
A	Oyster Shell	X		X			X		May accumulate lead
A	Phosphate Rock	X	X	X		X	X		Also called soft phosphate
A	Potassium Sulf.		X	X	X	X	X		
A	Sulfur, Mined		X	X		X			"By-product" sulfur not desirable
A	Zinc Chelate						X		
A	Zinc Sulfate			X	X				

## **Sources for soil amendments**

DE: Down to Earth Distributors, P.O. Box 1419, Eugene OR 97440. Phone (800) 234-5932  
*Wholesale only, ask your nursery to contact them.* <https://www.downtoearthdistributors.com>

OE: Ohio Earth Food, Inc. 5488 Swamp Street, N.E. Hartville OH 44632. Phone (330) 877-9356  
<https://ohioearthfood.com>

PV: Peaceful Valley Farm Supply, P.O. Box 2209, Grass Valley CA 95945. Phone (888)  
784-1722. [www.groworganic.com](http://www.groworganic.com)

SD: Sandalwood Distributing, 39648 Old Spring Road, Murrieta CA 92563. Phone (951)  
651-7510. *Sells small quantities.*

SF: Seven Springs Farm, 426 Jerry Lane, N.E, Check VA 24072. Phone (540) 677-3228. *Sells some things in smaller quantities.* [www.7springsfarm.com](http://www.7springsfarm.com).

SS: Sparetime Supply, 208 E. San Francisco St., Willits CA 95490. Phone (707) 459-3576.  
<https://www.sparetimesupply.com/>

WO: Walt's Organic Fertilizer Company, P.O. Box 31580, Seattle WA 98103-1580. Phone (206)  
783-6685. <https://waltsorganic.com/>

\*OMRI: Organic Materials Review Institute: The OMRI Listed® seal assures the suitability of products for certified organic production, handling, and processing under the following conditions:

Also, OMRI recommends that users of OMRI Listed products follow these suggestions:

- Many product or manufacturer names are similar. Check to make sure that both product and manufacturer names on the label match the listing in the *OMRI Products List(s)*.
- Apply the product according to instructions or purpose on the label, and in accordance with any restrictions indicated in the *OMRI Products List(s)*.
- Guard against the possibility of environmental contamination and negative ecological impacts.
- Handle products with care for the safety of the workers involved.
- Contact the manufacturer about a product's efficacy, health and environmental effects.