

Natural Growing

Many farmers and gardeners are changing over to organic fertilizers from chemical fertilizers. Organic fertilizers are carbon-based compounds derived from organic matter such as bone, kelp, manure and compost with various benefits over the chemical alternatives.

Here's why it's a good trend to follow ...

- Food crops are produced free of harmful chemicals
- These fertilizers are often produced on the premises itself, making them cheaper to produce
- Because the structure of the soil is improved over time and nutrient-holding capacity is increased, less fertilizer will be required in the long term
- Soil fertility is maintained over an extended period of time
- Organic fertilizers are bio-degradable and do not contaminate land and water
- They are slow-releasing and do not damage the roots of plants, over-fertilize or create imbalances of nutrients over time which would reduce microbial and earthworm activity
- Compost can be made from kitchen and garden waste

Use the following products to feed organically:

- **Starke Ayres 3:1:5 Organic**
- **Talborne 6:3:4** (Vita Veg)
- **Compost**
- **Rock Dust** is crushed rock rich in minerals and trace elements. It is an organic source of the minerals calcium, phosphorus, iron, manganese, zinc, boron, copper and molybdenum. It is particularly effective in well composted soils
- **Bonemeal** is a slow release phosphate fertilizer for root development
- **Hoof and Horn** is a slow release fertilizer high in nitrogen for plants with large amounts of green leaves
- **Effective Micro-organisms (EMs) / Compost Activators** such as Bokashi activate the decomposition process. The treated organic matter can be used as a natural compost as micro-organisms are responsible for nutrient uptake by plants
- **Fertilis** contains earthworm castings, rich in micro-organisms