

Fertilizer

Every plant needs food to grow. When selecting a fertilizer, several important considerations include the nutrition available, how it impacts the entire plant support system and ease of use.

Nutrition:

Macronutrients

Nitrogen (N): Used in synthesis of proteins, chlorophyll and enzymes required by plant cells, it is the most likely to be inadequate in garden soils. Nitrogen deficiency often appears as yellowing from the bottom of the plant upwards with leaves yellowing from tips to stem as well as stunted growth.

Phosphorus (P): Promotes flowering and fruiting, strong root growth and energy transfer. Phosphorus deficiency often appears as stunted growth and reduced yield of fruit and sometimes as purplish areas on undersides of leaves.

Potassium (K): Important for regulating synthesis of proteins and starches and helps increase resistance to diseases, heat and cold.

Secondary nutrients include calcium, magnesium and sulphur as well as micronutrients (trace elements)

Determine the impact on your plants support system. Basically how does the fertilizer work with your soil friendly elements like worms?

Ease of use. Face it, if a product is difficult to use it will stay on the shelf. Look for liquid and foliar products. Granular products are easily shaken in the garden and time released products save you from dispensing frequent applications.

Still not sure what to buy? You'll find that Walter Andersen Nursery professionals most regularly recommend Gro Power.