Fertilizers

**What fertilizers should it use to feed my roses ?**

Use **Rose 8: 1 :5 (25**) or **Vita Flora 5 :1: 5 (33)** slow-release nitrogen. Apply every 3 months starting the end of July through the growing season and ending in May. For organic gardens try **Organic 7 :1: 5 (19)** with trace elements.

**Try Tobacco Dust :**

Tobacco Dust is a natural organic insectiside that prevents disease in roses and vegetables. It is also good at keeping snakes as well as snails and slugs at bay. Simply sprinkle around your plants.

Lawn Fertilizers

The best way to manage your lawn nutrition is to supply the turf with adequate levels of all nutrients except nitrogen. The growth of the lawn is managed with nitrogen. The N-P-K of lawn clippings is approximately 8 :1: 5. So when the fertilizer is applied , the ratio of the fertilizer should approximately be that. Where possible, fertilizer should be applied after spiking so that it can penetrate the lawn soil. Remember that growing grass is not about getting maximum growth but rather providing a lawn surface that is acceptable to the users.

**Lawn 8 :1: 5 (25)**

This lawn fertilizer is ideally suited to all lawns. Nitrogen , phosphorus and potassium levels in grass clippings are in the same proportion as this fertilizer.

**Vita Flora 3 :2: 1 (28)**

Some gardeners prefer to make use of a 3 :2: 1 fertilizer to fertilize their lawns. This product has the nitrogen component in slow-release form and therefore nitrogen is available for up to 5 months after application. Alternatively make use of **Vita Flora 5 :1: 5(33) SRN or Vita Flora 3 :1: 5 (26) SRN.** Both these fertilizers have Nitrogen in slow-release form.

Vegetables

**Vegetables 2 :3: 4(21)**

For growing vegetables that produce fruit , such as tomatoes , peppers and squash , and squash , avoid fertilizing with too much nitrogen. Nitrogen encourages leafy growth at the expense of flowering so use **Vegetables 2 :3: 4 (21)**. However if you are growing lettuce , basil or another vegetable whose leaves are your goal , nitrogen will fuel production. Try **Seedling Food 7 :1: 5 (19) + TE.** In either case , you’ll want to fertilize regularly and moderate.

**Should I feed germinated seeds and seedlings ?**

After seeds have germinated and grow to the 4 leaf stage , you will have to feed them with a water-soluble fertilizer. This can be done with effectively with **Multisol N , P or K,** a water soluble fertilizer with added micro – nutrients or **Multikelp** manufactured from kelp products and fortified with nutrients in carbohydrate chelated form.

**Multisol N, P or K** are water soluble fertilizer , with a full range of micronutrients added.

**Growing Clivias , Bonsasis , Orchids ?**

When feeding your clivias , use **Vita Flora 5 :1: 5(33)** Slow-Release Nitrogen with added trace elements or **Organics 7 :1: 5 (19)** fertilizer. Seedlings can be left in the pot for up to two years. Alternatively they can be moved into well-drained individual black planting bags or pots after one year. Use fresh **Clivia Mix** when planting into bags.

Bonsais require a well-drained medium that is loamy in its nature. A good slow-release fertilizer needs to be added. **Bonsai Mix** has all the properties required to grow healthy , happy Bonsais.

Orchid have become increasingly fashionable over the past few years. Flowering orchids make a statement and in order to reward yourself with another beautiful bloom the next season, it is important to understand and care for them correctly. Orchids should be potted in to specialized **Orchid pots** in **Orchid mix** and fed **Multisol 2 :1:2 (43)** with trace elements added at a quarter of dilution strength**.** Orchid mixture is usually composed of several chunky ingredients , including pine bark , peat moss and charcoal.

Superphosphate / Bone Meal

Both these fertilizers are sources of phosphate which is an essential plant nutrient for root growth and to ensure that newly planted plants get off to a good start. Bone meal serves the same purpose as superphosphate and is a source of calcium and magnesium which are two essential elements for plants. Add to planting holes when planting trees.