

# ESPOSITO

Garden Center

Nurseries

Landscaping

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espositogardencenter.com

## Esposito's Fertilizing Made Easy

**Why Fertilize?** – All of your trees, shrubs, lawns, vegetables, annuals, perennials and houseplants will benefit from being fertilized to keep them performing their best. The sandy soils and red clay loam soils in our area are lacking in the mineral elements needed for best plant growth. Fertilizer that you have used in past seasons has been largely used up by now so it's time to re-fertilize. We have prepared this brief guide to assist you in choosing the best fertilizers for each major need-if you have question don't hesitate to ask our trained professionals-we can be reached by phone by calling 850-386-2114 or by e-mail at mail@espositogardencenter.com.

**Acid Loving Plants-** **Esposito's Own Azalea, Camellia and Gardenia Fertilizer (5-4-7 with minors)** is specially formulated to create and maintain an acid soil condition which is needed by a number of our landscape plants. Blueberries, Ferns, Dogwoods, Magnolias, Hollies, Iris, and Redbud will also benefit from this special fertilizer. This fertilizer contains 1% Iron to prevent deficiencies of this important element.

**Trees, Shrubs, and Groundcovers-** For landscape plants that do not demand maintenance of an acid soil such as Asian Jasmine, Ligustrum, Junipers and Oaks we recommend fertilizing with **Esposito's Own 13-6-6**. Half of its nitrogen is water insoluble and will be released slowly over a long period. Apply 13-6-6 in March, June and September. We have used this fertilizer about every twelve weeks for over 20 years!

**Fruit and Nut Trees-** fertilize your Chinese Chestnuts, Pecans, Peaches, Pears, Plums, Apples, Grapes, Persimmons and other fruit trees with **Esposito's Own 8-8-8 with Zinc**. This fertilizer will encourage best growth development and fruit production. The addition of 1% Zinc to this fertilizer prevents a deficiency of this important microelement from developing.

**Vegetables-** We carry **5-10-15, 8-0-8, 10-0-10** to satisfy the needs of local vegetable crops. Generally most crops benefit from an even balance for early development and reduced nitrogen later for blooming or root development. Container grown vegetables can be given **Osmocote 14-14-14** to provide a continuous feeding.

**Annuals and Perennials** – Use **Esposito's Own 3-9-6 Bedding Mix with Minors** each month to ensure that heavy bloomers keep performing well or use **Osmocote 14-14-14** every 4 months to provide a continuous feeding.

**Roses-** Roses will greatly benefit from monthly fertilizing start with **Esposito's Own 13-6-6** followed by **Esposito's Own 3-9-6** the following month. Continue this rotation from March to October.

**Lawns-(General Use) -** Fertilize your lawn with **Esposito's Own 15-0-15 with 50% Water Insoluble Nitrogen**. This fertilizer is specially blended to satisfy the latest recommendations from lawn experts with Florida's County Extension Service. 15-0-15 comes in 50 pound bags and will cover up to 8,000 square feet. Apply twice a year to Centipede grass lawns and three times a year to St. Augustine grass lawns.

**Early Spring Weed and Feed-** When your lawn is about 50% green (March) you can apply Ferti-lome St. Augustine Weed and Feed to kill young tender weeds and to prevent warm season weeds from emerging. This is also safe on Centipede and Zoysia grass. The Atrazine herbicide in this "weed and feed" will help control Chickweed, Dollar weed, Florida Betony, Doveweed, Chamber bitter and Oxalis.

**Mid Spring Weed and Feed-** When your lawn has thoroughly greened up, but before the temperature starts exceeding 85 degrees (April) use **Ferti-lome 15-0-15 Plus Dimension**. If you have large standing weeds such as Clover, Chickweed, Henbit Dandelion and Spurge or any of the other 200 weeds known to be effectively controlled by the Trimec blend of herbicides you will be pleased by the performance of this excellent product.

**Fall Lawn Fertilizing-** (September-October)-**Esposito Winterizer 5-0-20** will improve your lawn's ability to resist cold injury and will improve spring recovery. High nitrogen fertilizers should not be applied to the lawn in the autumn.

**Planting Time-** Every time you plant trees, shrubs, ground covers, and bedding plants, you should give them a boost to ensure proper root development and rapid establishment. We recommend and use **Esposito's Own 3-9-6 Bedding Mix with Minors**. Our Bedding Mix includes natural organic nitrogen and is fortified with phosphate and potash to gently provide the nutrients needed to get plants off on a good start. 5 pounds of **Esposito's Own 3-9-6 Bedding Mix**, when combined with fifty pounds of Michigan Peat, will plant two flats of flowers, or 40 four inch pots or five roses or three trees. Use ½ cup of Bed Mix per gallon of container size and 1/3 peat to 2/3 soil from planting hole.

**House Plants-** Most houseplants will benefit from **Osmocote Outdoor & Indoor Plant Food (19-8-12)** every 4 months. Fast growing houseplants will do better with a water soluble fertilizer such as **Miracle Gro Pro Select (20-20-20)** every 2 weeks. For Orchids we recommend **Schultz Orchid Food (19-31-17)**. For blooming houseplants use **Schultz African Violet Plus (814-9)**. You can encourage stubborn to bloom plants to perform by using **Ferti-lome Blooming & Rooting Soluble Plant Food (9-59-8)**.