

Lucy's Basic All Granular Organic Fertilization Program

(keeping it simple and successful- building soil life-which is the basis for any organic program.)



If you have tons of homemade compost—that is great --but if you had to buy enough compost to add even a quarter-inch of it on your lawn and flowerbeds -it could get really pricey- so I put you on a good balanced program using organic products for at least the first year that will be much easier on your budget and your schedule.

Your favorite organic granular fertilizer that doesn't have Bio-waste or Bio-solids will build a program of healthy soil if you adhere to good watering practices , don't use chemical herbicides and follow this schedule.

However I am constantly asked “which products do I think are the best choices?” or “which products do I use?” – so I am going to be specific and let you know which brands I choose to use. I can help you locate retailers that carry these products in your area if you can't find them.



My number one choice of a perfect balanced organic fertilizer is Sustane 8-2-4 for lawns flowerbeds and food crops (**hard to find but contact me for a retail location near you.**) You only need to apply it three times a year-using any spreader or throwing it out by hand at the rate of only 12lb. per 1000 sq. ft

One bag covers 4,000 square feet –how easy is that?

I choose this one because it holds the green in your lawns longer then other choices- (4 moths). It produces a lot of bloom for that period too and is very low odor. You use this one product for lawns, food crops,and flowerbeds- and unless you are growing plants that need soil with a lower PH –it's all you usually need to do all year long for great results.



If you have certain specialty plants like azaleas, loropetalums, maples, etc- that need a more acid soil to look their best- you can sprinkle Espoma HollyTone around the drip lines of these plants in your flowerbeds twice a year in the months that fall between the Sustane 8-2-4 feedings.

My two other specialty products that I sometimes add to my roses and tomatoes are Organic Espoma Rose Tone and Tomato Tone



If you have high feeders

in your beds like repeat blooming roses and tomatoes-that aren't producing as you'd like--- you may decide that you need to apply a little extra something in addition to the all over fertilization 3 times a year. My choice for this is Espoma Rose Tone or Tomato Tone occasionally between the Sustane 8-2-4 feedings **-but not always-**it all depends on how everything is doing.

Espoma Organic fertilizers come in large and small bags and are easy to apply by just sprinkling them around the drip lines in the months between the other basic fertilizer feedings.

Special Note---

If you are doing the broadleaf weed control (Powdered Corn Gluten Meal)on your lawn and on top of your mulch try to schedule that in about 2-3 weeks before the spring and fall basic fertilizations of Sustane 8-2-4.

There are lots of organic weed controls-both post and pre-emergent to choose from -if and when you need them. You don't need chemical herbicides.

Good organic products and practices will keep you 90% weed free if you just learn how to work them into your gardening routines.



pre-emergent



post emergents



mowing practices

For complete information on organic weed control products and directions refer to the articles that I've sent out for specific weeds -or ask me to resend them to you.

After a while –In one to three years of using the products that I recommend and watering properly -you will have built your program in your lawn and flowerbeds and will not have to fertilize on a regular basis because your rhizosphere will be healthy and reproducing again just like it was in our grandparent's day.

Thank You For Being Organic
Love & Luck, Lucy Harrell