

A GUIDE TO CORRECT PLANTING

In our area the soil contains such high density clay, it is best to follow these planting and watering instructions:

1. Dig the hole about 6-8 inches wider and slightly deeper than the container or root ball.
2. Fill the hole with enough soil amendments* so that the soil level in the pot or the top of the root ball is about an inch or more above ground level when the tree is placed in the hole. Then mound and pack the soil around the root ball. When planting trees balled in burlap, be sure to cut the twine and pull the burlap back into the bottom of the hole.

*Mix the following recommended amendments:

- 1/2 dirt from hole
- 1/2 compost such Cotton Boll Compost or Nature's Blend

3. Root Stimulator is recommended once each month, April through October, the first couple of growing seasons. Use 1 gallon per plants that are 1 to 3 gallon size, more for larger plants and trees.
4. Using a hose, trickle the water at the base of the plant. The stream should be about the size of a pencil.

Small plants (one gallon size) water about 30 to 45 minutes. Trees with large root balls water about one to two hours.

Water regularly if one inch of rain does not occur per week. A deep soak as described above every 5-10 days (depending on the weather) should be sufficient. Most plants require watering about once a month during the winter months on a warmer day.

LIMITED NURSERY STOCK GUARANTEE

Retail-Cash and Carry. Nursery Stock except roses and perennials, with a **\$5.00** or more value, will be guaranteed, one time only, for a **credit of 1/2 the purchase price** for a period of one year from the date of purchase.

Claims must be accompanied by the sales receipt and the plant in question. A cancelled check or bank statement cannot be accepted as proof of purchase.

Planted. Nursery Stock except roses and perennials planted by F.T.N. which fail to survive the first year, will be **credited** the full purchase price. **Labor Charges will not be refunded or credited.**

Planting Charges:
50% - Over \$150.00 Purchase
Minimum planting charge of \$75.00

Limited guarantee does not include labor

Roses. Guaranteed only to be true to name.

NO CASH REFUNDS

NO GUARANTEE ON NURSERY STOCK USED INDOORS OR OVERWINTERED IN CONTAINERS.

Delinquent, Past due accounts, or withholding payments voids the guarantee, and purchaser automatically loses any and all rights or claims for replacement.

It is our desire that you are successful with your purchase. Plants are living things and as such must have certain needs met. If you begin to have problems give us a call. Do not wait until the guarantee is about to expire or plant is dead.



BASIC CARE

PREPARING SOIL.

Amending the soil is the key to plants that not only grow, but thrive. We've all heard the adage "a \$50 hole for a \$5 plant," but the better you do at working the beds now, the better off you'll be down the road. If your soil is good you can't help but grow great, healthy plants!

For new beds. We recommend working in a 1:1 ratio of topsoil and compost. Cotton Boll is a great compost for our area because it actually helps break down clay soils by incorporating air and microbes into the soil.

WATERING.

Watering deeply and less often is the key to success. Deep watering promotes healthy root growth which enables a plant to thrive even during periods of drought. Frequent shallow watering can cause weak and leggy growth that is more susceptible to water stress, insects and diseases. All trees and shrubs require 1 inch of water a week during the growing season. A slow soak is best for large trees and shrubs – a soaker ring or hose at the base works well. A sprinkler works well for large beds – just be sure you are watering enough. A rain gauge placed in the bed is the best way to tell how long to let the sprinkler run.

MULCHING.

Mulch really should be your best friend in the garden. Not only does it look good, but proper mulching cools roots, stops weeds and retains moisture. There are many types of mulching materials- each have advantages in different situations, but essentially they all work the same. The key to mulching properly is the depth – 2 inches is necessary to block out the sunlight. Don't mulch too close to the base of small trees, shrubs and large perennials, it can hold moisture and cause rotting problems. It is possible to put down paper under a large layer of mulch as another barrier to weeds, but avoid using plastic sheeting or weed mat.

FERTILIZING.

No matter what the plant, a regular feeding schedule is the difference between a good plant and a great plant. Proper fertilization builds the root system, increases fruit and flower production and promotes lush, vigorous growth. Water soluble fertilizers (the blue stuff) work fast but leaches out quickly. These fertilizers are best for indoor plants. For outdoor potted plants, trees, shrubs and perennials, slow release fertilizers, either synthetic or organic granular-type foods are our recommended option. There is more to good plant health than the three major nutrients. Here are a few behind-the-scenes products for award-winning results.

Myke. Myke is beneficial soil fungus that attaches itself to a plant's roots and goes in search of food, dragging the roots with it. Myke dramatically increases root growth, aids in transplant shock and minimizes effects of environmental stress.

Fertilome Soil Acidifier. This product contains zinc, sulfur, magnesium, copper and iron and does wonders for potted annuals and all acid-loving plants.

