INFORMATION ON USE OF FERTILISERS

BLOOD, FISH & BONE

NPK ratio 6-7-6. organically based and balanced compound fertilizer. For use on shrubs, flowers and vegetables. Use from early spring through to October. Before planting - work 4 oz per square yard into soil. As a top dressing to established plants apply at 2 oz per square yard at six to eight weekly intervals. Keep fertilizer off leaves.

GROWMORE

NPK 7-7-7 a traditional balanced garden fertilizer. Its granular form makes it easy and clean to apply. Use from early spring to October. Apply as a base dressing (before sowing and planting) at 4oz per sq yd. For potato crops apply at 6 oz per sq prior to planting. As a top dressing apply around plants at 2 oz per sq yard. hoe in - keep off leaves and stems.

GARDEN LIME

Use at any time - however it is best to dress the soil in the spring or autumn. Advantages of use: 1. Lime 'sweetens' sour acid soils. 2. Assists in raising soil pH, which in turn ensures most plant nutrients are available to plants. 3. Helps obtain better tilth and drainage. 4. Improves general soil condition. Apply at the following: Light and sandy soils - 8 oz per sq yd. Medium or silty soil - 12 oz per sq yd. Heavy or clay soil 16 oz per sq yd.

DOLOMITIC LIMESTONE

Powdered rock is available as Dolomite Lime, as much of it is quarried from the same-named mountainous region. It usually contains 60% calcium carbonate and 40% magnesium carbonate. It has a number of beneficial effects on the soil, especially acidic, heavy clay soils. Raises pH to a level (~6.5) that makes nutrients available to the majority of our food plants. It does this without the danger of overdosing, unlike common, hydrated or 'garden' lime, which, if over-applied, has the chemical effect of 'locking-up' a number of vital macro-nutrients. This unfortunate effect is most likely on a poor soil. Feeds the bacteria that creates humus, which in turn creates a physically improved soil (water retention and drainage; friability), and a soil capable of holding onto plant nutrients over a long period. Supplies magnesium, which is involved in production of chlorophyll, part of the process of photosynthesis. **Application:** As a soil conditioner; i.e. to encourage soil bacteria, raise pH, break open heavy clay soils and build humus, it can be applied up to 500g per square metre (though 250g per sq m usual) and forked into top 20 cm, or just left to rain to wash it in on bare soil over winter/spring.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA

A quick acting general nitrogen fertilizer for use throughout the garden. Mainly used to give rapid boost to established quick growing vegetables and salad crops. Gives a very effective spring tonic for shrubs, fruit and spring greens. Apply either dry or in water. Top dress established plants at 1 oz per sq yd - keep fertilizer off leaves and stems - hoe in. For use as a liquid feed dissolve 1 oz in 2 gallons.

SULPHATE OF POTASH

Quick release potash fertilizer. Use from March to August. Improves colour in vegetables and flowers - also promotes blooming in flowers and fruit blossoms. As a base dressing 4 oz per sq yd. prior to sowing. As a top dressing 2 oz per sq yd. round plants - hoe in.

SUPERPHOSPHATE

Encourages strong roots on seedlings, rooted cuttings and transplants - also encourages early maturity of

fruit. Can be used all year. Best used as a base fertilizer prior to sowing or planting at 2 oz per sq yd. as a top dressing to established plants apply 2 oz per sq yd - keep off leaves.

DRIED BLOOD

Will not 'burn' foliage like chemically synthesized equivalents. Dried blood consists mainly of protein, and as such provides **nitrogen**; for many of the more demanding crops, and crops that have to be grown quickly (salads), its use can make a big difference in yield and quality.
Note that dried blood ought to be used during the main growing season only (March/April til end August). Either side of this period will result in **unbalanced growth**, encouraging pests and diseases, or waste, as the plants are insufficiently active to take up the product. The season is extended somewhat within the environment of a warm greenhouse or polytunnel, and this can be taken into consideration.

BONEMEAL

Bonemeal is a good supplier of **phosphorus**, plus some nitrogen. Phosphorus is essential in plant sugar metabolism, and therefore in the development of flowers, fruit and seed. Crops such as tomatoes, strawberries and sweetcorn all appreciate a dressing of bonemeal at the time of bed preparation.
When planting fruit trees, dig in up to ½ kilo in the planting hole. **Application**: 125-250g per sq. metre, lightly forked in before planting the crop.

HOOF AND HORN

Like dried blood, contains nitrogen, but as a hard protein, broken down slowly in the soil by bacteria, and is released over a long period of time. Also contains a small amount of phosphorus. Hoof & horn is an excellent fertilizer to add to planting holes for fruit trees and bushes; it promotes early vigour, helping the plant adapt to its new conditions, and to grow a strong framework of branches that will support heavy, healthy crops in the future.
Hoof and horn is also useful for the more demanding vegetable crops that require heavy feeding, especially if grown in containers. For vegetables, apply only at the beginning and height of the growing season; overly lush, '**soft' growth** on over wintering varieties makes them prone to frost damage.
Application: 125g per sq. metre for vegetables. Up to a kilo per planting hole for the larger fruit trees.

PERLKA

Perlka is the traditional fertilizer chosen by generations of professional growers. Its unique 20% Nitrogen and 50% Lime content are beneficial to both fruit and vegetables. Perlka's unique nature friendly biocontrol and bio-stimulatory properties help reduce the incidence of soil diseases like clubroot by creating an environment that is unfavourable to the development of the disease. Its slow, steady release of Nitrogen and high Calcium content makes all treated crops less susceptible to leaf diseases.
How to use:
Rake into the planting area a base dressing of **100g of Perlka per square metre (4oz per square yard).** This rate is ideal for most vegetable crops. Allow at least 10 days between applying Perlka to the soil and seed sowing or transplanting. Adding Phosphate and Potash fertilizers with your Perlka will give your plants more vital nutrients for healthy crops.

Remember to wear suitable protective clothing, READ INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE USE.

BRASSICAS / CABBAGE FAMILY

Top-dressing with Perlka when the plants are well established 3 to 4 weeks after planting leads to greatly improved crop quality. Readily available calcium builds stronger plants.
Rake in 50g of Perlka per square metre (2oz per square yard) to the soil around your brassica plants ensuring that the soil is moist and the plants leaves are dry. Avoid direct contact with the foliage.
This second application is especially beneficial if **Clubroot** is a problem.

SECOND CROPS

Perkla may be applied to these second crops.
Rake in 50g of perlka per square metre (4oz per square yard) prior to planting allowing at least 10 days before seeding or planting. Apply to moist soil.

FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS FOR USE

CROPS	gms / square metre	oz / square yard	APPLICATION
Peas	20 to 30	1 to 1.5	1 to 2 weeks before sowing
Beans	30 to 50	1.5 to 2	Before sowing
Greenhouse Crops (Celery, Peppers, Tomatoes, Aubergines)	50 to 75	2 to 3	2 to 3 weeks before planting

COMPOSTING

Perlka accelerates the breakdown of plant waste. Sprinkle Perlka onto the top of your compost heap at the rate of 150g per square metre (6oz per square yard). Add more Perlka to successive layers when they become 30cm or 12 inches deep. Keep your compost moist, but do not over wet.

SOFT AND TOP FRUIT

Perlka is an ideal fertilizer for all types of fruit. Its long cycle of nitrogen release coupled with the availability of Calcium helps produce top quality healthy fruit.

FRUIT	gms / square metre	oz / square yard	APPLICATION
Strawberries			
New	50 to 60	2 to 2.5	3 weeks before planting
Established	25 to 50	1 to 2	In early Spring, before new leaves occur
After Harvest	50	2	On dry plants only
Raspberries Currants Gooseberries	30 to 50	1.5 to 2	In early Spring before buds break
Rhubarb	50 to 75	2 to 3	In early Spring before buds break
Top Fruit	30 to 50	1.5 to 2	Before buds break