



A Gardener's [Blog](#)

Fertilizers = Plant food!



Some Organic fertilizer sources:

Relatively low Nitrogen content (but well balanced)

- Poultry litter
- Cow manure
- Sheep manure
- Garden compost

Medium Nitrogen content

- Blood & Bone (relatively high phosphorus, not great for native plants)
- Sewerage sludge (dried)
- Poultry manure

High Nitrogen content

- Hoof and Horn
- Blood meal

I started with the lower rates at the top of the list because I think these ones provide the best general use fertilizing options.

Info courtesy of Growing media for ornamentals and turf. K Handreck & N. Black

Please have a look at my [blog](#)
Privacy

I have had lots of ideas for posts this week including why mignonette lettuce are 'mignonette', but I promised more about fertilizers a few weeks back so let's get fertilizers out of the way.

It's funny you know, nurserymen are forever trying to simplify (dumb down?) gardening. We're scared of frightening the inexperienced away, but I think many gardeners get a great deal of pride from managing and controlling their patch. That's why fertilizers generate such intense interest. There you go, horticultural philosophy for the week. What do you think? Please email & let me know.

OK so... Let's start with NPK.

This is a regularly used acronym for Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Potassium (K is the chemical symbol for Potassium). These 3 chemicals along with Calcium are the 'major' plant nutrients. Huh? Well, plants produce their own energy through the process of photosynthesis. I won't go into this detail (I have forgotten most of it), other than to say plants can take the sun's energy, mix it with water and the 'major' nutrients to produce energy. That's why getting the balance of nutrients right is so important!

Over time I will look at the specific attributes of each of the major nutrients and the pro's & con's of each of the most commonly available sources, but I think that's enough for one day.

This newsletter has been posted to my [blog](#). Please have a look and leave any comments you may have.

I am very keen to ensure that this newsletter is of value

to you. If however it is just cluttering your mail box and you do not want to receive it, please let me know immediately, peter@scotsburn.biz

An apology

My apologies to Edna Walling for appropriating her iconic book title. It all seems so obvious but to date I haven't noticed anyone else using this name for a blog.



Scotsburn is proudly Victoria's first EcoHort certified seedling nursery. For more information please follow this [link](#) to our web page or check out [EcoHort](#) on the NGIA web site.



Contact us

Any problems, concerns or even perhaps praise please don't hesitate to call me directly on 03 9798 7066, or my mobile 04 1935 0470 or email peter@scotsburn.biz
Thanks for your support

Peter.

One last thing

If you know of any gardener's who might appreciate this Newsletter, please forward it on.