



Espoma Organic[®] Soil Perfecter[®]

Perfect Plants Start with Perfect Soil

- ✓ All natural soil conditioner approved for organic gardening
- ✓ One time application
- ✓ Won't break down like peat moss
- ✓ Permanently improves all soils (including clay and sandy)
- ✓ Prevents compaction and promote root growth so plants establish fast
- ✓ Improves drainage and moisture retention

Soil Perfecter[®]

FACT SHEET

What is Perfect Soil?

Successful plantings require a soil structure consisting of approximately 50% solids, 25% pore space for air, and 25% pore space for moisture. While this may be common in undisturbed forest areas, it is not the general rule for homeowners today, whose topsoil has often been stripped away.



Many homeowners have heavy clay soils, which lack adequate pore space for air and can lead to poor drainage, reduced root growth, and greater susceptibility to environmental stress. Others have dry sandy soils, which lack adequate pore space for water and can lead to excessive drainage, as well as a loss of nutrients from the root zone.

What is Soil Perfecter?

One application of Espoma Soil Perfecter permanently improves the structure of any soil. Soil Perfecter is made from a naturally derived, ceramic mineral that is kiln-fired at temperatures in excess of 2000° F. This process creates a durable, lightweight granule containing thousands of tiny storage spaces that hold the perfect balance of water, air and nutrients for an improved soil structure. Unlike other amendments such as peat moss and gypsum, Soil Perfecter will not break down or degrade so you do not need to re-apply it year after year.

Directions

Preparing Flower & Vegetable Beds

One 30 lb. bag of Soil Perfecter covers up to 12 sq. ft. Spread a 1" layer of Soil Perfecter across the entire bed (2" layer for severely compacted soils). Work into the top 6 inches of soil with a shovel, rake or rototiller.

New Individual Plants

Dig a hole at least twice the diameter and slightly less deep than the root ball of the plant. Mix 1 part Soil Perfecter to 3 parts removed soil. Follow planting directions and water thoroughly.

Container Gardens

Line the bottom of the container with 2 inches of Soil Perfecter. Fill the container with 1 part Soil Perfecter to 3 parts potting mix for improved aeration and drainage.

Existing Plants

Using a spading fork around the drip line of the plant, rock and twist the fork to open cracks and crevices as deeply as possible. Fill the cracks with Soil Perfecter (Fig. 1). For large trees, dig narrow trenches 18 to 24 inches deep starting between the trunk and the drip line and extending out into the surrounding soil. Dig at least 5 trenches in a wheel spoke pattern. Fill the trenches with Soil Perfecter (Fig. 2).

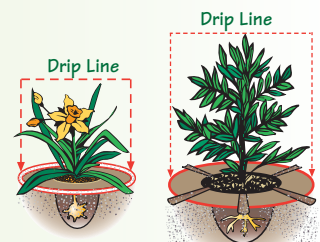


Fig.1 Existing Plants

Fig.2 Large Trees



Espoma Organic[®] Soil Perfecter[®]

Protect Your Plants from Vole Damage

- ✓ Provides a permanent physical barrier to voles
- ✓ All natural, non-toxic
- ✓ Safe to use around pets & children
- ✓ Won't physically harm voles or other wildlife
- ✓ One easy application that won't break down or degrade
- ✓ Also prevents compaction & promotes root growth so plants establish quickly

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F A C T S H E E T

How to Identify Voles

Voles are small mammals that measure between 4-8.5" from head to tail. Often called field mice, these creatures destroy trees, shrubs, and other plants by gnawing on their trunks or eating their root systems.

To check if you have voles look for 1-2" wide burrows and quarter size holes around your plant. Also look for 1/8-3/8" gnaw marks around plant stems that are formed at various angles. Rabbits gnaw marks are much wider, smoother and occur at 45° angles. If your plant is leaning over and drooping, lift its root system from the ground to see if the roots have been eaten. If many of the above symptoms are present, then you probably have voles.

What is Soil Perfecter?

Soil Perfecter provides a permanent physical barrier to voles. Soil Perfecter is made from a naturally derived, ceramic mineral that is kiln-fired at temperatures in excess of 2000° F. This process creates a durable, lightweight, abrasive granule that voles are naturally discouraged to dig through. Soil Perfecter is non-toxic and will not physically harm the voles. Furthermore, Soil Perfecter will not break down or degrade in the soil so one application is all you ever need.

Directions

New Plantings

Dig a hole 6-8" wider and 1" deeper than root ball. Line bottom of hole with 2" of Soil Perfecter. Place plant into hole. Form 3-4" solid band of Soil Perfecter around plant. Fill remainder of hole with soil and mulch top with 1-2" layer of Soil Perfecter from drip-line to crown.

Existing Plants

Dig a 1' deep, 3-4" wide trench around plant drip line. Fill trench with Soil Perfecter. Replace existing mulch with 2" layer of Soil Perfecter from drip line to plant stem.

Planting Bulbs

Dig a hole 2-3 inches deeper than specific depth recommended for bulb. Line the bottom of the hole with 2-3" of Soil Perfecter. Set bulb in hole. Fill remainder of hole with a minimum of a 3" lining of Soil Perfecter. Backfill the remainder of the hole with a mix of 50% Soil Perfecter and 50% previously removed soil.