

## Ted Ellis Recipe For Organic Fertilizer

I garden using raised beds and organic fertilizer. Experimenting over the years, I developed a blend using organic components for a general-purpose fertilizer which has worked well for me. Organic fertilizer releases nutrients into the soil slowly, contributes to soil conditioning, encourages beneficial soil microorganisms, and earthworms (a gardeners best friend and soil conditioner). Earthworms can process organic fertilizer. The blend was tested by a soil lab a number of years ago and was reported to have a typical N-P-K ratio (Nitrogen-Phosphorus-Potassium) of 10.8-11.6-11.6, which is comparable to a harsh chemical synthetic 12-12-12 fertilizer.

Chemical fertilizers are quick acting, do not last long, require repeated use, leach through the soil, kill earthworms and other beneficial soil creatures, and do nothing for soil conditioning. You will eventually end up with sterile soil, and plants being totally dependent upon chemical synthetic fertilizer for their plant food.

### The organic fertilizer recipe for 100 Square Feet:

<b>Alfalfa Meal- 8 Cups</b>	<b>GreenSand- 4 Cups</b>
<b>Blood Meal- 6 Cups</b>	<b>Kelp Meal- 1 ½ Cups</b>
<b>Bone Meal- 6 Cups</b>	<b>Soybean Meal- 8 Cups</b>

**Alfalfa Meal** is used as a livestock feed supplement, is fairly quick acting, and contains triacontol, a natural fatty-acid growth stimulant, plus trace minerals. It has a typical N-P-K ratio of 2.5-0.2-2.0 and is non-burning.

**Blood Meal** is processed from livestock. It has a typical N-P-K ratio of 12-0-0, is non-burning to plant roots, but should be washed off the flowers and leaves.

**Bone Meal** is processed from livestock and has a typical N-P-K ratio of 1-11-0 (20% total phosphate, 24% calcium), and is non-burning.

**GreenSand** is a natural, non-burning, pure GreenSand, mined from natural deposits of glauconite. These deposits are of marine origin and are composed primarily of iron-potassiumsilicate, which gives it a bluish-green color. Potassium is an essential nutrient needed by all plant life. Other valuable properties are it's ability to loosen clay soils, bind sandy soils, and increase the water holding capacity of all soils. It is an exceptional soil conditioner for flower beds, gardens, and lawns. Soluble Potash (K20)-0.1%. It contains 6% total Potash (K20).

**Kelp Meal** is processed from ocean Kelp. It has typical N-P-K ratio of 1.0-0.5-2.5, contains natural growth hormones and enzymes, and a broad array of vitamins, trace minerals, and soil conditioning elements. It is non-burning.

**Soybean Meal** is a livestock feed supplement, has a typical N-P-K ratio of 7.0-0.5-2.3, and is non-burning.

Fertilizer components are sold by various packaged weights, in pounds. I have provided the weight of one cup of each component to determine the number of cups per bag:

Alfalfa Meal- 6 oz                      GreenSand- 14 oz

Blood Meal- 7 oz                      Kelp Meal- 8 oz

Bone Meal- 10 oz                      Soybean Meal- 8 oz

Example- The smallest Blood Meal bag is 2.75 pounds, therefore:  $2.75 \times 16(\text{oz}) = 44(\text{oz})$ , divided by  $7(\text{oz per cup}) = 6.3$  cups per bag. This is enough for 100 square feet.

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