

# CENTENARY LANDSCAPING SUPPLIES

## Organic Soil Guide

“Organic”:- of, relating to or derived from animal & plant matter.



Terry & Denise O'Shea  
Owners

### THESE 3 THINGS GO HAND IN HAND WITH YOUR SOIL



#### 1. MULCH

Any organic matter that acts as a barrier between the soil and the atmosphere.



#### 2. FERTILISER

Food for your plants



#### 3. HYDROCELL

Our water saving soil improver



WITHOUT  
HYDROCELL



WITH  
HYDROCELL



Selecting a poor quality or cheap soil may seem to save a few dollars today but it will generally cost you dearly as the hundreds of dollars invested in plants, fertiliser, water and time will result in poor growth and even the death of some plants.

**You can significantly reduce your water consumption while encouraging faster, stronger and healthier plant growth when you add Hydrocell to your soil.**

#### You'll use less water

As the Hydrocell greatly improves the absorption and water-holding ability of the soil or potting mix, you'll use up to 50% less water, resulting in more robust blooms along with denser foliage.

#### Hydrocell is easy to rewet

When water comes into contact with Hydrocell, it is instantly absorbed and then retained within the root profile slowly releasing moisture and nutrients back to the plant as the soil becomes dry.

#### You'll need less fertiliser

When your fertilizer has become soluble it will be absorbed into the open cell structure of the foam with the available water. So while Hydrocell itself is not a fertilizer it makes any fertilizer applied last longer and be more effective.

Please understand that as a company, we can buy 'cheap soil' too but we have always found when we did, our clients were disappointed, even angry, when we sold them 'cheap stuff'.

This short guide has been put together to help you create a healthy and living garden where your plants will thrive and microbial activity will assist to sustain a healthy environment.

Obviously, there are volumes written on these topics but we trust you will find this guide helpful.

**UltraGROW**  
Organic Soils and Mulches  
Soils and mulches you can trust

#### Hydrocell actively reduces soil compaction

It reduces compaction throughout the root zone simply by creating more air space, because hydrocell holds 37% by volume air and 60% by volume water the plants roots will actively seek out and grow through the hydrocell flakes.

#### Hydrocell is biodegradable and environmentally safe

It breaks down in the soil over a 7-10 year period into hydrogen and oxygen. It is also broken down by root tip acids, so when the plants actively source out the hydrocell it will not impede in any root growth the plant will have. It is sterile and inert so it will not change the chemical balance of your soil mix. \*eg the PH\*

## The Three GOLDEN RULES For Healthy Soil

**1) ONLY USE FRESH SOIL** People often purchase and store soil for their gardens or lawns before they are ready to use it. This is the worst thing you can do as soil is a living and breathing organism. If you spread it in preparation for new turf but then do not lay that turf immediately, your soil will dry out and become hydrophobic (water repellent) and you may kill many of the microbial bacteria that are so important to soil. The same can happen if you stockpile it prior to placing into a garden bed.

**2) NEVER MECHANICALLY COMPACT** Soil is full of organic matter that breaks down over time and because of this, soil can be easily compacted either by driving on it or using compaction machinery. Soil structure needs to remain open for transportation through the layers of Water, Air and any nutrients or fertilisers in order to promote healthy growth of plants and lawns.

**3) REGULAR FEEDING** All our soils have a fixed amount of nutrients and trace elements necessary for good plant growth and plants will thrive initially. As plants use up these valuable nutrients, they will need to be replaced in the form of added fertilisers to maintain strong healthy plant growth. It is advisable to feed gardens and lawns 3-4 times during the growing season and at least once over winter when most plants are dormant using either **Eco 88** or **Organic Xtra**

## UltraGROW Organic Garden Soils (not suitable for top dressing)

### UltraGROW Premium Hydrocell Soil

Plants need a soil mix to be a source of stability and a means by which their root system can access water, nutrients and oxygen. By using the best organic ingredients available in a fully composted state (therefore eliminating nitrogen drawdown) and blending them with selected natural soils, other mineral components and 30% hydrocell we produce a media that has great water holding capacity and drains well. Having a balanced source of plant nutrients, and the ability to hold water this blend is the very best start your plants could have.

### Premium Organic Garden Blend

A blend of dark soil, sands and carbonaceous shales creating a well drained planting media. With the addition of a blend of at least 40% composted organics, this makes an excellent all round landscaping mix. This soil promotes deep root growth with plenty of nutrients available from the soils high mineral base, it is well balanced for reduced slumping. Adding a general fertiliser will further enhance the levels of nutrients available to your plants.

### Commercial Soil Mix

This is a value packed mix of aged mineral soil and washed sands, with a minimum of 35% composted organics. This soil is dark in appearance with a balanced particle size and has good draining ability. Conforming to AS4419 it is a premium economy blend making this an excellent general purpose landscaping soil suitable for under rolled turf and large garden bed. A general fertiliser like Blood & Bone, Organic Xtra or Eco 88, enhances the levels of available nutrients. Remember to use a decorative mulch to retain moisture and give an attractive finish to your garden.

### Trade Soil Mix

This is a light mix of our famous organics, standard sandy loam, soils and composted sawdust. It fulfils the requirements of AS4419. Add a fertilizer like Organic Xtra to boost results. At a budget price this is far superior to any on the market. Just take a look at it and run it through your fingers. You'll agree it's good stuff.

### Native Soil Mix

Australian Natives require a unique soil blend that is high in trace minerals whilst remaining low in the phosphates most other plants love. For this reason and due to the rise in popularity of these plants for both their hardiness and bird attracting qualities, we now feature a Native Soil mix that fulfills all the needs of the natives and still conforms to AS4419.

## UltraGROW Lawn Top Dressings

Spring and early summer is an ideal time to top-dress your lawns which will not only level out any lumps and bumps but increase the water holding capacity in the lawns' root zone and of course give it a boost of nutrients just when it needs it most.

### How Much Will You Need?

Allow for 1½ m³ of material per 100m². This amount gives a thin layer of approx. 10mm over the whole area. Be careful not to “bury” the grass as this can damage your lawn by cutting out necessary sunlight. Make sure the blades of grass are popping through. It's also essential to water thoroughly after top dressing to encourage new growth and to prevent crusting. Lightly fertilize with **Organic Xtra**, or **Eco 88** before spreading soil.

### ☐ Washed Pit Sand

For the purist with a fine lawn who understands how to care for a premium bowling green type lawn. Often used by greenkeepers. This will definitely need the addition of some **Organic Xtra**, or **Eco 88** before spreading soil. This sand is great for levelling and getting rid of any imperfections

### ☐ Special Blend

One of our most popular organic soils as it goes through a triple screening process and is made from our select light sandy loam soils. It is then blended with composted Sawdust, and Composted Organic Chicken Manure granules. It has a light clean texture making it easy to spread and light to barrow.

## Creating A New Lawn-Under Turf

Many new lawns are laid on little or no soil which therefore require a lot of fertilisers and water in the future. To give your lawn the best possible start lay a 150mm depth of soil which will act as a water and nutrient reservoir for the grass and ultimately save you dollars. So, how much soil do you need for 150mm depth - AREA m² x 0.15 = Vol m³.

### ☐ Mineral Under Turf Mix

Screened mineral based sand rich in trace elements which provides an excellent base for your new turf. It is easily worked and does not slump making it easier to produce a level lawn. To really help the new turf establish quickly, apply a fertiliser called **Complete Plant Food** or **ECO 88** which is high in phosphates, the nutrients that specifically stimulate root growth (and roots are what new turf is lacking.)

### ☐ Commercial Soil Mix see description opposite

### ☐ UltraGROW Premium Hydrocell Soil see description opposite

## Fertiliser for Improved and Sustained Growth for Lawns & Gardens.

No matter how good a start we have in life, plants, just like you and I, still need food and sustenance in order for them to thrive and grow. Varying the fertilisers used in your garden or lawn is a good idea with each brand having slightly different amounts of plant nutrients.

The initial amount of nutrients present in our Organic Soil Blends will only last a finite period, so it's important to continue a feeding program every 5 to 6 weeks during the main growing season.

Products such as **Organic Booster Poultry Pellets**; **Organic Xtra** and **Complete Plant Food** or **ECO 88** are excellent fertilisers that not only provide actual plant foods but also stimulate the micro-organisms in the soil to create more long term benefits.

If you're about to spring fertilise your lawn, we suggest you Top Dress with **Special Blend Top Dressing** and give your lawn a boost as well as levelling out it's imperfections.

# Why Mulching Your Garden is So Important

It can't be emphasised enough that the application of a good layer of mulch on your garden is just as critical as choosing a good soil blend. But first... what is a mulch? Well, any form of organic matter that is laid on a garden bed to act as a barrier between the atmosphere and the soil is a mulch. At Centenary Landscaping Supplies we have a huge range of mulches (see our website for the full range) varying in colour, size and texture for you to choose from. All are capable of providing the following benefits.

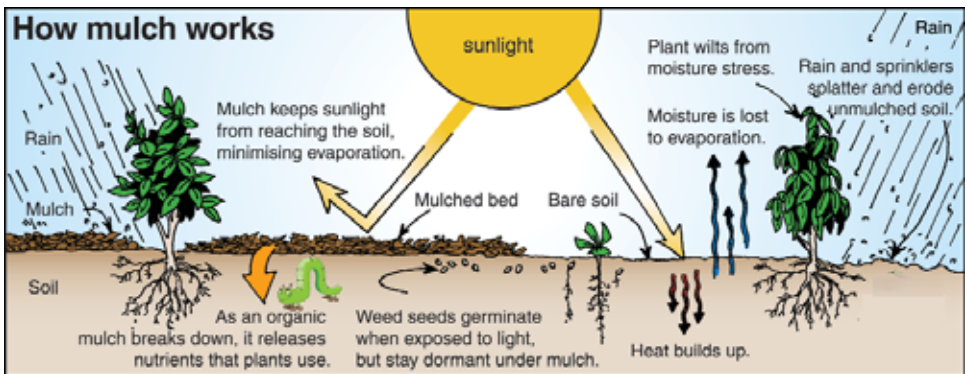
**1. MOISTURE CONTROL** is by far the most important reason for mulching. Without a good layer of mulch (100mm or 4"), the sun and wind will cause the top 100mm of soil to dry out very quickly putting your plants under extreme stress in a very short space of time. By mulching, the rate of evaporation is slowed dramatically and with the advent of water restrictions, any saving of water usage can only be beneficial not only to the environment but to our hip pockets too.

**2. WEED PREVENTION** Having a physical barrier on top of the soil will inhibit **weeds**. Once a seed germinates and reaches the soil surface it needs sunlight to photosynthesize (produce food for growth). If a mulch is in place, just its physical presence will prevent most, if not all, potential weed problems thus allowing your plants to thrive without competition. NB. Don't use plastic under mulch, it prevents the passage of water and gases into the soil and therefore this can hinder plant growth. We suggest you use Weed Stop.

**3. TEMPERATURE MODERATION** is another benefit of having this physical barrier. In our Queensland climate, soil will absorb a considerable amount of heat which in an un-mulched garden causes damage to sensitive plant roots near the soil surface. Also in those areas that have mild frosts, the mulch will again moderate the temperature making your garden a more "enjoyable" environment for your plants to grow!

**4. REPLACING ORGANIC MATTER** in the soil blend as a mulch decays, by maintaining its open free draining structure. This can be seen if you walk through any rainforest or bushland where the ground underfoot is covered in decaying organic matter... nature's way of mulching.

**5. A WIDE RANGE OF MULCHES** available, means that you can create different styles of gardens with the mulch having a real decorative or discrete feature in the design. All available mulches are on display at Centenary Landscaping Supplies and you can buy any amount from one bag to a semi-trailer load.



[www.CentenaryLandscaping.com.au](http://www.CentenaryLandscaping.com.au) for all your landscaping needs!

Open Monday-Friday 6am-5pm, Saturday 6am-4pm

Sunday & Public Holidays 7.30am-3.30pm

Call Now 3373 4900

**CENTENARY**  
**Landscaping**  
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When you want it today and on time!