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FERTILIZER CONVERSION TABLES

Lawns

Gardens

Flower Beds

FERTILIZER CONVERSION TABLES FOR LAWNS, GARDENS AND FLOWER BEDS

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Fertilizer recommendations often are given on a pounds-per-acre basis. In applying fertilizer to home lawns, gardens, flower beds and compost piles, frequently it is difficult to convert these weights into proper amounts for smaller areas or rows. This leaflet gives these conversions. Since scales often are unavailable, volume measures also are given.

Have your soil tested to determine the amount of fertilizer (and limestone) needed for your lawn or garden. Contact your local county agricultural agent for information on how to collect a representative sample and mailing to the soil testing laboratory.

Table 1. Conversion from pounds per acre into weights for smaller areas

Pounds per acre	1000 sq. ft.	100 sq. ft.
Fertilizer:		
100	2 1/2 lb.	4 oz.
200	5 lb.	8 oz.
400	9 lb.	15 oz.
800	18 1/2 lb.	2 lb.
1000	23 lb.	2 1/2 lb.
Manure, leaves and straw:		
8000	200 lb.	20 lb.
16000	400 lb.	40 lb.

Table 2. Weights converted to measure

- Common fertilizer(10-20-10, 12-12-12, 0-20-0, etc.): 1 pint = 1 pound.
- Nitrogen fertilizers (ammonium nitrate and urea): 1 1/3 pints = 1 pound; (ammonium sulfate): 1 pint = 1 pound.
- Agricultural limestone: 3/4 pint = 1 pound.
- Manure (packed): 1 bushel = 30 pounds.
- Straw or leaves (dry and tightly packed): 2 bushels = 30 pounds.

Table 3. Conversion from area rate to linear row

Rates per 100 sq. ft.	Distance between rows		
	3 ft.	2 ft.	1 ft.
Amount per 100 ft. of row			
1/2 lb.	1 1/2 lb.	1 lb.	8 oz.
1 lb.	3 lb.	2 lb.	16 oz.
2 lb.	6 lb.	4 lb.	2 lb.
3 lb.	9 lb.	6 lb.	3 lb.
4 lb.	12 lb.	8 lb.	4 lb.
5 lb.	15 lb.	10 lb.	5 lb.

Table 4. Conversion from area rate to a per plant basis

Pounds per 100 sq. ft.	Spacings		
	5x5 ft.	2 1/2 x 2 1/2 ft.	2 x 1 1/2 ft.
Amount per plant			
1/2 lb.	2 oz.*	1 oz.	1/2 oz.
1 lb.	4 oz.	2 oz.	1 oz.
2 lb.	8 oz.	4 oz.	2 oz.
3 lb.	12 oz.	6 oz.	3 oz.
4 lb.	16 oz.	8 oz.	4 oz.
5 lb.	20 oz.	10 oz.	5 oz.

*1 ounce = 2 tablespoons

Production of high-quality vegetables requires adequate amounts of available plant food in the soil. If these are not present, they can be added in fertilizers. However, the fertilizer should contain those plant foods needed and the rate should be high enough to meet the plant food requirement of those vegetables to be planted.

The method of applying fertilizer influences results. For garden vegetables, it is generally desirable to broadcast (spread on the surface) and work into the soil a fertilizer containing all of the potassium, most of the phosphorus and some of the nitrogen. A small amount of fertilizer containing only phosphorus can be put in the row with the seed or a small amount of a complete fertilizer can be put in a band(s) beside the row. Use caution in putting too much fertilizer with or too near the seed. For vegetables requiring high amounts of nitrogen, additional fertilizer can be sidedressed. A soil test will help to determine how to fertilize and lime, if needed.

REFERENCES

(Available from your county agricultural agent)

- B-203 Home Lawns (For sale only)
- L-164 Soil Reaction (pH) Ranges
- D-495 Soil Sampling Information Sheet for Lawns, Gardens and Flower Beds
- TAP-1 Roses for Texas
- TAP-19 Gladiolus for Texas Gardens
- TAP-34 The Culture of Gardenias in Texas
- TAP-63 Chrysanthemums for Texas Gardens