

BASIC NEEDS OF PLANTS



Learn about the specific needs of each plant while gardening, by respecting the basic needs of plants written in this info-sheet you will be able to increase their strength and productivity.

LIGHT

The more demanding plants need about six to eight hours of sunshine per day. In general, it is better to grow leafy vegetables and aromatic plants in a part shade environment.

WATER

It is more desirable to maintain a regular watering habit, using water at room temperature and which has been formerly left resting in order to allow the deposition of the different elements in suspension and also the evaporation of chlorine.

Moreover, water at the base of the plant, in order to avoid packing of the soil and wetting of the leaves, which may cause them to burn in sun exposure or develop of fungal diseases.

NUTRIENTS

Nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium are the three main nutrients that plants require.

N	P	K
Nitrogen	Phosphorus	Potassium
↓	↓	↓
Vegetative growth	Root growth	Blooming

The instructions displayed on the labels of the compost or fertilizer bags will tell you which proportions to use.

Remember: leguminous plants enrich naturally the soil with nitrogen.

AIR

Root growth is affected when the soil is too packed. You can resolve this problem by adding perlite, crushed eggshells or pieces of carton, which will help to maintain some air pockets in the soil. Before planting, some tillage must be done in order to loosen up the soil, which will facilitate root growth.

Don't forget to hoe the surface of the soil during gardening season as well.

SOIL AND COMPOST

A healthy soil contains many beneficial microorganisms, which help plant growth, that's why it is important to use organic composts and fertilizers instead of chemical ones.

For container gardening, a 40% compost and 60% of gardening soil ratio is recommended. Be careful not to use black soil or soil for flowers.

SPACE AND DEPTH

Plants need space in order to grow well. Therefore, spacing distances should be respected. If necessary, do not hesitate to pull out the excess plants.

Most plants' roots also need a minimal depth of 30 cm, or 12 inches.

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