BASIC FERTILIZER PROGRAM

Previous Fall

We recommend a soil test; this is the most important tool that you will have, click the following link for proper soil sampling practices: a Basic Guide to Soil Sampling.
It is important to have your soil test read by an Agronomist, or someone who can interpret the results and make recommendations based on your soil and the crop that you will be planting. A balanced soil is the Key to success.
Contact us if you require soil test interpretations and recommendations at sales@extremepumpkinstore.com.
Add amendments such as potassium, Lime, and phosphorous in the fall, these nutrients will take longer to break down and work into the soil.
If our soil test indicates that we need Potassium, we use Potassium Sulfate 0-0-50 , we avoid using Muriate of Potash.
Humic acid can be applied in the fall.
If your Organic matter is low, you can add Composted Manure, mulched Maple Leaves, Compost or other forms of organic matter, be very careful when using municipal compost, certain herbicides can be transferred from the compost to your garden.
We recommend planting a cover crop to help prevent soil from becoming compacted, hold soil in place against the forces of wind and water, and to pull necessary nutrients from the soil.

Early Spring

We recommend a follow up soil test to fine tune and balance your soil pre planting.
We cannot emphasize the importance of a Soil test; click the following link for proper soil sampling practices: a Basic Guide to Soil Sampling.
Contact us if you require soil test interpretations and recommendations at sales@extremepumpkinstore.com.
We add Kelp Meal, 50 lbs per 1000 sq ft. and Humic Acid to the soil at 10lbs per 1000 sq ft. every spring.
If our soil test indicates that we need Potassium, we use Potassium Sulfate 0-0-50 , we avoid using Muriate of Potash.
If our soil requires Calcium, we use Liquid Gypsum, it is very effective and works much faster than traditional Granular Gypsum, not to mention that it is much easier to carry.
If our soil test indicates that we need Nitrogen, we usually add either Blood Meal or 30-0-0 Slow Release Nitrogen, depending on the size of the garden and how much Nitrogen is necessary.
If your Organic matter is low, you can add Composted Manure, or Compost, we do not recommend mulched Maple leaves in the spring; the leaves will not have enough time to compost/ break down prior to planting.
Be very careful when using municipal compost, certain herbicides can be transferred from the compost to your garden.

Seed Starting

File and Soak seeds in a solution of ½ teaspoon Soluble kelp Powder in 1-quart of warm water for 2-4 hours, during this time we have placed our desired seed starting medium in a container and covered it with plastic wrap and sealed it to keep the moisture in, this will create a greenhouse effect, and have placed it on a heat mat to start warming the up the starting medium Within 3-5 days you will see the seedling emerge.

After Several days, start to Harden off, or acclimate the seedlings by putting them outside in indirect sunlight, moving them to direct sunlight over several days..

Seed Starting Medium Prep.

We mix ½ cup of Symbios Pumpkin Pro Mycorrhiza into each gallon container of starting medium and lightly moisten it with warm water, squeeze out all excess water so that you cannot squeeze a drop out of it, this will ensure that the seed does not rot due to excessive moisture.

Preparing the Planting Area

By the time we are ready to transplant the seedlings into their designated areas, we have already installed Soil Heating Cables into the soil to ensure that the root zone is warm, 74° not only will this keep the seedling from going into shock, but it will allow the roots to develop much faster creating a healthier, more robust plant that will be more resilient to temperature changes and drought.

We work a generous amount of worm castings into the soil, then just before we place the seedling into the hole we broadcast 1 cup of Mycorrhiza, we want to ensure that the roots come into contact with the Mycorrhiza.

We drench the planting area with Bio Nutrients, and Microtech CT to boost the essential micronutrients and growth-enhancing biostimulants, this Probiotic and Micronutrient boost will help to establish the seedlings and help to avoid transplant shock.

We construct a Cold Frame, 4ft x 10ft, we open the front and back every morning to ensure that the plants do not overheat, and close them up in the evenings to ensure that the plants stay warm.

We put a 175 Watt Heat Lamp on every plant to keep the air temp between 65° -75°, and lessen the transplant shock.

Once Transplanted

We drench the soil in the root zone and surrounding the seedling in a 3 ft circle with:

Soluble Kelp(diluted at 1 tablespoon per gallon of water), and

Neptune's Fish Fertilizer (diluted at 1 oz per gallon of water)

We apply Companion, every 2 weeks

We start our insecticide program at this point with a systemic insecticide drenched in a 3 ft circle around the plant; plenty of growers have lost world class seedlings at this stage to various insects and larvae in the soil – Be Proactive from the start!

We water as necessary, do not keep the soil too moist as this can promote disease such as Damping Off.

We keep the plants warm at night, closing up the hoops houses and turning on the heat lamps.

In May –
Water the plants as a soil drench as needed with:
Once Weekly Soluble Seaweed (diluted at 1 tablespoon per gallon of water), usually twice weekly,
Once Weekly Neptune's Fish weekly (diluted at 1 oz per gallon of water), and
Once Weekly We start making small batches of Compost Tea and Drenching the root zone and surrounding soil.
Water as needed.
**We make sure that we water and drench in a 3-5 ft circumference around the seedling/plant when watering or fertilizing to accommodate root growth.
Towards the end of may we start with gentle, light foliar feedings of:
Soluble Seaweed (diluted at 1 tablespoon per gallon of water).
Neptune's Fish Fertilizer (diluted at 1 oz per gallon of water)
Start adding weekly foliar applications of Grow Big or Jacks 20-20-20, both of these products will start providing necessary nutrients.

In June -
As the plant starts to vine, we promote root growth by applying a mixture of:
5 lbs of Symbios Pumpkin Pro, 1 cup of Soluble Kelp, and 4 ounces of Soluble Humic acid
We apply approx. 1-2 tablespoon to every leaf node as we are burying the vines or covering the leaf nodes.
We start to add a few feedings to accommodate the need for nutrients as the plants grow.
Once Weekly We apply Soluble Kelp (diluted at 1 tablespoon per gallon of water) applied as a Foliar.
Once weekly we apply Neptune's Fish Fertilizer, (diluted at 1 oz per gallon of water) as a foliar.
Once Weekly We apply foliar applications of Grow Big or Jacks 20-20-20
Once weekly We apply Compost Tea Once Weekly through our irrigation.
****Optional Additions:****
Once Weekly We apply Cal Mag Max, (Diluted at 2 oz per gal.) applied as foliar, Plants need calcium for cell wall development and growth. Pathogens attack weak cell walls to invade a plant, and stronger cell wall structure avoids this. Magnesium is part of the chlorophyll in all green plants and essential for photosynthesis. We highly recommend Cal Mag Max
Once weekly We may apply Bloom Booster or Monster Bloom, or Fertilome, if Necessary to aid in flower production.
CO2 Fixing Spray every 1-2 weeks at 1 tablespoon Diluted in 1 gal water, per plant

***We will stop all sprays while pollinating, usually several days prior and several days after.**

****TIP** You can mix any combination of the following and spray together: Fish, Kelp, Extreme Blend, Pesticide and Fungicide, in one tank and spray without harming your plants.**
Please follow the dilution rates!
Cal Mag Max should be sprayed separate from other fertilizers.

In July -
We continue to Use a mixture of
5 lbs of Symbios Pumpkin Pro, 1 cup of Soluble Kelp, and 4 ounces of Soluble Humic acid
We apply approx. 1-2 tablespoon to every leaf node as we are burying the vines or covering the leaf nodes.
We continue applying:
Once Weekly We apply Soluble Kelp (diluted at 1 tablespoon per gallon of water) applied as a Foliar.
Once weekly we apply Neptune's Fish Fertilizer, (diluted at 1 oz per gallon of water) as a foliar.
Once Weekly We apply foliar applications of Grow Big or Jacks 20-20-20
Once Weekly We apply Cal Mag Max, (Diluted at 2 oz per gal.) applied as a foliar.
Once weekly We apply Compost Tea Once Weekly through our irrigation.

****Optional Additions:****
We add the following to our rotation to supplement the nutrients that the plants will need to sustain itself and the fruit once the fruit gets set and start to grow:
Once Weekly We apply TKO Phosphite, (Diluted at one oz per gal.) applied as a foliar.
Once weekly We apply Extreme Blend (diluted at 1 oz per gallon of water) as a foliar.
CO2 Fixing Spray every 1-2 weeks at 1 tablespoon Diluted in 1 gal water, per plant

****TIP** You can mix any combination of the following and spray together: TKO, Fish, Kelp, Extreme Blend, Pesticide and Fungicide, in one tank and spray without harming your plants.**
Please follow the dilution rates!
Cal Mag Max should be sprayed separate from other fertilizers.
DO NOT use any Copper fungicides or fertilizers while using TKO.

In August
We continue to Use a mixture of
5 lbs of Symbios Pumpkin Pro, 1 cup of Soluble Kelp, and 4 ounces of Soluble Humic acid
We apply approx. 1-2 tablespoon to every leaf node as we are burying the vines or covering the leaf nodes.
We continue applying:
Once Weekly We apply Soluble Kelp (diluted at 1 tablespoon per gallon of water) applied as a Foliar.
Once weekly we apply Neptune's Fish Fertilizer, (diluted at 1 oz per gallon of water) as a foliar.
Once Weekly We apply foliar applications of Grow Big or Jacks 20-20-20
Once Weekly We apply Cal Mag Max, (Diluted at 2 oz per gal.) applied as a foliar.
Once weekly We apply Compost Tea Once Weekly through our irrigation.

****Optional Additions:****
We add the following to our rotation to supplement the nutrients that the plants will need to sustain itself and the fruit once the fruit gets set and start to grow:
Once Weekly We apply TKO Phosphite, (Diluted at 2 oz per gal.) applied as a foliar.

Once Weekly We apply 0-0-25 Liquid Potassium (diluted at 2 oz per gallon of water) as a foliar.
CO2 Fixing Spray every 1-2 weeks at 1 tablespoon Diluted in 1 gal water, per plant

****TIP** You can mix any combination of the following and spray together: TKO, Fish, Kelp, Extreme Blend, Pesticide and Fungicide, in one tank and spray without harming your plants.**
Please follow the dilution rates!
Cal Mag Max should be sprayed separate from other fertilizers.
DO NOT use any Copper fungicides or fertilizers while using TKO.

In September & October

Once Weekly We apply Soluble Kelp (diluted at 1 tablespoon per gallon of water) applied as a Foliar.
Once weekly we apply Neptune's Fish Fertilizer, (diluted at 1 oz per gallon of water) as a foliar.
Once Weekly We apply foliar applications of Grow Big or Jacks 20-20-20
Once Weekly We apply Cal Mag Max, (Diluted at one oz per gal.) applied as a foliar.
Once Weekly We apply 0-0-25 Liquid Potassium (diluted at 1 oz per gallon of water) as a foliar.
Once weekly We apply Compost Tea Once Weekly through our irrigation.
If necessary we may broadcast Granular 0-0-50.

****TIP** You can mix any combination of the following and spray together: TKO, Fish, Kelp, Extreme Blend, Pesticide and Fungicide, in one tank and spray without harming your plants.**
Please follow the dilution rates!
Cal Mag Max should be sprayed separate from other fertilizers.
DO NOT use any Copper fungicides or fertilizers while using TKO.