



# Planting with NATURES EARTH FNQ Potting Mixes.



Choosing **NATURES EARTH FNQ** potting mix is a great investment in your plant's health and happiness.

Our potting mixes come in both a premium grade, and a garden mix grade, suited to many plants both in pots and within garden beds, lawns, and landscapes.

Your bonus sachet of soil enhancer, Organic Bioboost, contained in your bag will add a major health benefit to all your plants and soils. Organic Bioboost contains soil bacteria which are highly beneficial to plant health and disease resistance.

Vegetable growing is also ideal for both our mixes and used correctly your results will inspire both yourself and those around you.

***When handling any potting mix, it is advisable to wear gloves and a mask, avoid breathing in dust and particles and wash off any potting mix that contacts your skin. Always read and follow the Safety Hazards information on the bag.***



## Choosing your potting mix.

1. To choose the right potting mix, consider the following factors.
2. Plant type: Different plants have different soil requirements. Determine the type of plants you will be growing and research their preferred soil composition. Some plants prefer well-draining soil, while others may require a more moisture-retentive mix.
3. Purpose: Consider the purpose of the potting mix. Are you starting seeds, transplanting seedlings, or growing mature plants? Each stage may require a different type of potting mix with specific nutrient levels and textures.
4. Australian native plants require a low phosphorus level and Natures Earth potting mixes are not suited to work with these great Aussie natives at this stage. Most other plants will love NATURES EARTH products. Plants such as seedlings, orchids, cactus, bonsai, terrariums, stag horns and elkhorns initiations require specialised mixes and although our mixes may be incorporated, specialised additions would be required to suit these plants growth and abundance.
5. If you are not sure of your plants requirements ask an expert horticulturist at your local nursery, their expertise and advice can be essential.



## Which potting mix?

Choosing from **Natures Earth FNQ** two mixes that contains a balanced combination of organic matter, such as compost, peat, nutrients, and properties for improved drainage and aeration for optimal plant growth.

Natures Earth FNQ **Premium Potting Mix**, the perfect mix with a slow release nutrient formula containing a 9 Month slow nutrient feed to assist you plants in its base needs for growth and vitality. Our mixes are accredited to Australian Standards, AS 3743 for our Premium Mix.

Our **Garden Bed Mix** is ideal to place in garden beds, around ornamental plants, orchard trees and shrubs, top dress your lawn and to grow your vegetables in all year round. Australian Standard AS4419

Our **OrganicBio Boost**, included in your bag contains beneficial soil microorganisms that can be used in multi-functional ways to enhance your potting and gardening experience.

Go to our contact page and contact us for our certifications, SDS or analysis, we will be proud to supply them to you.

### ***PREMIUM POTTING MIX*** from Natures Earth: How to pot your plants.

#### 1. Choosing and using our Premium Potting Mix.

Before selecting our **Premium Potting Mix** ensure it is suitable for the type of plants you are growing. Different plants have different soil requirements, so make sure to read the packaging or consult a gardening expert for guidance.



#### 2. Prepare the container: Select a clean and appropriate-sized container with drainage holes at the bottom. This will ensure proper water drainage and prevent waterlogging.

#### 3. Fill the container: Fill the container with potting mix, leaving some space at the top for watering. Incorporate 5 grams (approx. 1 tsp) of OrganicBio Boost into the mix, around where the plant roots will dwell in time, (based on 200mm/4.5 litre pot).

Gently tap the container to settle the mix and remove any air pockets.

#### 4. Plant your plants: Make a hole in the potting mix that is deep enough to accommodate the roots of your plant. Place the plant in the hole and gently cover the roots with potting mix, pressing it lightly to secure the plant.

#### 5. Water the plants: After planting, thoroughly water the potting mix until water drains out from the bottom. This will help settle the mix and provide initial hydration to the plants

#### 6. Maintain proper care: Regularly monitor the moisture level of the potting mix and water accordingly. Follow the specific care instructions for your plants, including fertilization and pruning, to ensure their healthy growth.



Remember to always refer to the specific needs of your individual plants for best results.



## **GARDEN BED MIX from Natures Earth: Ideas on how to use.**

### 1. Choosing and using our Garden Mix blend.

Before selecting our **Garden Bed Mix** blend ensure it is suitable for the type of plants you are growing. Different plants have different soil requirements, so make sure to read the packaging or consult a gardening expert for guidance.



### 2. **Build your garden bed from your Garden Bed Mix** blend, as you are adding your bags contents dampen the mix as you go, incorporate your sachet of OrganicBio Boost on your garden beds – at 30 grams a metre square around the root zone of plants or where plants will be placed.

Combine both our Garden Bed Mix and our Premium Mix for even greater results.

### 3. **Incorporate your Garden Bed Mix** blend into the topsoil of your current vegetable or garden bed, simply mix into the top 150mm to 300mm of your soil and dampen, apply your sachet of OrganicBio Boost at 30 grams a metre square around the root zone of plants or where plants will be placed. Natures Earth Premium Mix may also be used for this purpose or combine both products together for greater results economically.

### 4. **Lawn Top Dressing**, apply your Garden Bed Mix to your lawn for new grass growth and soil rejuvenation. Firstly, apply your OrganicBio Boost sachet at 20 grams a metre square and spread your Natures Earth Garden Bed Mix across your lawn and rake in, add any organic amendments such as fertilisers and water well.



### 5. **Orchard Trees**, use your Garden Bed Mix to spread around the root zone area of your trees, spreading out to the drip line will assist in water retention in the soil and add organic food sources for growth and vitality. Natures Earth Premium Mix can be used for the same purpose and will add base fertilisers from the slow release contained inside. Use your OrganicBio Boost at 30 grams a square metre under your potting mix.

For specific orchard producing trees consider an all-round fit for purpose fertiliser, for instance an avocado tree will have different requirements to a lemon tree. Speak to your expert horticulturalist at your local nursery.

6. Consider making a **Hay Bale Garden** with our mixes, simple and effective in growing herbs, vegetables, and fruits in a small area, use either our Garden Bed Mix or Premium mix and remember to add nutrients that you will require, such as organic chicken manure, simply use any amount of hay bales you need.

A great way to grow your needs and recycle your finished bales into your current garden as a living healthy compost.

Go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NQFJvRu7Ca0> for easy instructions.



## Using your OrganicBio Boost.



**OrganicBio Boost** is a soil enhancer that can provide significant health benefits to plants and soil. It is designed to improve the overall quality and fertility of the soil, leading to healthier and more vibrant plants.

Some potential plant and soil benefits of using OrganicBio Boost include:

1. **Enhanced nutrient availability:** OrganicBio Boost contains beneficial microorganisms that break down nutrients in the soil, making them more accessible to plants. This can promote better growth and development.
2. **Improved soil structure:** The beneficial microbes in OrganicBio Boost helps to improve soil structure by binding particles together. This leads to better drainage, aeration, and water retention, which is essential for root development.
3. **Increased microbial activity:** OrganicBio Boost introduces beneficial microorganisms to the soil, which play important roles in nutrient cycling and promoting overall soil health. These microorganisms can enhance the decomposition of organic matter and improve nutrient availability.
4. **Disease suppression:** The presence of beneficial microorganisms in OrganicBio Boost can assist the soil in suppressing harmful plant pathogens. This can reduce the risk of plant diseases and improve overall plant health.
5. **Environmental benefits:** By using OrganicBio Boost, you are promoting sustainable and environmentally friendly gardening practices. The beneficial microbials in the product helps to improve soil structure, reduce erosion, and enhance water infiltration. It also contributes to the long-term health and fertility of the soil.

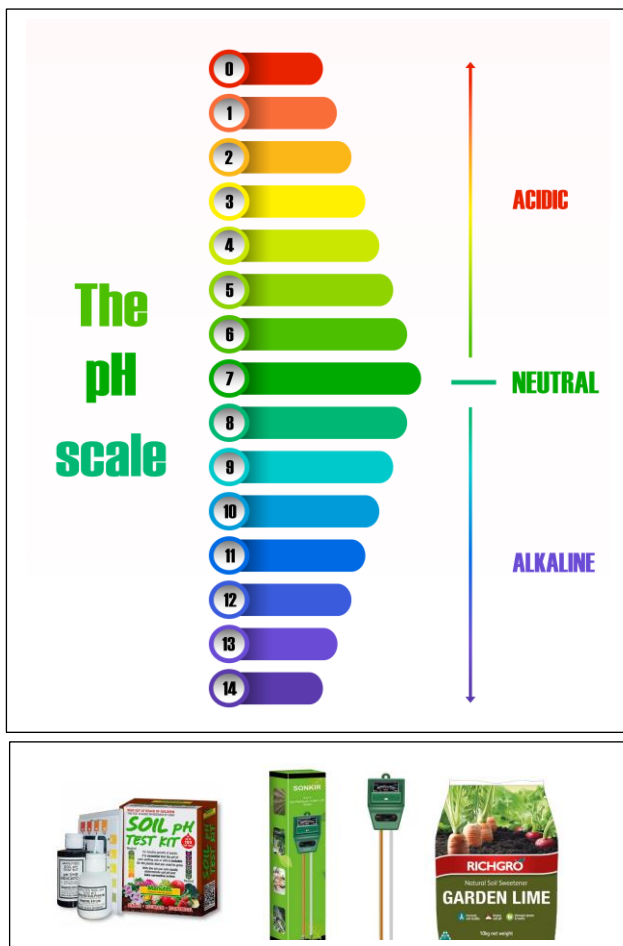


To maximize the benefits of OrganicBio Boost, it is recommended to follow the instructions provided on the packaging and or read through our applications on each situation here on our website.

Additionally, combining its usage with proper watering and other good gardening practices will help ensure the health and vitality of your plants and soil.

## Working with soil and plants; Considerations. pH.

When combining Natures Earth potting mixes to soil it is important to know your final pH before planting.



Testing your soil pH is important because it helps you understand the acidity or alkalinity of your soil. pH is a measure of the concentration of hydrogen ions in the soil solution, and it influences nutrient availability to plants.

Different plants thrive in different pH ranges, so knowing your soil pH can help you choose appropriate plants for your garden and optimize nutrient uptake.

To test your soil pH, you can follow these steps:

1. Collect soil samples: Take multiple soil samples from different areas of your garden or yard. Aim to gather samples from the top 10 to 15cm of soil. Use a clean trowel or shovel to avoid contamination.
2. Prepare the soil samples: Remove debris like rocks or plant materials from the soil samples. Mix the samples thoroughly to create a mixture.
3. Obtain a pH testing kit: There are several options available, such as pH test strips, colour-changing liquid pH tests, or electronic pH meters. You can find these kits at nurseries, garden centres, hardware stores or online.

4. Perform the pH test: Follow the instructions provided with your chosen pH testing kit. Generally, the steps involve adding a specific amount of soil to a test tube or container, then adding a solution or indicator and comparing the resulting colour or reading on a scale to determine the pH value.

5. Repeat the test: For accurate results, it's recommended to test multiple soil samples and average the readings. This will give you a better understanding of the overall soil pH in your garden.

6. Interpret the results: Soil pH is measured on a scale from 0 to 14, with values below 7 considered acidic and values above 7 considered alkaline. A pH of 7 is considered neutral. Most plants prefer a slightly acidic to neutral pH between 6 and 7, though some plants may prefer more acidic or alkaline conditions.

7. If the test results indicate that your soil pH is not within the desired range, you can take appropriate measures to adjust it. For example, adding agricultural lime can raise the pH of acidic soil, while adding elemental sulfur or organic matter can lower the pH of alkaline soil.

8. Once you have determined your pH and if you feel the need to ameliorate your soil before planting, consult with your local nursery specialist.

Remember, regular soil pH testing can help you monitor changes and maintain optimal soil conditions for healthy plant growth.

