

PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS

People have long believed that rich loose soil is perfect for planting, whereas clay soil is bad. This is not necessarily true. Good soil is a combination of both, and perfect soil is a blessing. Good soil usually needs to be worked at, over the years, to improve both its structure and drainage. We recommend using organic amendments such as leaf compost and manure to build soil up and add nutrients back to it, and also using a root stimulator when planting, to allow the plant to build a root structure that will support the plant in almost any soil. The following are our suggestions for planting:

FOR PLANTS BEING ADDED TO EXISTING LANDSCAPES:

Dig a hole 2 times wider and 6-8" deeper than the rootball of the plant. After the hole is dug, mix half the existing soil with Black Velvet or another soil conditioner. One bag of Black Velvet will do 5-1 gal, 2-3 gal, or 1-7 gal container plant. Larger trees and shrubs may require 2 or more bags. Mix the Black Velvet with the soil from the hole, and layer it back into the hole around the plant. Unless you have a problem with extremely wet soil, the top of the plant's rootball should be level with the ground. When you have backfilled completely, tamp the soil down lightly and water the plant with Ferti-lome Root Stimulator. **DO NOT PACK SOIL OR MULCH UP AROUND THE STEM OF THE PLANT.** This will suffocate and eventually kill the plant. Mulch as needed afterwards.

PLANTING IN RAISED BEDS:

You should use a variety of amendments when creating a raised bed, including soil from the area if at all possible. Depending on what you want to grow, the bed needs to be at least 8-10 inches deep. Mix equal amounts of Black Velvet, top soil, manure and leaf compost, blend them together until they're well mixed, and plant following the instructions above.

CONTAINER PLANTINGS:

Use Black Velvet whenever you plant containers with evergreens or trees. Create a mix of 2 parts Black Velvet to 1 part potting mix (NOT potting soil), to add some extra drainage. Make sure your container has drainage, water well, and feed on a regular basis.



Other amendments that we like, include Black Kow Top Soil and Cow Manure, LeafGro leaf compost, mushroom compost and Permatill.

