



GROMOR (PTY) LTD
CK: 2012/001907/07

P.O. Box 89, Cato Ridge 3680 • Tel: 031 782 0002, 031 782 3105

Fax: 031 782 1431, 086 641 2589

Cell: 083 946 6079, E-mail: gromor@iafrica.com

www.gromor.co.za

GROMOR NOVEMBER 2016 NEWSLETTER

In my newsletters I have generally concentrated on the use of “organics” in improving the health of soils to get the best plant growth. Whilst vitally important, if we are going to feed the world’s growing population, it cannot be at the expense of “inorganics” i.e. incorporating the use of chemical fertilizers.

I quote from the first edition of World Fertilizers “fertilizers have changed the world. Now, an integrated part of our agriculture, chemical fertilizers account for 50% of global food production and have improved economic standards in poverty stricken areas around the world, keeping billions of people fed every day. The world’s population has trebled over the past 50 years (and with no World Wars in sight – only regional conflicts. RH) will increase by a further billion in the coming decade.” Mark Cryans and Jana Graso.

Feeding these masses will depend on the advance of agricultural technology, combining up to date organics and inorganics.

On the chemical fertilizer side, the advances to make the plant nutrients they contain more available to plants, have tended to be swept under the carpet. This is however changing with research being done on the most favourable make-up of fertilizers, as well getting the soil right, to compliment optimum plant nutrient uptake. Here “organics” plays an important role.

Comments made on Africa are well known to us. “Africa has been outlined as a core part of future growth plans. The continent is vast and populations are expanding rapidly, but it continues to rely on subsistence agriculture. Farming practices remain basic and consequently fertilizer application rates remain well below global averages. Farmer education, product distribution (inbound and outbound) and INTERNAL CORRUPTION will have to be addressed if this is to change. Thus far there have been some success stories, with Ethiopia being at the forefront.”

EARTH OVERSHOOT DAY

This year “Earth Overshoot Day”, which represents the day of the year when human demand for natural resources surpasses what the Earth can annually replenish, fell on the 8th August. This means that from the 8th August we have been living on “overdraft” and will continue to do so until the end of the year.

“Earth overshoot day” has been coming earlier and earlier since the 1970’s when humans were able to make it to Christmas, before their resource use exceeded what our planet could produce for the year.

The position is exasperated by the UN’s warnings on global WATER USE, which is growing at twice the rate of global population growth. Unlike energy, water is a limited resource and unless the current rate of usage is curtailed (wastage in many cases), two thirds of the world’s population will face water stress by 2025.

ACID LOVING PLANTS

In KZN, Hydrangeas and Azaleas are the best known. They respond well to GROMOR ACCELERATOR organic fertilizer pellets applied at 150g/m²

As an “extra treat” you can give them an annual topdressing of AMMONIUM SULPHATE at 50g/m²

DO NOT apply lime! I know from personal experience having seen the resulting crinkled Hydrangea leaves resulting from my gardener misunderstanding instructions.

FERTILIZING

With the growing season now upon us, it’s time to apply FERTILIZER and COMPOST if you want to get the most out of the growing season.

Remember that flowering plants and fruit and vege bearers, like potassium – apply GROMOR 2.3.4(30) Zn or GROMOR 5.1.5(28) at 50g/m². Greenery e.g. grass, likes nitrogen – apply GROMOR 4.1.1(21) or LAN at 50g/m² if ACCELERATOR or a COMPLETE NPK have been applied at planting.

Where lawn clippings are removed and particularly where no compost has been applied, topdress with GROMOR 5.1.5(28) at 50g/m².

When planting, dig in GROMOR ACCELERATOR organic fertilizer pellets at 150g/m²

KZN: RECOMMENDED VEGETABLE CULTIVARS

The cultivars listed below have generally proved themselves in KZN. Although their seed is expensive, the hybrid cole crops listed have largely replaced the old popular cultivars.

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Beetroot | Detroit Dark Red |
| 2. Broad Beans | Aquadulce, Long Pod |
| 3. Broccoli | Express Corona, Emerald Carrona |
| 4. Brussel Sprouts | Jade Cross |
| 5. Cabbage | |
| 6. Carrots | Cape Market, Chantenay |
| 7. Cauliflower | |
| 8. Celery | Pascal |
| 9. Cucumber | Colorado, Stono, Ashley |
| 10. Brinjeal | Florida Highbush, Kopek |
| 11. Green Beans | Dwarf Contender
Runner Contender |
| 12. Lettuce Heading | Great Lakes |
| Cos | White Cos |

OR whatever your seed supplier recommends – he may have newer varieties doing well.

Regards,

GROMOR PTY LTD

R. HAGEN

PS: A man strolling through a cemetery comes across a man weeping over a grave. “Why did you have to go??” sobs the man. Why? Why? The passer-by stops to lend some words of comfort. “I’m so sorry for your loss – is that your wife’s grave?”

No snuffles the man. “It belongs to her first husband.”

PPS: A youngster wondering what his parents did to fight boredom before there was internet, asked his 17 siblings if they knew, but they didn’t know either!

PPPS: The older I get the better I used to be!

PPPPS: District 6 was a coloured area wasn’t it?

Reply from coloured; “nee dit was ’n colourful area!!”

PPPPPS: 21-year-old reflecting; “it’s unbelievable how much my parents have learned in the last 5 years.”