

# POTTING SOILS AND SOIL AMENDMENTS

Swansons is pleased to offer a variety of high quality potting soils and soil amendments suited to your preference and garden situation.

**POTTING SOILS** are specially formulated for containers, to enhance root development and provide excellent drainage. They should generally should not be used to amend garden soil.

**SOIL AMENDMENTS** (such as COMPOST) add organic matter to your soil. The integrity of your soil depends a lot on organic matter. As it breaks down into humus it improves the ability of soil to retain water and nutrients, and helps soil particles bind together to form structure in which water, air and roots can move freely. It also feeds beneficial soil microbes and fungi which in turn break down and transport nutrients to the roots.

Sandy soils (gritty and loose with large particles) need extra organic matter to improve the ability to hold water and nutrients in the root zone. In heavy clay soils (sticky when wet, powdery or chunky when dry), organic matter provides new air spaces for water to drain and roots to grow.

When adding amendments, work into existing soil as deeply as possible without disturbing existing roots. Never dig in soil that is wet, as it will compact.

Swansons features high quality Gardner & Bloome™ (Gard & Blm™) soil products along with several specialty products. Please ask us if you have further questions!

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## WHICH SOIL OR AMENDMENT OPTIONS FOR WHICH PLANT?

### For Potting Soil:

#### ALL PLANTS IN CONTAINERS:

Gard & Blm™ Potting Soil  
Gard & Blm™ Blue Ribbon Potting Soil  
Grower's Best™ Premium Soil  
Gard & Blm™ Planting Mix (For Larger Planters)

### For Top Mulching:

#### TREES, SHRUBS & LARGE PERENNIALS:

Gard & Blm™ Soil Building Compost  
Swanson™ Bark Mulch

#### LAWNS:

Gard & Blm™ Soil Building Compost

### For Amending Existing Soil:

#### TREES & SHRUBS:

Gard & Blm™ Soil Building Compost  
Gard & Blm™ Planting Mix

#### VEGETABLES:

Gard & Blm™ Harvest Supreme  
Gard & Blm™ Farmyard Blend (Manure Blend)  
Barefoot Soil™ Earthworm Castings


#### PERENNIALS:

Gard & Blm™ Soil Building Compost  
Gard & Blm™ Planting Mix


#### ANNUALS:

Gard & Blm™ Soil Building Compost  
Gard & Blm™ Harvest Supreme


## POTTING SOILS:



**Gardner & Bloome™ Potting Soil:** An all-organic, general purpose potting soil, pH balanced with essential plant nutrients and special water-saving formula features to provide excellent plant health and growth. 1 cu. ft. & 2 cu. ft. bags  
Ingredients: Fir bark, worm castings, redwood, peat moss, perlite, topsoil, chicken manure, bat guano, kelp meal, oyster shell, dolomite lime.




**Gardner & Bloome™ Blue Ribbon Potting Soil:** A general purpose potting soil, containing nutrients and beneficial mycorrhizal fungi, which aids plant vigor and disease resistance. 1.5 cu. ft. bags  
Ingredients: Peat moss, bark fines, humus, pumice, chicken manure, worm castings, bat guano, kelp meal, alfalfa meal, oyster shell, dolomite lime.




**Growers Best™ Media:** A coarse-textured, sterilized, non-soil potting mix specially blended for Northwest growing. Excellent drainage and air space, good for all containers, especially outdoor. 1 cu. ft. bags  
Ingredients: Canadian sphagnum peat moss, pumice, sand and trace elements, perlite.


## SOIL AMENDMENTS




**Gardner & Bloome™ Soil Building Compost:** Great for all garden beds, especially vegetables. Rich in organic matter, fine - light texture. Somewhat longer-lasting — slower to decompose. Recommended 2-3 inches/year dug in or 1 part compost to 3 parts native soil. Also good for fall top mulching or for newly seeded lawns, spreading a light dusting over exposed seed. Now contains mycorrhizae for improved all-around plant health. 1.5 cu. ft. bags 3 cu. ft. bales  
Ingredients: Humus, redwood, worm castings, bat guano, gypsum, kelp meal, oyster shell, dolomite lime and mycorrhizae.




**Gardner & Bloome™ Harvest Supreme:** Excellent for all vegetable and flower gardens. Good lawn spot filler. You can plant directly into this composted mix. Helps break up clay soils and improves drainage. Good top mulch, too. 2 cu. ft. bags  
Ingredients: Fir bark, forest humus, rice hulls, 15% chicken manure, worm castings, bat guano, kelp meal, oyster shell, lime (pH adjuster), and mycorrhizae.



**Gardner & Bloome™ Farmyard Blend:** An all-purpose manure-based compost for any outdoor gardening project where a rich, high-yielding soil is desired. Provides abundant plant nutrients and helps improve physical soil structure. Makes a good lawn top dressing too. 1.5 cu. ft. bags  
Ingredients: Composted dairy, steer and poultry farm manures blended with forest humus and rice hulls.



**Gardner & Bloome™ Planting Mix:** An all-purpose, all-natural, all-organic soil for direct garden planting, raised beds, large outdoor containers and bare-root planting. 2 cu. ft. bags  
Ingredients: Forest humus, peat moss, rice hulls, chicken manure, worm castings, bat guano, kelp meal, alfalfa meal, oyster shell and dolomite limes (pH adjusters).



**Barefoot Soil™ Earthworm Castings:** Certified organic, fine-textured soil amendment, especially good for food gardening. Includes natural growth hormones and beneficial organisms. 1 cu. ft. bags  
Ingredients: Organic earthworm castings and fine, well-aged humus.



**Swanson Wood Products™ Bark Mulch:** Fine textured bark, best used as a top dressing to keep weeds down and soil moisture from evaporating. We recommend mulching 2-3 inches deep and keeping bark away from plant trunks. Note that when bark decomposes, it tends to bind up nitrogen in the soil, making it unavailable to plants. If plants in bark beds look pale or slower growing than normal, nitrogen fertilizer may need to be applied. 2 cu. ft. bags  
Ingredients: Douglas fir and hemlock bark.