

Fertilizer

The condition of your garden soil is the biggest thing that affects how well your plants will grow. Even if you water all the time and pull all the weeds, if your garden soil isn't fertile (if it doesn't have lots of nutrients) then your plants will not grow well. The best way to get bigger, fuller plants in your garden is to fertilize the soil.

Fertilizer gives the soil nutrients to help plants grow. Although, even though you can get nice big plants, there are some problems that happen with fertilizer use.

Fertilizers can cause soil acidification (gives the soil acid). This can cause the soil to have fewer nutrients in it. Fertilizers also contain traces (small bits) of metals. This metal contaminates (adds unwanted stuff) the soil, which is not good for plants. When there is too much metal in the soil the vegetables that are grown are not safe for eating.

The best type of fertilizer to use is compost because it is completely natural. It can be put directly onto the soil and it does not have a negative effect.