

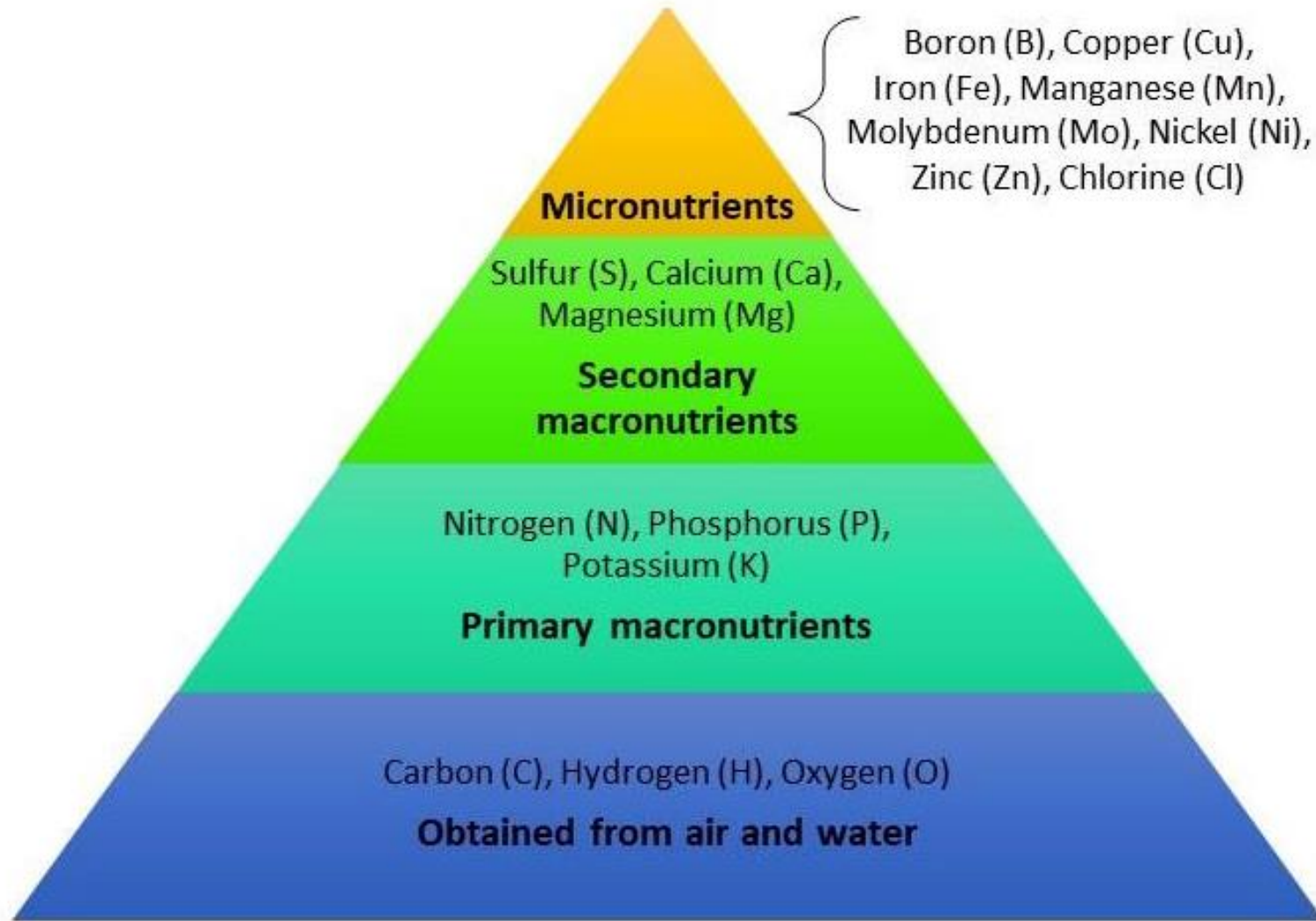
FERTILIZERS

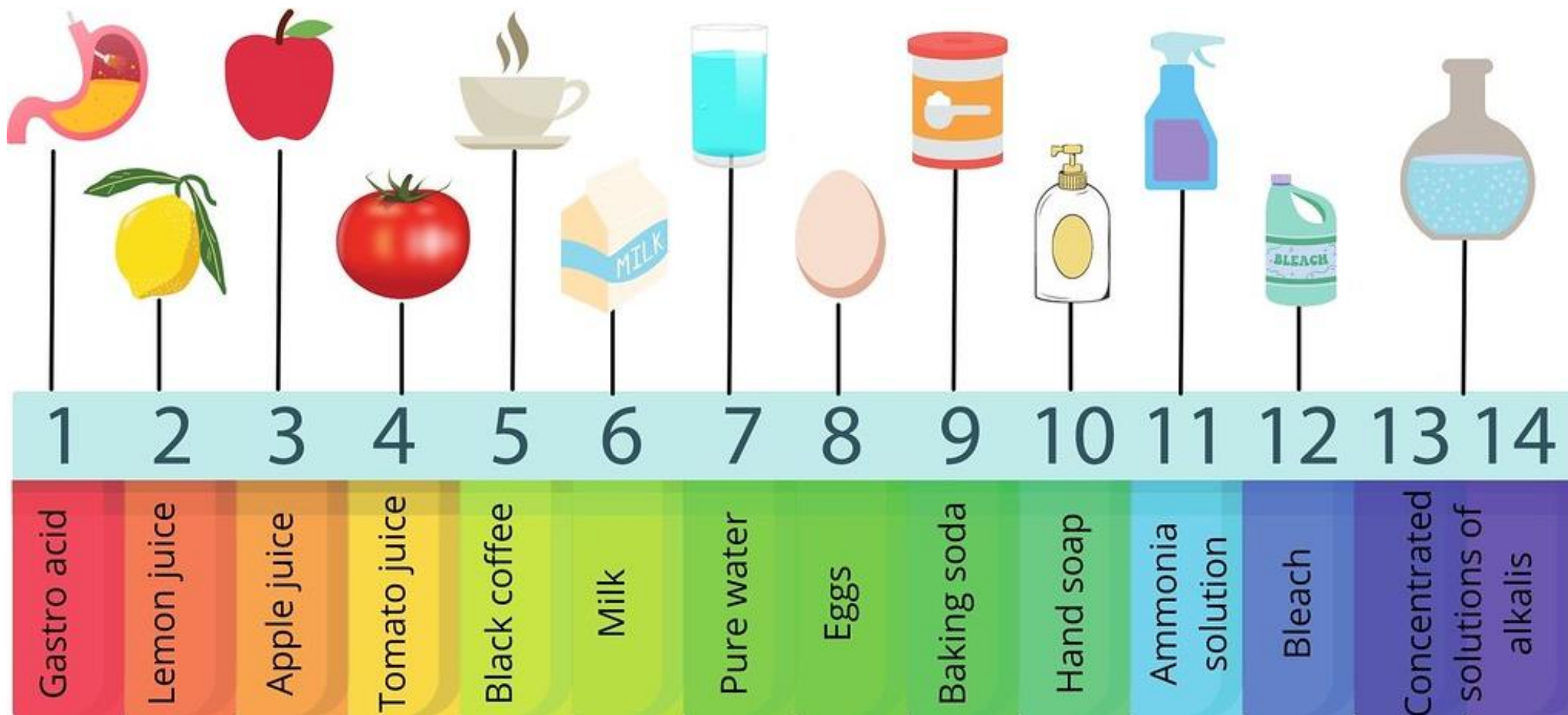
What, Why, How?





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Acidic ← **PH Scale** → Alkaline

Fertilizer Basics



N

Nitrogen

- Component in chlorophyll
- Promotes shoot and leaf growth



P

Phosphorus

- Promotes cell division and new plant tissue growth
- Promotes rooting, flowering, and fruiting



K

Potassium

- Promotes overall heartiness and vigor

This is a massive generalization

Fertilizer Basics

10 – 10 – 10

The numbers given on the label are the percentage of the total volume of each of the three macronutrients

If you had a 100 lb. bag of fertilizer that was 10 – 10 – 10, that would mean that there is 10 lbs. of nitrogen, 10 lbs. of phosphorus, and 10 lbs. of potash in the volume. The other 70 lbs. is other material



Forms of Fertilizer

Soluble

- Dissolves in water
- Fast acting
- Short lived
 - Recommended weekly in containers
- Can burn plants if allowed to stay on leaves and stems



Granular

- Slow acting
- Long lasting
 - 2-3 months
- Safer around plant materials
 - Can still burn if caught in crotches of branches or packed against the roots in a planting hole





Safe use of Fertilizers

- Wear gloves
- Keep away from eyes
- Don't inhale dust
- **Don't** eat it
- Keep bags/containers sealed when not in use

| Type | Form | Use | Tips |
|---|----------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| All Purpose Granular (Perennial, Shrub, & Tree; Flower & Vegetable; Osmocote Indoor& Outdoor, etc) | Sprinkles Slow release | In the planting hole of new or transplanted perennials | Mix into compost in planting hole |
| All Purpose Soluble (Bloom Enhancer, Annual Boost, Bloom Boost, Etc) | Blue Powder Fast Acting | Containers and in-ground annuals, perennials that need a boost NOW | Water into soil |
| Acidic Granular (Acid-Loving, Evergreen, Camella, Rhododendron & Evergreen, Etc) | Sprinkles Slow Release | Around the base of established plants or in the planting hole of new Azaleas & Rhododendrons Hydrangea mac. Evergreens (Except arbs and boxwood) | Mix into compost in planting hole |
| Acidic Soluble | Blue Powder Fast Acting | Certain annuals in containers or in ground | Water into soil |
| Rose Granular | Sprinkles Slow release | Around the base of established plants or in the planting hole of new roses | Mix into compost in planting hole |



Fertilizer, What's the Difference?

- All Purpose Granular
 - Long-term food for long-term growth
 - Perennial or annual planting
 - Perennial maintenance
 - All purpose, so safe to use on pretty much everything



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Fertilizer, What's the Difference?

- All Purpose Soluble
 - Short-term food for fast results, it will wash away in a few days to weeks.
 - For the maintenance of annuals in ground or containers.
 - All purpose, so safe to use on pretty much everything
- MUST be watered in or it can burn plant roots, leaves, and stems.



Fertilizer, What's the Difference?

- Acidic Granular
 - Lowers Ph, increasing acid content of soil
 - Specific for certain acid-loving plants
 - Azalea
 - Rhododendron
 - Evergreens (except Arbs and Boxwoods)
 - Turning Hydrangea *macrophylla* blue



Fertilizer, What's the Difference?

- Acidic Soluble
 - Lowers Ph, increasing acid content of soil
 - Quick release, dissolves in water immediately.
 - Annuals that need acid to support blooming
 - Short-term food for fast results, it will wash away in a few days to weeks.

MUST be watered in or it can burn plant roots, leaves, and stems.



Fertilizer, What's the Difference?

- Rose Fertilizer
 - Roses need a LOT of energy to grow and bloom well, so regular feeding is important.
 - Apply around the base of each rose from May through September.
 - Why should we stop in September?
 - Refer to package for volume to feed each plant as it is based on size of plant.



Fertilizer, What's the Difference?

- Bulb Food or Bone Meal
- Use when planting bulbs
- Apply when the foliage of spring blooming bulbs has died back to fortify them for the next season



Which Fertilizer Should I Use?

- All Purpose
 - Soluble
 - Granular
- Acidic
 - Soluble
 - Granular
- Rose Food
- Bulb Food



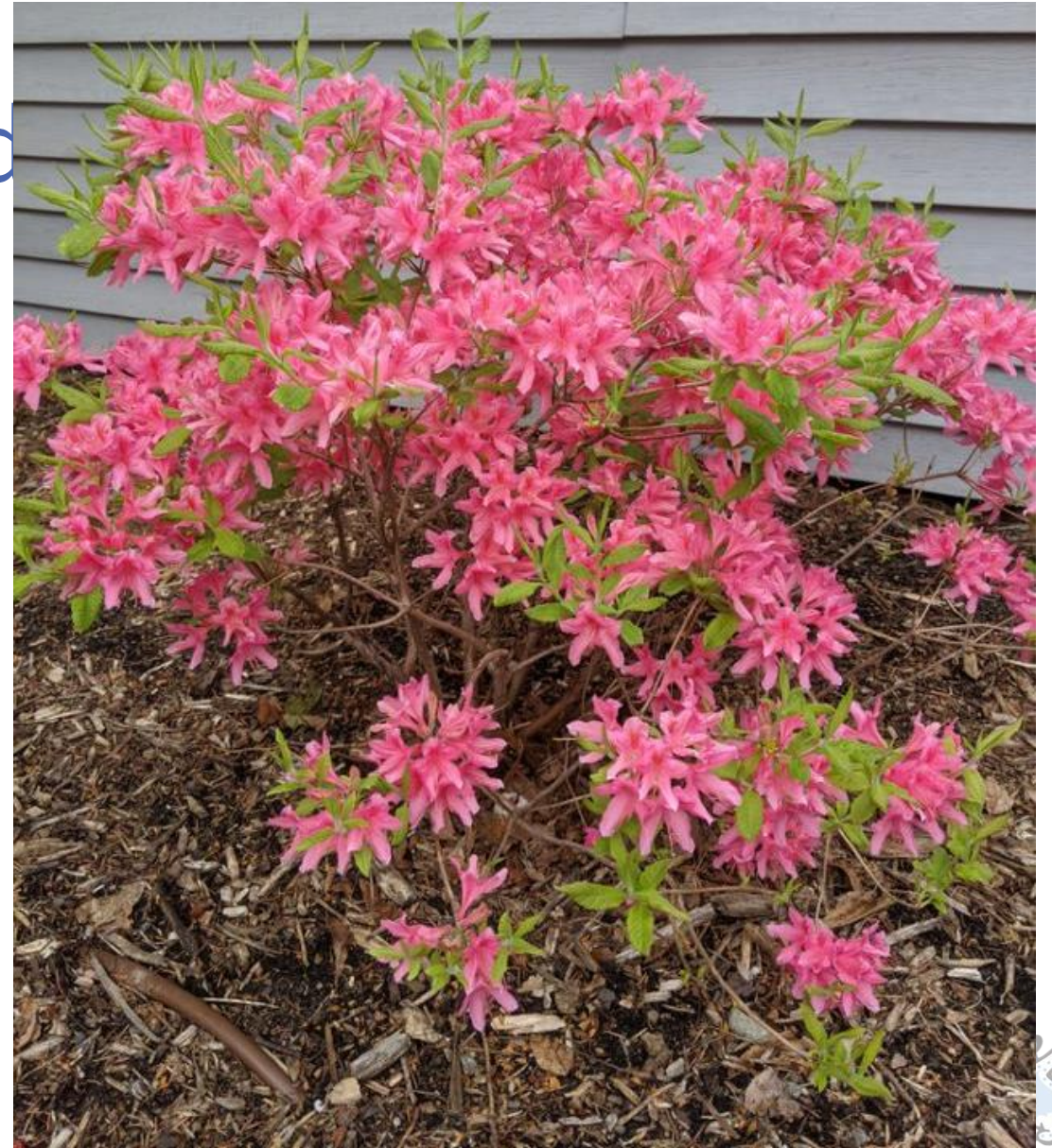
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