

## Susan's Soil Mix for Utah Native Plant Propagation

---

*Makes one cement mixer load (or 3.7 cu. ft. or 12 2-gallon buckets)*

Using a 2 gallon bucket, mix:

- 4 bkts. sieved peat
- 4 bkts. vermiculite
- 2 bkts. Agsorb or Turface (montmorillonite clay)\*
- 2 bkts. #16 quartz silica sand

Mix in 1 batch of the fertilizer formula (recipe below).

Steam at 60 C (141 F) for 45 minutes after soil temperature reaches 60 C.

### *Fertilizer Formula*

- 311 g Dolomite prilled (SoilSweet)
- 238 g Limestone prilled (SuperSweet)
- 115 g  $\text{CaNO}_3$  pellets
- 78 g  $\text{CaSO}_4$  pellets (gypsum)
- 124 g Triple Superphosphate pellets
- 150 g Osmocote 18-6-12 9-month formula \*\*
- 65 g powdered STEM (micronutrients)
- 4 g Fe-138 or Fe-330 chelated iron

\* Can substitute old-fashioned kitty litter

\*\* Osmocote is available in several formulations, depending on how you want to grow the plants. One formula has complete micronutrients in it but it doesn't have all the calcium supplements. You might have to alter other elements like  $\text{KNO}_3$  (superphosphate). Steaming increases the nutrient amount released initially so it doesn't last as long as advertised.

### *Obtaining Materials*

Most ingredients must be ordered since limestones and calcium supplements are not necessary in most alkaline soils. Most ingredients are available from Hummert's Horticultural Supplies, 1-800-325-3055. Triple superphosphate may be available locally. The pelletized and prilled formulations are not absolutely necessary but cut down on dust during mixing and caking during storage.