

»How to be an organic gardener«

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Organic gardening is important in producing safe food for consumption as well as protecting the environment.

Organic gardening is gardening without the use of synthetic pesticides and fertilizers. Organic gardening ensures that the food produced is safe rather than being contaminated with chemicals and pesticides. After organic gardening, the garden is left a better place than it was before. In improving soil fertility, organic gardening fertilizers feed the soil which in turn feed the plant. It is a slower process but its best for both the soil and the plant.

Organic farming principles

To feed your soil, apply compost at the beginning of each season, test your soil to see if some nutrients are lacking and in case they are, choose organic soil amendments like blood meal and bone meal to amend the soil . Also grow cover crops and plough them into the soil to improve soil fertility.

Prevent diseases. This can be done by planting disease resistant varieties, water your plant in the morning and also try to water the roots and not the leaves. Develop a crop rotation system and also dispose off diseased plants.

Weed the garden manually before the weeds produce seed and also grow on a raised beds as raised beds naturally have less weeds. When weeds are a serious problem, grow cover crops for a season or 2 to chock off the weeds.

Focus on having healthy plants and also manage pests mindfully ie know the beneficial and harmful insects. Choose the correct plant, plant it at the right place and at the right time, and also practice companion planting.