

MYTH BONE MEAL IS AN INDISPENSABLE SOIL AMENDMENT EVERY GARDENER SHOULD HAVE ON HAND



THE FACTS

Bone meal supplies high levels of **phosphorus** and **calcium**.

Phosphorus and calcium are required for plant growth, **BUT** both (especially phosphorus) can cause problems if they occur in high concentrations.

- Phosphorus and calcium are **RARELY LACKING** in non-agricultural soils.
- High levels of phosphorus **INHIBIT GROWTH** of mycorrhizal fungi, causing the plant to put additional resources into root growth **AT THE EXPENSE** of other tissues and functions.
- Excess phosphorus can contaminate groundwater.

Reference – Dr. Linda Chalker-Scott

<https://s3.wp.wsu.edu/uploads/sites/403/2015/03/bonemeal.pdf>