

# 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>