

# AGGRAND<sup>®</sup> NEWS

## Houseplants the AGGRAND Way

If you're a houseplant enthusiast, AGGRAND has developed an excellent fertility program just for you! If you're not, AGGRAND can make you look like an expert without a lot of fuss.

Houseplants depend on you to supply their needs:

- Apply AGGRAND products regularly, organic matter two times a year.
- Leach the pots with plenty of water twice a year.
- Apply enough water, but do not over water.
- Repot the plants every couple of years.

Here's what you need on hand to do the job right:

- A one-gallon capacity watering can with a long spout
- AGGRAND Natural Fertilizer 4-3-3

- AGGRAND Natural Liquid Bonemeal 0-12-0
- AGGRAND Natural Kelp and Sulfate of Potash 0-0-8
- AGGRAND Natural Liquid Lime
- A bag of earthworm castings, good quality compost or composted manure.
- A bag or two of potting mix containing sphagnum peat moss, perlite, vermiculite, sand or sandy loam soil and/or pumice (mix should be pH adjusted to 6.0-7.0 for most plants. Nurseries usually sell in-house mixes that are inexpensive and high quality. Try to get one without time release chemical fertilizer added).
- Pots of various sizes (make sure they have drainage holes).
- A small hand spade.
- A tub for mixing soil.

### Houseplant Maintenance Schedule

Inputs	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
AGGRAND 4-3-3 <sup>a</sup>	→	→	→	→
AGGRAND 0-12-0 <sup>b</sup>	→	c	→	c
AGGRAND 0-0-8 <sup>d</sup>	→	→	→	→
AGGRAND Liquid Lime <sup>e</sup>	f	→	f	→
Leaching <sup>g</sup>	→	→	→	→
Compost/Castings <sup>h</sup>	→	→	→	→
Potting <sup>i</sup>	→	→	→	→

- a Apply AGGRAND 4-3-3 every two weeks in summer and every four weeks in winter (for cacti, apply a very weak solution several times a year).
- b Apply AGGRAND 0-12-0 several times at monthly intervals in spring and fall.
- c Some plants will flower at certain times of year or even continuously when AGGRAND 0-12-0 is applied regularly (every month in summer and every two months in winter).
- d Apply AGGRAND 0-0-8 sparingly along with the 4-3-3 every month in summer and every two months in winter.
- e Apply AGGRAND Liquid Lime every month in summer and every two months in winter.
- f There is no need to apply Liquid Lime when you are using AGGRAND 0-12-0 in spring and fall or during periods of flowering (Natural Liquid Bonemeal 0-12-0 also supplies calcium).
- g In spring and fall place potted plants in sink and leach with plenty of fresh water (at least one gallon of water for each gallon of soil).
- h Topdress the pots with compost or earthworm castings once in spring and once in fall after leaching (Use one cup for each gallon of soil).

- i When potting or repotting your plants, blend in one cup of compost or earthworm castings per gallon of soil; wet soil in mixing tub with a solution of AGGRAND Liquid Lime and AGGRAND 0-12-0 until soil is well wetted; after potting a plant water it in with a weak solution of AGGRAND 4-3-3.

### AGGRAND Mix Rates (oz. fertilizer/gal. of water)<sup>a</sup>

	Fast Growing Plants	Slow Growing Plants	Cacti	Flowering Plants	Acid Loving Plants
AGGRAND 4-3-3	3	2	1	2-3	2-3
AGGRAND 0-12-0	3	2	2	3	3
AGGRAND 0-0-8	1	1/2	1/4	1/2-1	1/2-1
AGGRAND Lime	3	2	2	2	

- a Apply one cup of fertilizer solution per gallon of soil; make sure plants are well-watered between fertilizations. Some plants like moist soil at all times while others respond better when soil dries out more between waterings. Two tablespoons = 1 oz.

*Happy Holidays from all of us at Aggrand!*

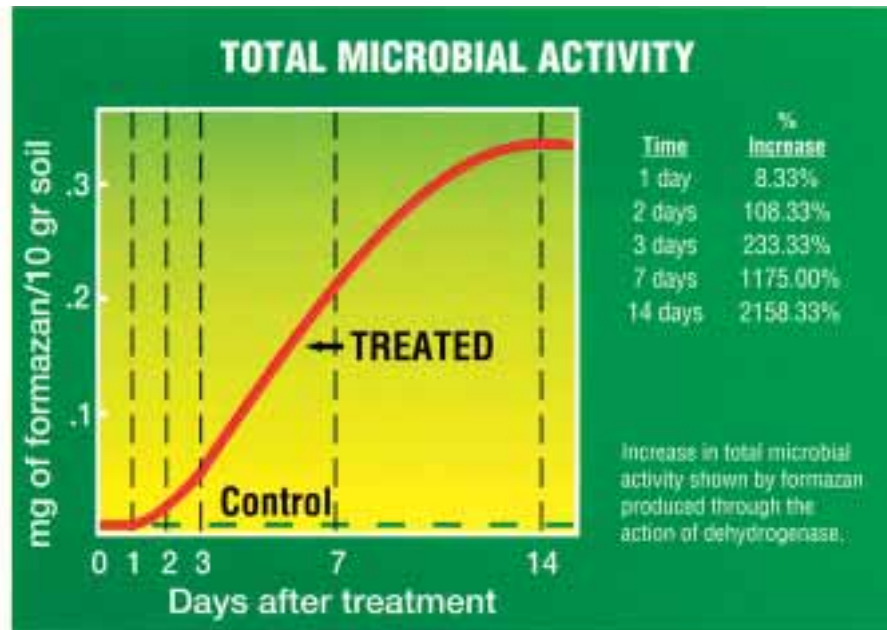
## Winter Composting Continued

For those who can, adding AGGRAND Natural Fertilizer 4-3-3 to your compost pile will provide it with an extra boost of bacterial activity.

AGGRAND 4-3-3 provides the nutrients necessary to cause organisms and microorganisms to re-establish themselves and increase their numbers many times

over, accelerating the natural processes that produce fertility, nutrient availability and water holding capacity in compost.

The graph demonstrates the increase of microbial activity in your compost pile. This should give your compost plenty of “added fuel” to be ready for spring use.



## AGGRAND Sales Boosters

Another growing season is beginning, and in order to be prepared to sell AGGRAND, make sure you have the G-1380 AGGRAND Information Booklet. AGGRAND prices for 2001 will remain unchanged, but make sure that your price lists are current. The latest dates of publication are as follows:

- G-326—ALTRUM Confidential Price list—7/2003
- G-1121—AGGRAND Retail On-the-Shelf—7/2002
- G-1122—AGGRAND Commercial Price List—4/2001

If your G-1380 is more than two years old, consider investing another \$10 for an updated version. Then you'll be sure to have all the latest information for the new growing season.



Soil testing is part of any fertility program, so don't forget to offer potential customers our soil-testing service. Order the G-1374 AGGRAND soil test kit. For as little as \$12.70, a basic soil analysis helps customers get vegetables and crops off to a great start with AGGRAND Natural Fertilizer products.

# Amaryllis for Indoor Winter Color

The amaryllis is a large, tender flowering bulb native to the Andes Mountains of Chile and Peru. It is generally planted in the fall for winter bloom and can be particularly refreshing during the holidays. The large flowers and ease with which they can be brought into bloom make amaryllis popular worldwide. Bulbs can be brought into bloom from late fall until early spring, blooming about 6-8 weeks after planting.

## Planting

Amaryllis bulbs are usually purchased dormant and leafless and planted in a light, well-drained medium containing some peat moss. Good drainage is essential and can be enhanced by a half-inch layer of gravel in the bottom of the pot. About one-third of the bulb should project above the soil. The bulb should have about an inch of soil all around it, which should be lightly tamped and watered thoroughly.

## Care

After planting, place the amaryllis in a warm, sunny room (68-70 F). Water sparingly until the first shoots appear, then water whenever the soil begins to dry out. Use 2 tbsp. per gallon AGGRAND 4-3-3 Fertilizer once per month while shoots are growing. Rotate the plant every few days so it doesn't lean too much toward the light. After the plant begins to flower, withhold fertilizer until flowering is complete. Flowering will be prolonged if the plant is moved to a cooler area out of direct sunlight. If your amaryllis appears to be flowering too soon for your liking, move it to a cooler area for a few days.



## Aftercare

Your amaryllis can be brought into bloom year after year with just a little routine maintenance. When the blossoms have shriveled up, cut them off the top of the stem. When the stem starts to wilt, cut most of



it off and bring the plant back to the sunny area. It should now be watered regularly and fertilized once a month with 2-oz/gal AGGRAND 4-3-3 and 4-oz/gal AGGRAND Liquid Bonemeal 0-12-0. This will rejuvenate the bulb. In spring, after danger of frost, the amaryllis can be taken outside to a semi-shaded spot. Continue to water and fertilize it all summer. Bring it inside when the leaves begin to die back again in early fall. Cut the leaves back to about 2 inches and put the plant in a cool, dark place for at least 6 weeks. Bring it back to the windowsill about 8 weeks before you want it to bloom. Begin regular watering and you should receive a spectacular, long-lasting display for your effort.

**Send AGGRAND testimonials  
and suggestions to:**

**AMSOIL INC. • Attn: AGGRAND Department  
AMSOIL Building • Superior, WI 54880  
or fax us at (715) 392-5225 or (715) 392-5267**

# The Proof Is in the Cabbage AGGRAND Vs. Miracle-Gro®

To determine how balanced nutrition programs increase the productivity of crops and vegetables, AGGRAND scientists compared petrochemical fertilizers with AGGRAND fertilizers. The results indicated that cabbage fertilized with AGGRAND produced larger, more flavorful heads compared to those produced by Miracle Gro®.

There were several AGGRAND treatments which were compared to Miracle Gro®. Two of the AGGRAND treatments were grown on soilless media, and the Miracle Gro® treatment was grown on media with soil to see if AGGRAND could outproduce Miracle Gro® without relying on the extra nutritional value of the soil. One AGGRAND treatment was applied to the media every two weeks, and the other AGGRAND treatment was applied in the same way with an additional foliar treatment applied before heading and a banded treatment applied at transplanting.

Miracle Gro® was applied to the media every two weeks just like the AGGRAND treatments. Three ounces of the AGGRAND 4-3-3 Natural Fertilizer were mixed with one gallon of water to be applied to the media and to the leaves. For the Miracle Gro® treatments, one teaspoon of fertilizer was mixed with one gallon of water and applied to the media as stated in the directions. For the banded treatment at planting, two ounces



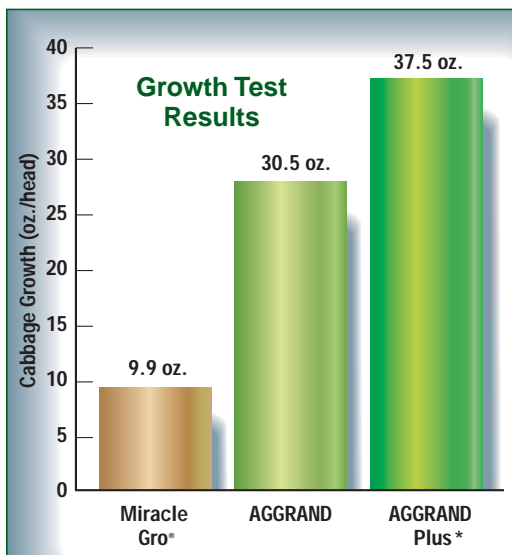
**AGGRAND      AGGRAND Plus\*      Miracle Gro®**

of 4-3-3, two ounces of AGGRAND 0-12-0 Liquid Bonemeal and one ounce of the AGGRAND 0-0-8 Natural Kelp and Sulfate of Potash were mixed in one quart of water. This mixture was placed into a trench below and to the side of the roots. The additional AGGRAND treatment (root feeding plus foliar plus band) would tell the scientists whether the additional products and treatments (AGGRAND Plus) were effective in obtaining even higher yields than the single product and treatment (AGGRAND).

The AGGRAND and AGGRAND Plus treatments both produced highly significant increases in mean head weights over the Miracle Gro® treatment (see bar graph). The AGGRAND treatment produced a

308% increase in mean head weight and the AGGRAND Plus treatment produced a 379% increase in mean head weight. The AGGRAND Plus treatment also produced an increase of 71% in mean head weight over the AGGRAND treatment.

The take-home message tells us that AGGRAND is more effective than Miracle Gro® even when the AGGRAND plants are grown in soilless media. In addition, the use of banded and foliar applications with a combination of AGGRAND products are effective in obtaining even higher yields than soil applications of one AGGRAND product alone.



\*AGGRAND Plus is a combination of 4-3-3, 0-12-0 and 0-0-8.



*"I formulated AGGRAND fertilizer, so I know it is second to none."*

## Our Address

To submit a testimonial or question, write to:

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