

growing with

SylvaGrow[®] Organic

1 The basics

Melcourt SylvaGrow[®] Organic is a unique blend of fine bark (a by-product of sustainably managed British forests), green compost (a carefully-sourced, certified ingredient) and coir (from a single, known source) and is

- based on a formula used by professional organic growers throughout the UK
- contains balanced organic fertilizers and seaweed meal for excellent vigour and disease resistance
- performs best when routine liquid feeding is applied from around 3 – 4 weeks
- Soil Association approved
- suitable for a wide range of uses around the garden
- contains no peat

A NOTE ABOUT ORGANICS

If you wish to maintain the organic integrity of this product then you should only use fertilizers labelled as organic and preferably those approved by the Soil Association. However, non-organic fertilizers will also function very well. In both cases read the manufacturers' advice carefully.

How to Use:

Seed Sowing:

- Fill a seed tray evenly with SylvaGrow[®] Organic, tapping gently to settle
- Lightly water with a fine rose
- Sow the seeds carefully, according to the packet instructions, cover with more SylvaGrow[®] Organic to the depth directed
- Cover the seed tray with glass or polythene and put in a warm place out of direct sunlight
- Remove the cover when the seeds have germinated and ensure the SylvaGrow[®] Organic is kept evenly moist at all times
- Prick out as soon as the seedlings are large enough to handle
NB For very small seeds such as Begonia or Impatiens, sieve the SylvaGrow[®] Organic before use to remove the larger particles, which can otherwise impede seedling development.

Pricking Out

- When the seedlings are large enough to handle, gently tease them out of the growing medium using a dibber or pencil, taking care to handle only by the leaves.
- Fill a suitable pot with fresh SylvaGrow[®] Organic, use a dibber to make a hole and place the seedling in it, tapping the pot to settle the mix around the roots
- Water gently but thoroughly
- After around 3 weeks, regularly apply an organic liquid feed, following the manufacturer's instructions.

Potting on, containers, tubs, troughs, hanging baskets and house plants

- First, ensure that the plant to be potted on has been well-watered. If it is dry, immerse the roots in a bucket of water for half an hour
- Fill the pot, tub or other container with SylvaGrow[®] Organic
- Make a hole large enough to accommodate the item to be potted and insert it, taking care that the growing medium is at about the same height on the stem as previously
- Gently firm the SylvaGrow[®] Organic around the plant, water thoroughly
- Ensure that the SylvaGrow[®] Organic is kept moist but not over-wet, at all times. Hanging baskets have a particularly high water requirement and may need watering every day in dry conditions

The producers of SylvaGrow, Melcourt Industries, are active members of the following organisations:



Grow Bag

SylvaGrow[®] Organic can be used in its original packaging as a very successful grow bag. Simply lay the bag flat on its side, cut drainage slits in the base along both sides of the bag and use for tomatoes, strawberries, herbs, lettuces, aubergines, peppers, chillies etc. Apply liquid feed according to the manufacturer's instructions after 3 weeks.

Cuttings

- Ensure the mother plant is well-watered before taking cuttings
- Fill a deep seed tray or pot with SylvaGrow[®] Organic and make a suitable hole with a dibber or pencil
- Prepare the stem or root cuttings according to type, ensuring that they are not allowed to dry out between cutting and inserting.
- Insert the cutting and gently firm the medium around it
- Stem cuttings need to be in a moist environment out of direct sunlight until they have rooted so either place in a cold frame, a covered propagator or cover with polythene, using supports to prevent the polythene from touching the cuttings. Root cuttings can be placed in a cold frame or sheltered spot out of direct sunlight and can benefit from a thin layer of grit on the growing medium surface
- Once the cuttings are well-rooted they can be potted on according to the instructions above

Raised Beds

SylvaGrow[®] Organic can be used as part of a raised bed medium for vegetable and strawberry growing. Simply mix 1 part SylvaGrow[®] Organic thoroughly with 3 to 4 parts loam or garden soil to gain a valuable addition of organic matter and nutrients. Remember to supplementary feed as instructed above in 'Potting On' as vegetables are heavy feeders and will respond well.

Planting Out

SylvaGrow[®] Organic can be used as a planting medium for roses, shrubs, trees, herbaceous perennials and bedding plants in order to add valuable organic matter and nutrients. Simply blend at 1 part to 4 parts of the back-fill soil. Always ensure that the plant is watered to capacity before planting out and if necessary, immerse the roots in a bucket of water for half an hour prior to planting. Ensure that the planting pit is well-integrated with the wider soil with no smeared sides or other impediments to root exploration beyond the planting hole.

Lime-hating, ericaceous plants

SylvaGrow[®] Organic is not suitable for raising lime-hating, ericaceous plants in containers. For these we recommend SylvaGrow[®] Ericaceous

Other Advice:

- Use in a ventilated place and avoid breathing in dust
- Always wear gloves when gardening and wash hands after use
- Close bag after use to avoid drying out and to prevent contamination
- White mould: under certain conditions a white mould may appear on the surface of some of the particles in SylvaGrow[®] Organic. This is entirely normal and not harmful to humans, plants or pets.

Use by:

SylvaGrow[®] Organic is best used within the season of purchase. Longer storage can cause a nutrient imbalance.

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TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Main constituents	Nominal particle size range	Bulk Density	Moisture content by weight	Air-filled porosity	
Coniferous bark, green compost, coir	0-6mm	420 grams per litre	60%	21%	
pH	Nitrogen (N)	Phosphorus (P)	Potassium (K)	Electrical conductivity	Trace Elements
6.5	150mg/l	80mg/l	300mg/l	500µS/cm	Yes

All values given are typical. However, some variation may occur from time to time. Melcourt Industries Ltd reserves the right to alter the specification without notice for the purposes of product improvement.