



## dsturman question

Tue, 03/16/2010 - 10:09 -- dsturman

Question:

Are you still an organic gardener if you use a fertilizer not specifically labeled organic?

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Answer::

This question is essentially asking what "organic gardening" means. Here's a pretty good definition courtesy of wikipedia: Organic horticulture (or organic gardening) is based on knowledge and techniques gathered over thousands of years. In general terms, organic horticulture involves natural processes, often taking place over extended periods of time, and a sustainable, holistic approach - while chemical-based horticulture focuses on immediate, isolated effects and reductionist strategies. Organic practices arise from the understanding that all organisms in nature are interdependent, and in order to have healthy plants we must foster the health of their entire ecosystem. These practices go beyond integrated pest management, beyond the use of so-called organic fertilizers and pesticides. They acknowledge the concept of intrinsic health, and seek to create environments that cater to the well-being of all their inhabitants. So, the shorter answer to your question is that organic gardening (or farming) does not allow for the use of non-organic products and chemicals like Osmocote.

Question Details (optional):

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**Source URL:** <http://kgi.org/questions/are-you-still-organic-gardener-if-you-use-fertilizer-not-specifically-labeled-organic>