

# pH METER



Knowing the pH value of soil before planting is very important and directly influences the health of your plants. This meter provides an accurate reading allowing you to adjust the pH level to best suit the plants you wish to grow.

1. Preparing a soil sample for a test. Remove any stones or other solid waste.
2. Ensure the probe of the meter is clean before carrying out a test. Wipe with a dry cloth prior to use, if the probe becomes contaminated with a stubborn residue this can be removed with a fine abrasive paper.
3. Push the probe into the soil, if the soil is too dry wet it before inserting the probe.
4. Read the pH degree after 60 seconds.

## TO CHANGE THE pH IN YOUR SOIL

A. To increase the pH value lime should be added. Lime is a compound of calcium or calcium and magnesium. Applied in the form of ground agricultural limestone, burnt lime or hydrated lime for the quickest result

B. To decrease the pH value use either aluminium sulphate or sulphur. Aluminium sulphate is the quickest acting as it will increase the acidity as soon as it dissolves into the soil.

Quantities of additives will vary depending on the type of soil, consult a gardening book or professional gardener if further advice is needed.

## pH PREFERENCE OF COMMON FRUIT, VEGETABLES & PLANTS

PLANT	pH RANGE	OPTIMUM pH
Asparagus	6.0 - 6.8	6.2 - 6.6
Beans	5.5 - 6.8	5.8 - 6.4
Beets	6.0 - 6.8	6.2 - 6.6
Broccoli	6.0 - 6.8	6.2 - 6.6
Cabbage	6.0 - 6.8	6.2 - 6.6
Carrots	5.5 - 6.8	5.8 - 6.4
Corn	5.5 - 6.8	5.8 - 6.4
Cucumber	5.5 - 6.8	5.8 - 6.4
Endive	5.0 - 6.8	5.5 - 6.4
Peas	5.5 - 6.8	5.8 - 6.4
Potatoes	5.0 - 6.8	5.5 - 6.4
Rhubarb	5.0 - 6.8	5.5 - 6.4
Raspberries	5.0 - 6.8	5.5 - 6.4
Tomatoes	5.5 - 6.8	5.8 - 6.4
Watermelon	5.0 - 6.8	5.5 - 6.4
Hydrangea – blue	4.0 - 5.0	
Hydrangea – pink	6.0 - 7.0	
Azalea	4.5 - 6.0	
Roses - Hybrid Tea	5.5 - 7.0	
Roses – Climbing	6.0 - 7.0	
Rhododendrons	4.5 - 6.0	