



Mycorrhizal Fungi

Mycorrhizal fungi or the 'friendly fungi' as it has also become known, has grown in popularity over the last few years with many landscapers and designers singing its praises.



Mycorrhizal fungi is essential for plant establishment. When planting trees of any size and at any time of year, using Mycorrhizal fungi will be beneficial to the long-term life of the tree.

How does Mycorrhizal fungi work?

The fungi colonise the plant roots and extend the root area increasing the surface area of the roots that absorb water. The fungi feed off the sugars in the plant roots and in exchange help to transport water and nutrients back to the plant roots. The fungi reach far into the surrounding soil (further than the plant roots can reach) increasing the surface area in contact with the soil for nutrient and water absorption. There is also evidence that suggests the mycorrhizal fungi helps the plant to resist certain soil-borne diseases.

How to use Mycorrhizal fungi

Mycorrhizal fungi can take many years to naturally colonise plants (up to 5 years), therefore by adding at the time of planting you are speeding up a natural process that has many benefits to the plant in the long term (the effect can be seen in 4-6 weeks).

Rootgrow needs to come into direct contact with the roots. Rub directly onto the roots or dip bareroot trees into a prepared mix.

Benefits

The increased root structure allows the plant to increase its uptake of more water and essential nutrients resulting in a plant that is more tolerant of drought situations with stronger growth. The resulting healthy, stronger root systems result in a better survival rate (especially for bareroot trees) and a plant that is more capable of competing against weeds than if no organic matter or fungi were added.

Mycorrhizal fungi can also help in the rehabilitation of degraded soil. This is of particular importance for areas where land has been cleared or is low in organic matter content. It is believed to be the only product to overcome rose replant problems.

The application of Mycorrhizal fungi when planting results in faster establishment and lower failure rates of newly planted trees.

As a totally naturally occurring organic additive, one application is all you will ever need. The fungi will naturally start to populate the surrounding area and result in an altogether healthier soil in which to plant. Less fertiliser is needed as a result of the larger root system and it can also increase fruit tree yields by up to 20%. Trees that have been planted with Mycorrhizal fungi also have an increased tolerance to drought.

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