

FERTOMETER - operation manual

What does the Fertometer do?

The Fertometer measures the level of nutrients in the soil of your potted plants and uses a light to indicate feeding requirements.

Insert the Fertometer's probe into the soil and press the button. A yellow light indicates that your plant requires feeding. A green light indicates that your plant has sufficient nutrients in the soil. Do not add fertiliser if the red light shows. In short: the Fertometer makes it possible for you to provide the ideal conditions for your plant. potted plant Click on how to use for full instructions.

For whom is the Fertometer intended?

The Fertometer is ideally suited to lovers of luscious and healthy potted plants with plenty of flowers. The correct level of fertiliser is essential and can be accurately established. No more 'guesswork'!

Which plants can the Fertometer be used for?

You can use it for all potted plants*, both indoor and outdoor plants. Common potted plants are geraniums, surfinias, fuchsias and numerous small plants such as marigold, petunias and verbenas. The Fertometer is also eminently suitable for use with indoor varieties such as the ficus, begonias, cyclamen and hibiscus, and even for exotic plants such as palm trees, bamboos and bananas.

* Plants that have been potted up and have developed adequate root systems (not seedlings or cuttings). The Fertometer is not recommended for orchids and plants which thrive on poor soil such as heather.

Which nutrients are measured?

The Fertometer measures the available nutrients and translates the result immediately into advice for fertilisation. Nutrients are mainly nitrogen, and others like phosphorus and potassium.

How to fertilise potted plants?

You can buy any type of fertiliser in special garden stores or supermarkets. Follow the instructions for use on the cover. Check your plants with the Fertometer on a regular basis.

HOW TO USE

The Fertometer gives feeding advice for potted plants.

If a potted plant is not growing or flowering well, then this is often caused by wrong fertilisation. You might ask yourself if you have to add fertiliser now or, on the contrary, if you have already added too much fertiliser? The Fertometer ends this uncertainty!

Drive the pin of the Fertometer all the way into the soil and push the button

One of the lights will show:

RED LIGHT	Do not add fertilizer: there is enough or even too much nutrient supply
GREEN LIGHT	Fertilization OK: you may add fertilizer to keep up your feeding supply
YELLOW LIGHT	Take care! Add fertilizer: feed supply is low in potting soil

A few conditions are significant for a good measurement:

- To get a reliable test result it is important that the potting soil is uniformly wet! If that is not the case, then water your plant first and wait at least 30 minutes before measuring. It is a good idea to water your plants in the morning and measure in the afternoon.
- Take care that the pin is clean before measuring.
- The best results are obtained at temperatures between 18 and 23° C.
- It is important to clean the pin after use and to store your Fertometer in a dry place to prevent it from oxidation. If the metal of the pin starts to get dull you can clean it carefully with a slightly wet sponge or a soft scouring pad and dry it with a soft cloth.
- Never leave the Fertometer standing in the soil!

For bigger pots or containers several measurements in different spots are recommended. Three to five tests will give you a good average of total available nutrients.

It is recommended to repot or to plant in bigger containers with new potting compost in springtime. Old potting soil gradually collects all kind of salts (recognisable as a white crust at the rim of the pot) which finally results in the salinisation of the plant. The leaves will become yellow and the plant stops growing. Read more at www.fertometer.com.

The Fertometer uses a flat 9V battery type **6LR61** (not supplied). To test the battery push the button. The yellow light will show. If the light does not come on or flickers the battery is flat.

The Fertometer is not suitable for liquids.

