

# Black Castings™



Earthworms are vital to the soil. Their burrows allow air and water to flow, but more importantly, they digest organic matter and excrete it as worm castings, a vital component in fertile soil.

Unlike chemical fertilizers, **Black Castings™** will not burn plants or trees, and are completely safe to handle. **Black Castings™** also break down much more slowly than traditional fertilizers.

Many chemical fertilizers are loaded down with huge quantities of quickly-available nutrients, but plants can only absorb so much in a given period, meaning everything that the plant doesn't use right away is wasted.

**Black Castings™**, on the other hand, break down much more slowly, feeding plants only as needed, reducing waste and increasing efficiency, making **Black Castings™** very cost-effective.

## **Black Castings™:**

- Are 100% organic
- Are produced by earthworms fed a high-quality diet
- Add organic matter to the soil
- Improve soil structure
- Are not produced with yard waste
- Are not made with horse, cow, or any other grazing animal manure
- Are free of *E. coli* and *Salmonella*, making them safe to handle
- Will not burn plants or trees
- Are nitrogen-free
- Break down slowly, reducing the need for repeated applications, making **Black Castings™** very cost-effective

## BLACK CASTINGS™

<p align="center"><b>Black Castings™</b></p>	<p><b>Black Castings™</b> are an all-natural fertilizer and soil conditioner produced by earthworms. Black Castings™ are all natural: they are not produced with animal, yard, or food waste. Children and pets can use the application area as soon as application is finished. Professionals use Black Castings™ for their lawns, gardens and nurseries, agriculture and turf, and orchards and vineyards.</p>
<p><b>Key Features and Benefits</b></p>	<p><b>Black Castings™:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Feeds plants and beneficial microbes with a rich blend of organic matter.</li> <li>▪ Enhances growth, fertility, and plant productivity.</li> <li>▪ Feeds plants slowly: persists in the soil and reduces nutrient waste.</li> <li>▪ Organic: safe to handle and will not burn or damage plants or trees.</li> </ul>

### Directions For Use

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<p><b>Vegetables &amp; Annual Flowers</b></p>	<p>Place 8 oz. Black Castings™ (a handful, or ½ cup) in each planting hole, set the plant in place, and cover with soil. Side dress with 8 oz. per plant every two months during the growing season.</p>
<p><b>Root Crops</b></p>	<p>Place 8 oz. Black Castings™ (a handful, or ½ cup) in each hole or hill and cover. Top dress with the same amount when plant begins to flower.</p>
<p><b>Perennials &amp; Other Established Plants</b></p>	<p>Top dress with 5 lb. Black Castings™ per 100 sq. ft. and then add mulch to cover. If no mulch is used, then you will need to work the castings into the top 1 inch of the surface. Apply in the spring, early summer, and fall.</p>
<p><b>Potting Plants, Seed Beds, and Flats – Growing Media</b></p>	<p>Add 20% castings to the basic growing media. Herbs require only 5%.</p>
<p><b>Potted Plants</b></p>	<p>Apply 4 oz. (1/4 cup) for each 4" of pot diameter to surface and water well. Repeat every 2 – 3 months.</p>



<b>Roses, Trees, Shrubs, and Berries – new or transplants</b>	Mix 40% castings into the transplant mix. Place half of the mix in the hole prior to planting and use the other half to fill the hole.
<b>Established Trees</b>	Top dress with 1 lb. of castings per inch of tree diameter in the spring and fall. Cover with mulch or scratch into the top 1 inch of the soil.
<b>Other Established Woody Plants</b>	First year: top dress with 1 lb. of Black Castings™ in the spring and fall, and then ½ lb. castings every spring and fall thereafter.

<b>Turf Construction Phase</b>	<p>Straight Black Castings™ can be used to replace the black humus peat or sedge peat or 20% of the sand used in the greens and trees. Spread 1 ton per acre (40 lb. / 1,000 sq. ft.) before laying the sod. Seams will close in half the time.</p> <p>Add 20% Black Castings™ to the divot seeding mix and add the seed to the mix the night before for quick germination in 12 to 36 hours.</p>
<b>Maintenance Schedule</b>	Maintenance is best accomplished with the use of Vermaplex® injected directly into the fertigation system. The use of the Vermaplex® will help reduce the algae buildup in drip irrigation lines.

<b>Storage</b>	Store this product in a cool, dry place. Do not allow product to freeze.
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