

NPK

What does N P K mean in a fertilizer? What part of the plant does each element help?

- **N** - stands for nitrogen. You probably knew that one. This nutrient is the leaf and stem developer and adding nitrogen will get thing growing fast. It's always perfect for leafy veggies. After all, it's the leafy part that we're after in vegetables like cabbage, lettuce, Swiss chard, kale, etc.
- **P** - stands for phosphorus. This nutrient is valuable for developing flowers and fruit - plus helps roots take quickly to the soil around them. If you're frustrated by lots of leaves and stems developing on your fruiting crops like pumpkin or tomatoes, but nary a fruit in sight - you may need a boost of phosphorus.
- **K** - stands for potassium. Potassium promotes healthy roots systems and helps the plants resist disease. It also works alongside the phosphorus in developing fruit. You'll notice it's importance if you're growing root crops such as carrots or turnips.