

HOME & GARDEN

Dig up the Differences Between Garden Soil and Potting Mix

By Joe Sherinski
(MS) — Summer in full swing and it's the perfect time to add the right ingredients to help give your plants that extra boost of nutrition they need. Unfortunately, many gardeners do not understand the differences and grades of the many garden soils and potting mixes available today. To help, The Scotts Company offers its expertise to improve the condition of in-ground gardens and provide con-

tainer plants a rich, nutrient-filled soil to call home.

OUT AND ABOUT

When mixed with native soil, a quality garden soil adds organic matter and nutrients which far surpass those offered by normal topsoil and manure. Also, garden soils are enriched with nutrients for stronger, healthier plants.

Miracle-Gro® Garden Soil for Flowers &

Vegetables is a fine-textured blend of organic materials, sphagnum peat moss, manure and just the right amount of Miracle-Gro® Plant Food for annuals, perennials and all types of vegetables.

The company's Garden Soil for Trees, Shrubs & Ornamentals is a coarse-textured blend of forest product, sphagnum peat moss and manure ideal for all types of deciduous, evergreen, flowering trees and shrubs. It's fortified with nutrients plus phosphorous and iron, to promote vigorous blooms, foliage and root growth.

"Our customers told us that they hated all the work that was involved in preparing soil every year, says Keith Baeder, Vice President of Marketing for Scotts Growing Media Division. These products are easy-to-use, time saving, all-in-one soils, with Miracle-Gro® Plant Food added. They take the guesswork out of planting while helping to alleviate the problems of moisture retention, fertilization and poor soil composition."

IN THE 'MIX'

For plants to grow well in containers, today's premium soils feature such things as high moisture

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Pool Safety...

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the pool is not in use.

2. Supervise. No barrier can replace adult supervision. Children should always swim with a buddy who can help alert a "lifeguard" if there is a problem.

A parent, guardian or another adult who is supervising the swimming should be outdoors and in close proximity to the pool. Watching through a window is not enough. Should an accident occur, precious moments would be wasted trying to get outdoors. If a child is missing and pool is in the vicinity, check the pool first.

3. Personal Flotation Devices. Swimming ability, not age, should dictate when and what type of personal flotation device (PFD) is appropriate for a child. Popular products like "swimmies," "water wings" and the like are not considered PFDs by the U.S. Coast Guard, who recommends that children who cannot swim use life jackets.

4. Prepare for an emergency. Have a cordless phone, emergency numbers, a first-aid kit and rescue equipment near the pool. Learn CPR as an extra precaution.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCIES

Never assume that someone else is watching your children — they probably are not. If an accident occurs under your supervision, here are some life-saving steps to take:

- If someone is drowning and is within reach, grab an extension, like a pole, for them to grab onto. If the person is out of reach, throw them a lifesaver. If you must enter the water to assist someone, always take some type of additional flotation.

- Once the victim is out of the water, look for signs of breathing and consciousness. If the victim is not breathing or is unconscious, call 9-1-1 or your local emergency number and begin rescue breathing (mouth-to-mouth) and CPR, if necessary. Even if you don't have formal CPR training, you can at least open a person's airway and breathe for them. SL026492

Emerald

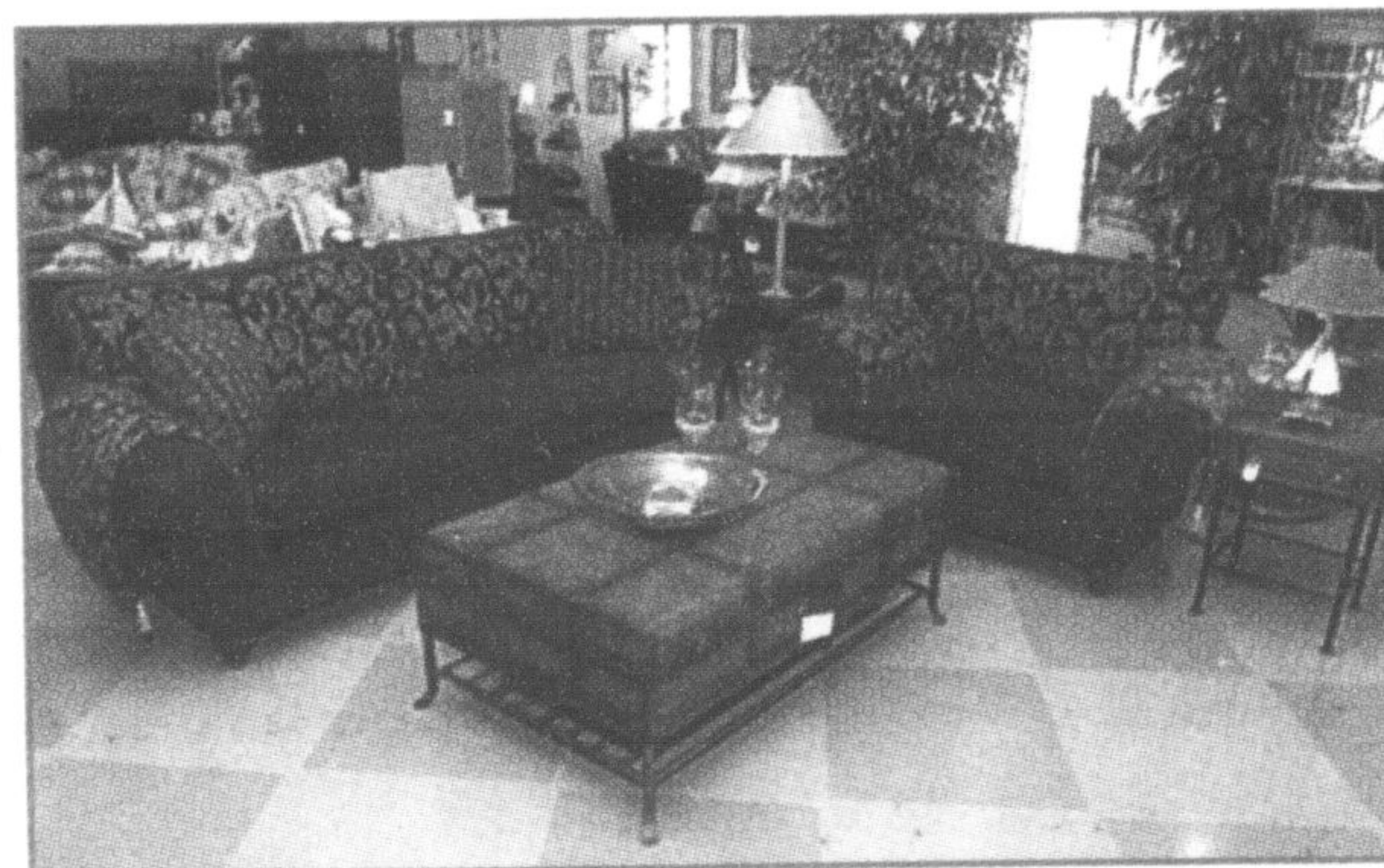
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