



# John Innes Manufacturers Association

## Technical Data Sheet No. 8

### "WHICH COMPOST FOR PATIO PLANTERS?"

With the increasing popularity of Patio Gardens and Conservatories, it is worth remembering the benefits of the traditional John Innes Loam-based Potting Composts, which we believe is the most suitable type of compost for the majority of container-grown plants.

As this is the time of year for planting up containers, may we offer some answers to the obvious question:-

#### *Why use John Innes Loam-based Composts for Containers?*

When compared with most peat-based or peat-substitute soil-less composts for growing established plants in containers, John Innes loam-based Potting Composts are generally:-

- **EASIER TO WATER** - *J.I. Composts take up water more easily and need watering less frequently.*
- **HIGHER IN NUTRIENTS** - *J.I. Composts provide greater reserves of plant nutrients, so plants suffer less if feeding is overlooked.*
- **MORE STABLE** - *the natural weight of J.I. Compost provides greater stability and resistance to wind.*
- **MORE TOLERANT** - *J.I. Composts can cope with wider fluctuations in feeding, watering, and weather.*
- **LONGER LASTING** - *J.I. Composts last for a longer time before it is necessary to water and feed the plants*

In recent independent trials, John Innes Potting Composts gave better results with older plants than Multi-purpose Composts, either with or without supplementary feeding. John Innes Composts can be used for most types and sizes of plants, except the ericaceous acid-loving types such as azaleas, heathers and rhododendrons.

John Innes Composts are most frequently recommended by many gardening experts for growing a wide variety of plants in the following popular types of containers:-

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Patio Planters</li><li>• Tubs and Troughs</li><li>• Window Boxes</li><li>• Interior Planters</li><li>• Bottle Gardens</li><li>• Terrariums</li><li>• Hanging Baskets #</li><li>• Roof Gardens #</li></ul> | <p><b># Note:</b> For Hanging Baskets and Roof Gardens where weight might be a problem, several experts suggest a mix of equal parts of a John Innes Potting Compost No.2 and a Multi-purpose Compost, with an addition of about 10%-15% by volume of Perlite or Vermiculite.</p> |
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We are very pleased to see the proven benefits of John Innes loam-based Composts mentioned in numerous articles in Consumer Gardening Magazines, in Gardening Columns of the National and Local Press, and even mentioned on the air! Please tell your readers and/or listeners to ask for our FREE Information Leaflet entitled "The Benefits of John Innes Loam-based Composts" - available from most Garden Centres, or from JIMA if they send a SAE. A sample leaflet is enclosed, and we should be glad to send you a supply for distribution to your personal contacts and lecture audiences etc.- please use enclosed Request Card.

JIMA represents the leading UK Manufacturers of the traditional loam-based John Innes Composts, who all use the JIMA Seal of Approval on their packaging. *The JIMA Seal of Approval is a Registered Trade Mark which can be used only by JIMA Members, who all maintain the highest standards of quality assurance.*

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