

# EARTHWORMS



Earthworms as they cultivate and feed, swallow great quantities of soil, digest it, extract its food value and expel the residue as worm castings – these worm castings are 5 times richer in the nutrients necessary for maximum plant growth and production, than the top 6 inches of top soil.



Just as important, earthworms are one of the most effective agents for loosening and aerating the soil. Their burrows make large passageways, lined with the earthworm castings, for roots to grow. Also, as the earthworms burrow, they create channels which increase the capacity for the soil to hold water. In soil where earthworms have been introduced, there is less run-off of water.



Worm castings, increased aeration of the soil, and increased capacity to hold water by the soil will result in increased plant production and growth.



Increased earthworm population and richer, more productive soil are cause and effect. One cannot exist without the other. When the soil around trees, bushes, plants or in the garden or other growing areas is impregnated with earthworms or earthworm spawn, it should be also fertilized regularly with organic matter, so the earthworms may thrive, multiply and perform their own important special functions in soil building and promotion of plant growth.

Now that you've learned more about earth worms, it's time to add these wonderful creatures to your garden's soil.



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