

# ALPACA BEANS

Alpaca manure is the best natural fertilizer for vegetable, flower gardens and even house plants. It's **lower in organic matter** than manure from other farm animals, but still has enough to improve soil texture and water-holding capacity. Alpaca Beans do not have to be "aged or cured". They will not "burn" the plants it comes in contact with and can be applied rather carelessly without fussing.

The alpaca's 3-stomach digestive system processes food so efficiently seeds do not survive to become weeds in your garden, as with cow or horse manure. They are nature's composters. It also has comparatively **high levels of nitrogen and potassium** which are major plant nutrients and part of the well-known N-P-K indicator on fertilizer bags, and an indication of good fertilizer value.

This manure is also sometimes called "**alpaca gold**". The fact that alpaca waste is a great recyclable product is another earth-friendly aspect of alpaca farming. Alpacas are not known to carry E-Coli 157.

Alpaca manure has a very low odour (practically none) which makes it a fantastic fertilizer to work with. Good soil health will reduce disease and pest problems and keep your plants happy and healthy throughout the year. Although alpaca manure starts out in a pellet or bean form, it breaks down quickly and can be used without extensive "ageing".

## Multiple uses for alpaca beans

- Use Alpaca beans safely on your houseplants, just spoon a little into the soil, and the fertilizer will gradually release as you water. It is odourless and harmless to pets.
- Sprinkle some Alpaca beans around your plants or trees, mix with a little dirt and every time you water your plants you are fertilizing them at the same time.
- For seedlings, use alpaca tea. Mix 1 part alpaca pellets with 2 parts water and let it sit from 5-12 hours. Within 24 hours of the first application, you will begin to see the difference in your seedling. Alpaca tea appears to be an effective deer repellent also! Deer do not like the smell.
- When transplanting house plants, mix it in with your potting soil.
- Alpaca beans are great for delicate plants and terrific for soil health. Adding it to your garden or lawn can help reduce disease and pest problems.

**The chart below shows how alpaca manure compares to other common manures.**

Manure	Chicken	Dairy cow	Horse	Sheep	Rabbit	Alpaca
N-P-K	1.1 .80 .50	.25 .15 .25	.70 .30 .60	.70 .30 .90	2.4 1.4 .60	1.5 0.2 1.1
Organic Matter		83.9	81.7	76.9		70.8

## Alpaca Tea Recipe:

1. Fill a knee-high nylon stocking with beans.
2. Mix with 1/2 gallon of water.
3. Let mixture sit in the sun for a few hours (or in Scotland – a bit longer!).
4. Pour liquid on flowers, plants, trees.