

Problem	Characteristics	Things To Remember	What You Should Do	Product Recommendations
Very Low Alkalinity Less Than 60	Relatively Pure Water Low in Ca, Mg, Na pH easily influenced	Add Ca and Mg Use Excel with Caution Use well-buffered media Monitor pH frequently	Alternate: Fertilizer with low potential acidity and calcium source Add Mg	Peters 18-8-17 Alternate with Peters 15-0-15 Peters 20-10-20 + Mg Alternate with Peters 15-0-15 Excel 13-2-13 or 15-2-20 Excel 15-5-15 + Excel 10-0-0 + Peters 15-0-15 Excel 14-5-38 + Excel 10-0-0 + Excel 15-0-0 Peters 15-5-25 (Alternate every 3rd & 5th watering with Peters 15-0-15 or 20-0-20)
Low Alkalinity 60-100	Usually Low in Mg Watch for Na influence Monitor pH	Add Ca and Mg Monitor pH frequently	Alternate: Fertilizer with low potential acidity and calcium source Add Mg	Excel 15-5-15 Excel 21-5-20 + Excel 10-0-0 + Excel 15-0-0 Excel 14-5-38 + Excel 10-0-0 and/or Excel 15-0-0 Peters 18-8-17 Alternate with Peters 15-0-15 Peters 20-10-20 + Mg Alternate with Peters 15-0-15 Peters 15-16-17 + Mg or Peters 15-15-15 + Mg Alternate with Peters 15-0-15 or 20-0-20
Moderate Alkalinity 100-160	Compare Ca, Mg & Na	May need Ca supplement Most likely needs Mg Unlikely to need acid injection Look for rise in pH on long term crops and small containers	Add Mg	Excel 21-5-20 + Mg Excel 20-5-19 + Mg Peters 18-8-17 Hi Mag Peters 20-10-20 PL + Mg Peters 15-5-25 + Mg Peters 15-16-17 + Mg
Moderately High Alkalinity 150-200	Ca usually adequate Mg often low Note Na	Growers growing "plug formula" may need to acid inject Monitor pH rise in low pH loving plants Low leach watering problems increase	If Na high may need Ca Low acidic fertilizers may need acid injection	Excel 21-5-20 + Mg Excel 20-5-19 + Mg Peters 18-8-17 Hi Mag Peters 20-10-20 PL + Mg Peters 21-7-7 Acid Special (If media warm and crop tolerant)
High Alkalinity 180-240	High Ca Excessive Na Low Mg	Look for rise in pH on long term crops and small containers Soluble salt build-up a problem	Depending upon fertilizer rate and medium pH, acid injection may be necessary	Excel 21-5-20 + Mg Excel 20-5-19 + Mg Peters 18-8-17 Hi Mag Peters 20-10-20 PL May alternate Peters 21-7-7 Acid Special (If media warm and crop tolerant)
Very High Alkalinity 240 +	High Ca Low Mg Watch for Na and Cl	Rise in media pH almost certain Soluble salts build up in media a BIG problem	Acid injection almost certain	Excel 21-5-20 + Mg Excel 20-5-19 + Mg Peters 18-8-17 Hi Mag Peters 20-10-20 PL + Mg