



### Answer Key

Aeration Exposing soil to air flow.

Aggregation The collection or clumping of soil particles.

Capillary Water The water that is held against the force of gravity in the pore spaces of the soil.

Clay Soil Soil that must be at least 30 percent clay and holds moisture and plant food well.

Gravitational Water The water the soil cannot hold against the force of gravity.

Leaching The process of nutrients washing out of soil.

Limestone A type of rock that raises the pH levels in the soil.

Loamy Soil The most balanced soil containing nearly equal parts of clay, silt, and sand.

Medium Soil or soil substitute in which plants grow.

Mulch Product placed on the soil surface to help retain soil moisture.

Peat Moss Decomposing vegetation that is found underwater.



Perlite Gray colored volcanic material used to improve aeration.

Permanent Wilting The point when wilting reaches an extreme and causes death.

Photoperiodism The response of a plant's growth to the different periods of day and night.

Relative Humidity The amount of moisture in the air.

Sandy Soil Soils that contain less than 20 percent of silt and clay by weight and do not hold moisture or nutrients well.

Slow-release Fertilizers Plant food that is slowly made available to plants.

Soil Organic material composed of sand, silt and/or clay.

Sphagnum Moss The dried remains of acid bog plants that is shredded and holds moisture well.

Transpiration The evaporation of water through the plants leaves and stems.

Tree Bark Bark from pine or oak trees that is broken into small parts.



Vermiculite Light material that has a neutral pH which holds moisture in planting media