

Conclusions: Organic vs. Inorganic Fertilizer Sources

- All fertilizer sources perform well at moderate doses, yielding plants with excellent growth habit compared to the control.
- McGeary's organic lags slightly behind the synthetic fertilizers at low doses (6 g for both species and 12 g for thyme); the difference is especially noticeable on thyme
- At moderate to high doses (18-24 g) there is no significant difference between the organic and synthetic sources.
- Osmocote synthetic tends to outperform Nutricote, especially on thyme.
- Both synthetic sources show little difference in growth index as the fertilizer is increased from 12 g to 24 g; some increase in density is observed, however, especially on rosemary.
- McGeary's organic shows slightly lower growth index on thyme at 12 g but no difference from 18 g to 24 g; again, some increase in density can be seen, especially on rosemary.
- All fertilizers show inconsistent results at 30 g, as some plants show signs of stress.
- We would recommend 12-24 g of Osmocote or Nutricote or 18-24 g of McGeary's organic; higher doses will yield a denser plant but a lower dose of 12 g may be more economically and environmentally attractive.