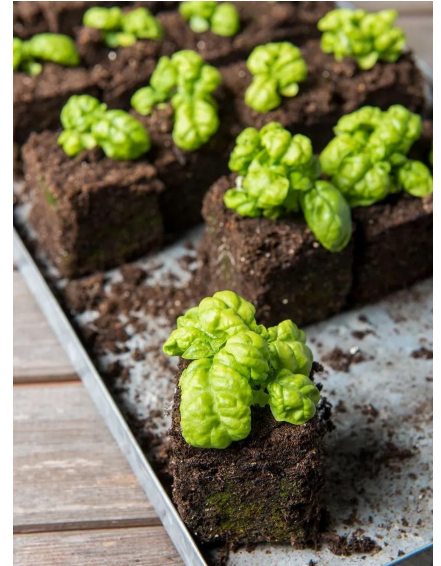


Soil Block Recipe

Some growers prefer to use soil blocks to decrease their plastic usage, and believe that using soil blocks decreases transplant shock. Soil blockers require their own special mix. They need correct proportions of ingredients to sufficiently bind together without the need for supportive plastic trays or pots, yet to still allow proper root aeration and growth. Recipe adapted from *The New Organic Grower* by Eliot Coleman.



Bulk ingredients are in gallons, a standard 5 gallon bucket can be used. Supplemental ingredients are in cups. The following recipe makes approximately 3 cubic ft of mix.

Mix thoroughly after adding in each ingredient.

- 7.5 Gallons Peat Moss
- ½ Cup Lime
- 5 Gallons Coarse Perlite
- ½ Cup Blood Meal
- ½ Cup Cottonseed Meal
- 1 Cup Bone Meal or Soft Rock Phosphate
- 1 Cup Greensand
- 2.5 Gallons Garden Soil
- 1 Bag (25 quarts) Daddy Pete's Mushroom Compost

Mix all ingredients thoroughly. Moisten using warm water, until the consistency feels like wet cement or soft putty. A small amount of water should ooze through small openings in the blocker as the blocks are made, with the goal of individual soil blocks that cling to the blocker without falling out prematurely. Use soil blocker on a flat surface, and follow any instructions that came with it. Unused mix can be allowed to dry out and stored in something breathable. Simply rewet and use when next needed.

Ingredients can be mixed in a large cement mixing tray, wheelbarrow, or rigid baby pool. Version 1.0, May 2021

