



# SUCCESS STORY

There are numerous benefits to using products containing SumaGrow. While most of our success stories focus on increasing yield, and reducing or eliminating fertilizer, the attached before and after soil analyses demonstrated significant improvements in the soil's water efficiency and the nutrients measured in the soil increased from 8% to 91%.

The soil samples are from the Jack R. Hammett Sports Complex, owned by the city of Costa Mesa, California, and were treated with Natura Soil Enhancer, SumaGrow inside. Since the sports fields use recycled water, it makes high pH and chlorides constant concerns. Despite these added issues, in less than three months, the pH in the treated fields went down slightly and the chloride and salinity levels dropped 26% and 34%, while the soil moisture (field capacity) increased from 63% to 69%.

	12/8/11	2/28/2012	Percentage
Description	average	average	Change
pH	7.68	7.59	-1.17%
Salinity	1.52	1.12	-26.32%
Chloride	210	137	-34.76%
Soil Moisture	63%	69%	+9.52%
SAR	7.0	5.8	-17.14%

Soil *salinity* is the salt content in the soil. Salt-affected soils are caused by excess accumulation of salts from high salinity irrigation water, the use of potassium as a fertilizer, which can form a naturally occurring salt, in saltwater coastal areas where atmospheric deposition naturally occurs, or salts can be transported to the soil surface by capillary transport from a salt laden water table and then accumulate due to evaporation. As soil salinity increases, salt effects can result in degradation of soils and vegetation.

Accumulation of soluble salts (brine, salt, and chloride may be used interchangeably for our purposes) is not normally a hazard to human health; however, it can cause adverse and long lasting environmental impacts to soil and ground water resources because chloride is highly soluble, does not adsorb onto soil particles, does not degrade, and generally inhibits biological processes.

Releases of salt onto the ground can damage soils by destroying the soil structure and permeability. The presence of high concentrations of soluble salts can inhibit seed germination and a plant's ability to uptake water. Salt-contaminated soil in the near surface can lose its ability to support agricultural crops, native grasses, or other vegetation if salt levels are high enough, potentially contributing to surface erosion.

**Chloride** is the most recent addition to the list of essential elements and is essential for many plant functions; however, too much chloride in plants results in symptoms that are similar to typical cases of salt damage. As shown in the attached reports, the chloride target is <150 and Natura Soil Enhancer, SumaGrow inside, brought the chloride from an average of 210, outside the target range, down to an average of 137, within the target range.

**Soil Moisture** (or Field Capacity) is typically defined as the quantity of water, or moisture, contained in the soil 2-3 days after rain or irrigation. Natura Soil Enhancer, SumaGrow inside increased the ability of these fields to hold water.

**Sodium Adsorption Ratio (SAR)** is a measure of the suitability of water for use in agricultural irrigation, as determined by the concentrations of solids dissolved in the water. Although SAR is only one factor in determining the suitability of water for irrigation, in general, the higher the sodium adsorption ratio, the less suitable the water is for irrigation. Irrigation using water with a high sodium adsorption ratio may require soil amendments to prevent long-term damage to the soil.

If irrigation water with a high SAR is applied to a soil for years, the sodium in the water can displace the calcium and magnesium in the soil. This will cause a decrease in the ability of the soil to form stable aggregates and a loss of soil structure and tilth. This will also lead to a decrease in infiltration and permeability of the soil to water leading to problems with crop production.

These laboratory reports clearly show the soil's water efficiency being improved. There is more water in the soil, as evidenced by the higher soil moisture percentage, the water in the soil is more available to the plant life since the lower amount of salts in the soil allow more soil moisture to be used by the grass being grown, and the SAR indicates the water in the soil is a higher quality water than before treatment started. These results were achieved without any significant rainfall.

The nutrient levels increased across the board with every element measured showing increases, some very significant. This is especially significant when considering the short period of time between the soil tests, and accepting that Natura Soil Enhancer, SumaGrow inside is primarily a microbial product which takes more time than fertilizer to show initial results.

The city of Costa Mesa did continue its fertilization program (slow release 32-0-0) during the field trial, however, this would only have affected the increase in soil available nutrients for nitrates, and even then, not to the degree shown. Further, other field trials using products containing SumaGrow show even better results if fertilizer is dramatically reduced.

The microbial formulation of Natura Soil Enhancer, SumaGrow inside, would have to be given the credit for the 48% to 91% increases in manganese, zinc, copper, boron and magnesium, all essential nutrients for optimal growth.

		12/8/2011		2/28/2012		Percentage
Description		average		average		Increase
Nitrate		13		19		46.15%
Phosphorus		42.2		65.4		54.98%
Potassium		475		532		12.00%
Iron		29.1		38.66		32.85%
Manganese		0.93		1.78		91.40%
Zinc		11.39		17.64		54.87%
Copper		3.57		5.29		48.18%
Boron		0.39		0.58		48.72%
Magnesium		351		384		9.40%
Sodium		552		627		13.59%
Sulfur		57		62		8.77%



# WALLACE LABORATORIES, LLC

365 Coral Circle

El Segundo, CA 90245

phone (310) 615-0116 fax (310) 640-6863

December 8, 2011

Will Harrison, will.harrison@target-specialty.com

Target Specialty Products

15415 Marquardt Avenue

Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670

RE: City of Costa Mesa, Reference Number 26584

Dear Will,

## Summary Data

description	1 and 2	3 and 4	4	5 and 6	average	target
pH	7.60	7.51	7.80	7.80	7.68	6.5-7.9
salinity	1.47	1.59	1.54	1.49	1.52	0.5-3
chloride	210	203	216	210	210	<150
nitrate	17	19	8	10	13	20-30
phosphorus	39.6	45.1	36.8	47.2	42.2	8-20
potassium	516	514	498	371	475	60-180
iron	27.8	26.3	22.4	39.9	29.1	4-15
manganese	0.97	0.89	0.96	0.90	0.93	0.6-3
zinc	12.12	12.11	10.73	10.60	11.39	1-3
copper	3.31	3.71	3.59	3.65	3.57	0.2-3
boron	0.37	0.39	0.42	0.37	0.39	0.2-0.5
magnesium	315	367	394	329	351	25-100
sodium	495	541	608	563	552	<200
sulfur	45	60	75	47	57	25-100
SAR	6.7	7.1	7.2	7.0	7.0	<4
moisture	68%	65%	57%	63%	63%	65% - 80%

The average pH is moderately alkaline at 7.68. The pH values range from 7.51 to 7.80. Salinity is moderate at 1.52 millimho/cm on average. The salinity ranges from 1.49 to 1.59 millimho/cm. Chloride is slightly elevated at 210 parts per million in the saturation extract, on average. Sodium is the predominate soluble cation in the saturation extract. Soluble calcium is low. High sodium causes soils to disperse, slake and compact. The average SAR (sodium adsorption ratio) value is 7.0. It ranges from 6.7 to 7.2. SAR should be less than about 3 for ornamentals. Sodium can be lowered with the use of gypsum and leaching.

Nitrogen is low in samples 4 and 5+6. Phosphorus and potassium are high. The micronutrients are high except for moderate manganese. Total available sodium is high at

Soil Analyses Plant Analyses Water Analyses

563 parts per million on average. Non-essential trace metals are not excessive. Soil moisture is modest on average at about 63% of field capacity.

**Recommendations**

Lower the sodium and SAR values. Excess sodium impairs the physical soil properties and is a competitive inhibitor of potassium. If compaction is high and restricts the rate of drainage, enhance the rate of drainage.

Apply gypsum at 15 pounds per 1,000 square feet quarterly for about 1 year. After each application, irrigate deeply and lower the sodicity and salinity which results from the addition of gypsum. Normally irrigate deeply but not frequently. Balance soil moisture with soil aeration.

Apply ammonium sulfate (21-0-0) at 5 pounds per 1,000 square feet about 4 times a year. Ammonium sulfate (21-0-0) helps to lower the alkalinity.

Continue to monitor the site with periodic testing.

Sincerely,

Garn A. Wallace, Ph. D.  
GAW:n

**WALLACE LABS**  
**365 Coral Circle**  
**El Segundo, CA 90245**  
**(310) 615-0116**

**SOILS REPORT**

Print Date Feb 27, 2012 Receive Date 2/24/12

Location 62951- Costa Mesa  
 Requester Will Harrison, Target Specialty Products  
 graphic interpretation: \* very low, \*\* low, \*\*\* moderate

\*\*\*\* high, \*\*\*\*\* very high

**ammonium bicarbonate/DTPA**

extractable - mg/kg soil  
 Interpretation of data  
 low medium high  
 0 - 7 8-15 over 15  
 0-60 60-120 121-180  
 0 - 4 4 - 10 over 10  
 0-0.5 0.6- 1 over 1  
 0 - 1 1 - 1.5 over 1.5  
 0-0.2 0.3- 0.5 over 0.5  
 0-0.2 0.2-0.5 over 1

Sample ID Number 12-58-04  
 Sample Description 1+2  
 elements graphic  
 phosphorus 70.53 \*\*\*\*\*  
 potassium 631.45 \*\*\*\*\*  
 iron 51.03 \*\*\*\*\*  
 manganese 2.05 \*\*\*\*\*  
 zinc 23.26 \*\*\*\*\*  
 copper 5.51 \*\*\*\*\*  
 boron 0.50 \*\*\*\*\*

12-58-05  
 3+4  
 graphic  
 75.79 \*\*\*\*\*  
 451.14 \*\*\*\*\*  
 30.74 \*\*\*\*\*  
 1.52 \*\*\*\*\*  
 14.65 \*\*\*\*\*  
 3.87 \*\*\*\*\*  
 0.63 \*\*\*\*\*

12-58-06  
 4  
 graphic  
 73.60 \*\*\*\*\*  
 539.38 \*\*\*\*\*  
 42.46 \*\*\*\*\*  
 1.65 \*\*\*\*\*  
 19.47 \*\*\*\*\*  
 6.03 \*\*\*\*\*  
 0.62 \*\*\*\*\*

12-58-07  
 5+6  
 graphic  
 41.61 \*\*\*\*\*  
 507.60 \*\*\*\*\*  
 30.38 \*\*\*\*\*  
 1.91 \*\*\*\*\*  
 13.17 \*\*\*\*\*  
 5.75 \*\*\*\*\*  
 0.57 \*\*\*\*\*

calcium 620.63 \*\*\*\*\*  
 magnesium 386.29 \*\*\*\*\*  
 sodium 530.03 \*\*\*\*\*  
 sulfur 43.44 \*\*  
 molybdenum 0.11 \*\*\*\*  
 nickel 0.98 \*  
 aluminum nd \*  
 arsenic 0.18 \*  
 barium 0.56 \*  
 cadmium 0.18 \*  
 chromium 0.03 \*  
 cobalt 0.02 \*  
 lead 2.27 \*\*  
 lithium 0.41 \*  
 mercury nd \*  
 selenium nd \*  
 silver nd \*  
 strontium 3.60 \*  
 tin nd \*  
 vanadium 0.85 \*

552.47 \*\*\*\*  
 302.69 \*\*\*\*\*  
 558.22 \*\*\*\*\*  
 60.93 \*\*  
 0.07 \*\*\*  
 0.78 \*  
 nd \*  
 0.18 \*  
 0.37 \*  
 0.13 \*  
 0.02 \*  
 nd \*  
 1.28 \*\*  
 0.33 \*  
 nd \*  
 0.02 \*  
 nd \*  
 2.79 \*  
 nd \*  
 0.67 \*

585.70 \*\*\*\*  
 382.08 \*\*\*\*\*  
 569.29 \*\*\*\*\*  
 65.55 \*\*  
 0.09 \*\*\*  
 0.93 \*  
 nd \*  
 0.20 \*  
 0.47 \*  
 0.17 \*  
 nd \*  
 0.02 \*  
 2.47 \*\*  
 0.38 \*  
 nd \*  
 0.25 \*  
 nd \*  
 3.31 \*  
 nd \*  
 0.85 \*

595.00 \*\*\*\*  
 464.83 \*\*\*\*\*  
 850.26 \*\*\*\*\*  
 76.62 \*\*  
 0.10 \*\*\*\*  
 1.19 \*\*  
 nd \*  
 0.27 \*  
 0.50 \*  
 0.14 \*  
 nd \*  
 0.06 \*  
 1.89 \*\*  
 0.38 \*  
 nd \*  
 0.13 \*  
 nd \*  
 3.80 \*  
 nd \*  
 0.85 \*

The following trace elements may be toxic  
 The degree of toxicity depends upon the pH of the soil, soil texture, organic matter, and the concentrations of the individual elements as well as to their interactions

The pH optimum depends upon soil organic matter and clay content- for clay and loam soils: under 5.2 is too acidic 6.5 to 7 is ideal over 8.0 is too alkaline

The ECe is a measure of the soil salinity:  
 1-2 affects a few plants  
 2-4 affects some plants,  
 > 4 affects many plants.

problems over 150 ppm  
 good 20 - 30 ppm  
 toxic over 800

toxic over 1 for many plants  
 increasing problems start at 3  
 est. gypsum requirement-lbs./1000 sq. ft.

Saturation Extract  
 pH value 7.50 \*\*\*\*  
 ECe (milli-mho/cm) 0.98 \*\*\*  
 calcium 35.3 millieq/l 1.8  
 magnesium 14.1 1.2  
 sodium 136.9 6.0  
 potassium 30.5 0.8  
 cation sum 9.7  
 chloride 110 3.1  
 nitrate as N 19 1.4  
 phosphorus as P 4.7 0.2  
 sulfate as S 34.0 2.1  
 anion sum 6.7  
 boron as B 0.38 \*\*  
 SAR 4.9 \*\*\*  
 135  
 relative infiltration rate slow  
 estimated soil texture loam  
 lime (calcium carbonate) no  
 organic matter fair/low  
 moisture content of soil 41.6%  
 half saturation percentage 57.6%

7.52 \*\*\*\*  
 0.99 \*\*\*  
 35.9 millieq/l 1.8  
 14.1 1.2  
 142.4 6.2  
 27.3 0.7  
 9.9  
 110 3.1  
 22 1.6  
 5.5 0.2  
 33.7 2.1  
 7.0  
 0.43 \*\*\*  
 5.1 \*\*\*  
 112  
 slow/fair  
 loam  
 slight  
 fair/low  
 36.2%  
 57.3%

7.63 \*\*\*\*  
 1.14 \*\*\*  
 40.3 millieq/l 2.0  
 14.1 1.2  
 169.6 7.4  
 24.5 0.6  
 11.2  
 133 3.8  
 18 1.3  
 4.8 0.2  
 48.6 3.0  
 8.3  
 0.35 \*\*  
 5.9 \*\*\*  
 140  
 very slow  
 loam  
 slight  
 fair/low  
 34.0%  
 51.4%

7.69 \*\*\*\*  
 1.38 \*\*\*  
 42.6 millieq/l 2.1  
 15.7 1.3  
 218.7 9.5  
 19.1 0.5  
 13.4  
 193 5.4  
 15 1.1  
 2.3 0.1  
 57.5 3.6  
 10.2  
 0.42 \*\*\*  
 7.3 \*\*\*\*  
 215  
 very slow  
 loam  
 slight  
 fair/low  
 40.9%  
 55.9%

Elements are expressed as mg/kg dry soil or mg/l for saturation extract.  
 pH and ECe are measured in a saturation paste extract. nd means not detected.  
 Analytical data determined on soil fraction passing a 2 mm sieve.

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February 28, 2012

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Target Specialty Products

15415 Marquardt Avenue

Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670

RE: 62951 Costa Mesa

Dear Will,

## Summary Data

description	1+2	3+4	4	5+6	average	target
pH	7.50	7.52	7.63	7.69	7.59	6.5-7.9
salinity	0.98	0.99	1.14	1.38	1.12	0.5-3
chloride	110	110	133	193	137	<150
nitrate	19	22	18	15	19	20-30
phosphorus	70.5	75.8	73.6	41.6	65.4	8-20
potassium	631	451	539	508	532	60-180
iron	51.03	30.74	42.46	30.38	38.66	4-15
manganese	2.05	1.52	1.65	1.91	1.78	0.6-3
zinc	23.26	14.65	19.47	13.17	17.64	1-3
copper	5.51	3.87	6.03	5.75	5.29	0.2-3
boron	0.50	0.63	0.62	0.57	0.58	0.2-0.5
magnesium	386	303	382	465	384	25-100
sodium	530	558	569	850	627	<200
sulfur	43	61	66	77	62	25-100
SAR	4.9	5.1	5.9	7.3	5.8	<4
field capacity	72%	63%	66%	73%	69%	65% - 75%

The average pH is moderately alkaline at 7.59. The pH values range from 7.50 to 7.69. Salinity is moderate at 1.12 millimho/cm on average. The salinity ranges from 0.98 to 1.38 millimho/cm. Sodium is the predominate soluble cation in the saturation extract. Soluble calcium is low. High sodium causes soils to disperse, slake and compact which reduces the porosity and percolation rate. The average SAR (sodium adsorption ratio) value is 5.8. It ranges from 4.9 to 7.3. SAR should be less than about 3 for ornamentals. Sodium can be lowered with the use of gypsum and leaching.

Nitrogen is moderate. Phosphorus and potassium are high. The micronutrients are high. Sulfur is modest. Total available sodium is high at 627 parts per million on average. Non-essential trace metals are not excessive. Soil moisture is modest on average at about 71% of field capacity.

Soil Analyses

Plant Analyses

Water Analyses



Soil moisture is moderate on average at about 69% of field capacity.

### **Recommendations**

Lower the sodium and SAR values. Excess sodium impairs the physical soil properties and is a competitive inhibitor of the uptake of potassium. If compaction is high and restricts the rate of drainage, enhance the rate of drainage.

Apply gypsum at 15 pounds per 1,000 square feet quarterly for about 1 year. After each application, irrigate deeply and lower the sodicity and salinity which results from the addition of gypsum. Normally irrigate deeply but not frequently. Balance soil moisture with soil aeration.

Apply ammonium sulfate (21-0-0) at 5 pounds per 1,000 square feet about 4 times a year. Ammonium sulfate (21-0-0) helps to lower the alkalinity.

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