



Supporting
biodiversity at home*

Kingfisher

Fact sheet: Alternatives to Conventional Garden Chemicals



What it means to choose a Green Star product

Products marked with the Green Star are designed to help customers identify items within our ranges with a focus on reducing environmental impacts.

Customers can use the information provided to filter and understand more about the products they're interested in or have purchased.

Why switching to Alternatives to Conventional Garden Chemicals matters

There is increasing interest in moving away from using conventional pesticides, herbicides and synthetic fertilisers in our gardens. In recent years, Kingfisher has stopped selling metaldehyde and neonicotinoids (including in the growth of flowering plants sold) following concerns about impact on the environment.

Finding ways to ensure that gardens continue to thrive as vibrant habitats without resorting to conventional garden chemicals can include:

- Using farm or horse manure to improve the soil instead of a synthetic fertiliser.
- Growing plants specifically to improve soil nutrition (green manure).
- Using biological controls – introducing a pest's natural predator – instead of using pesticides.

Criteria 1:

How we assess Green Star products

Every product should meet:

- All relevant legal requirements**
- All Kingfisher policy requirements**

[You can access the Kingfisher policies here.](#) These include Human Rights, Supply Chain Workplace Standards and Sustainable Packaging.

Products are also checked against a Watch List. The watch list contains several criteria or features, relevant to the product type, that if present disqualify the product from being



marked with a green star. The relevant Watch List can be found at the end of this factsheet. The Watch List is reviewed and revised annually.

Life cycle assessments have not been completed for every green star product, but by employing policies and the Watch List Criteria in Kingfisher's Sustainable Home Product Guidelines, many factors in the life cycle of a product are considered.

The green star 'Alternatives to Conventional Garden Chemicals' assessment focuses on the in-use phase of the product's life cycle. This is where the product can bring the biggest benefit to the user across its utilisation, however green star excludes products that may have other environmental aspects that are harmful either as a result of manufacture or end of life disposal.

Criteria 2:

Green star programme entry

The criteria for 'Alternatives to Conventional Garden Chemicals' are one of the following:

- Biological controls for pests
- Manure:
 - Farmyard or horse manure sold as a soil improver.
 - Green manure seed (varieties of plant designed to grow and then decompose in the soil to add nutrients).

Providing Criteria 1 and 2 have been met, a product can be highlighted with the Green Star.

Reviewing and confirming Green Star status

- ✓ All products nominated are assessed internally by our sustainability team and submitted to NGO Bioregional for external validation. Assessments and validation aim to establish if a product meets Criteria 1 and 2. To find out more about NGO Bioregional, [click here](#)
- ✓ Once the external review is conducted, the product can then be confirmed and marked with the Green Star.
- ✓ A full review is conducted annually to ensure all products continue to meet the selection criteria.

Watch List Criteria relevant to alternatives to conventional garden chemicals

These criteria specify features of products that make them unsuitable for Green Star assessment:

- ✗ The product should not contain peat.
- ✗ Products where the packaging contains PVC or expanded polystyrene.
- ✗ Products that contain any wood that does not meet Kingfisher's Forest Positive Policy.
- ✗ Products containing palm oil, cotton, rubber or leather with no evidence that the materials have been responsibly sourced.

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