Fertilizer Spreaders

Today on Gardening in a Minute: fertilizer spreaders.

Choosing the right fertilizer spreader for you can help you apply fertilizer properly. Dry fertilizers can be applied with either a drop or a rotary spreader.

A drop spreader applies a fairly exact pattern. This also allows a "tight" pattern but requires that each pass meets exactly with the previous one or skips will be noticeable.

The rotary spreader generally has a wider pattern of distribution compared to a drop spreader and can cover a larger area in a short time. There is less chance of missed areas with this type of spreader. The uneven, wide pattern of the rotary spreader is initially harder to calibrate and care should be used not to get fertilizer granules into water bodies. Be sure to keep fertilizer at least ten feet from the waterfront.

For more about spreaders and many other gardening topics, contact your county extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

Gardening in a Minute is a production of the University of Florida's Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology, IFAS Extension, and WUFT-FM.