

INDICATOR WEEDS and SOIL CONDITIONS

Name of Weed	Condition(s) Indicated
Bindweed (morning glory)	Hardpan or crusty surface with light sand texture
Chickweed	Tilled or cultivated soil with high fertility, unless weeds are pale and stunted then fertility is low
Chicory	Soil with heavy clay texture, tilled or cultivated with high fertility unless weeds are pale and stunted then fertility is low
Dandelion	Heavy clay soil, acidic or low lime, especially on lawns
Horsetail	Sandy light soil; acidic or low lime
Lamb's quarters	Tilled or cultivated soil with high fertility, unless weeds are pale and stunted then fertility is low
Prickly lettuce	Tilled or cultivated soil
Mosses	Waterlogged or poorly drained soil, acidic or low lime
Mustards	Hardpan or crusty surface; dry, often with thin topsoil
Nettles	Tilled or cultivated soil; acidic or low lime
Redroot Pigweed	Tilled or cultivated soil with high fertility unless weeds are pale and stunted then fertility is low
Plantains	Heavy clay soil; waterlogged or poorly drained; acidic or low lime, especially on lawns
Sorrel	Waterlogged or poorly drained soil, acidic or low lime
Thistle	Heavy clay soil
Yarrow	Low potassium

Each growing season, make note of any changes in predominant weed species that invade your garden. As time goes on, you should see poor soil indicators replaced by fertility indicators like chickweed or lamb's quarters.

Plant Nutrient Needs for Crop Rotation

Heavy Feeder	Light Feeder	Nitrogen Fixer	Nitrogen Fixing Cover Crop
Artichokes	Beets	Beans	Alfalfa
Arugula	Carrots	Peas	Bell beans
Asian greens	Chard		Clover –
Bitter greens	Cilantro		Berseem,
Broccoli	Dill		Crimson, Rose
Broccoli Rabe	Fennel		Vetch –
Brussels Sprouts	Garlic		Common, Hairy,
Cabbage	Green Onions		Purple,
Cauliflower	Leeks		Woodypod
Celery	Onions		Cowpea
Collards	Parsley		Fava beans
Corn	Turnips		Field peas
Cucumber			Lupin
Eggplant			
Kale			
Lettuce			
Melons			
Mustard greens			
Okra			
Peppers			
Spinach			
Squash, summer & winter			
Tomatillos			
Tomatoes			

Practice Agricultural Recycling:

