

Rock Dust Remineralization

U.S. Aggregate Industry produces 200 million tons “**Rock Dust Fines**” commonly called rock dust, pond settlings, rock flour, classifier tailings, fine sand and minus 200 mesh. These are by-products and are regarded as waste. Typical cost is \$1- \$10.00 per ton plus delivery. Search the Yellow Pages for “Cement –Wholesale” or “Sand and Gravel”.

Application Rates

3 tons / acre = 14 lb / 100 sq ft = 1.25 lb / sq yd

10 tons / acre = 46 lb / 100 sq ft = 4 lb / sq yd

20 tons / acre = 92 lb / 100 sq ft = 8 lb / sq yd

MINIMUM - two tons per acre for observable results, 5-10 tons per acre most desirable.
MICROBES BREAK DOWN PARTICLES & RELEASE ELEMENTS OVER TIME AND BENEFITS
OF 5-10 TONS APPLICATION IS OBSERVABLE POSSIBLY FOR MANY GENERATIONS.

Particle Conversion Chart

PARTICLE SIZE	PARTICLE DIAMETER (MICRONS)	MESH
Fine sand	250 – 100	50 – 125
Very fine sand	100 – 50	125 – 250
Silt	50 – 2	250 – 6000
Clay	2 or less	6000 or more

Separate Layer Test: (Purchasing by screen mesh alone leaves room for error). Sample might contain sand & silt but little rock dust. Fill clear glass one-half full with rock dust sample and 2 inches water. Shake the glass vigorously and allow settling overnight. The dust, silt and sand settle into three distinct layers with the dust on top.

Pot Test: Fill six inch clay pot with a mixture of 50/50 soil and peat and three tablespoons rock dust sample. Use a control (no rock dust) and try different samples of rock dusts that are available in your area. Germinate radishes and watch the progress.

Moisture Test: Weigh sample and then dry in oven and weigh again to determine how much moisture is present (need digital scale). Low moisture is best due to weight in transport.

Chemical Analysis: Normally provided by source (necessary for licensing). If unsure or unable to obtain satisfactory documentation, contact your local university and have lab tests conducted. Look for radioactive elements and industrial by-products.

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