



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sun Gro Horticulture, Inc. Grows Soil and Fertilizer Donations this Spring

Bellevue, Washington (April 26, 2010) – Spring is always a busy time for Sun Gro Horticulture, Inc., manufacturers of Black Gold® potting soils, amendments and fertilizers. But this spring has been exceptional in many ways. As victory gardens continue to rise in popularity and food banks all over the country are running low on items, especially fresh produce, Sun Gro Horticulture, Inc. has been hard at work. Multiple pallets of product have already gone to various organizations, from a small non-profit organization to a world-class hospital, all with the same mission – to help those in need.

Recently, Sun Gro Horticulture donated four pallets of product including Black Gold Natural & Organic potting soil to the Portland, Oregon based non-profit, Growing Gardens. The goal is to help grow organic home gardens in urban backyards and schools and dig at the roots of hunger.

“Thank you and Sun Gro so much for your help and generosity. We’re all really excited to be able to provide our gardeners with such high-quality supplies”, says Nat Lichten, Home Garden Coordinator for NWSA AmeriCorps. “The supplies will go to our Home Gardens Program, which provides low-income families in Portland with gardens, then supports them with the knowledge and resources they need to garden.” Volunteer crews will help set up gardens at homes with families who need food.

Portland Community Gardens, another beneficiary, has been providing gardening opportunities for the people of Portland since 1975. This spring they received enough organic fertilizer from Sun Gro to keep their fruits and vegetables growing in their 32 different garden locations. “Thank you so much”, says Leslie Pohl-Kosbau. “We got the delivery and are very happy to make it available to our community gardeners. This is a great community donation in a time of need for many people.”

Though Sun Gro Horticulture, Inc. is based in the Northwest, their reach extends much further into the U.S. With many of their brands being distributed across all of North America, Sun Gro has made an impact in a number of communities this spring outside of the Northwest. Seeds of Hope in Salt Lake City recently received a donation of organic fertilizer and soil.

“The Thayne Center for Service & Learning at Salt Lake Community College, the Sustainability Committee of Salt Lake Community College, and Seeds of Hope would like to express deep gratitude for the donation of organic fertilizer to our new community garden at the Taylorsville-Redwood Campus. This fertilizer will not only benefit our gardens which are making fresh, whole foods more available to our students,” says Jason Thornton, Founder, “but to many other organizations in the Salt Lake valley with whom we have a relationship of serving our communities such as the Utah Food Bank, Wasatch Community Gardens, One World Café, Urban Crossroads, and others.”

Nationally recognized Master Gardener, William Maynard, of the City of Sacramento Department of Parks and Recreation Community Garden Program, received several pallets of organic fertilizer to help keep his community gardens growing. He said, "This donation comes at the right time of the year - spring! And, this will benefit many school and community gardeners in the Sacramento region. I have used Sun Gro products for years with great success." William is also Founder of the Sacramento Area Community Garden Coalition and Vice President of the American Community Gardening Association.

The March of Dimes and Oregon Health and Sciences University (OHSU) were also recipients of product donations. OHSU, a world-class teaching hospital and research center that draws in students, scientists, and patients from around the world has incorporated a Green Team to help provide herbs and vegetables to the families that stay at the Ronald McDonald House on campus. Ronald McDonald House is a place where families of chronically ill children can reside with their children while they get treatment. Some of the food grown with this donation will be used at the Mac Hall café on campus. "Your wonderful contribution will help us create healthy soil for the fruits and vegetables that the Green Team is growing at OHSU to benefit the families staying at the Ronald McDonald House," says The OHSU Green Team. "Some will be donated to local food banks like Oregon Food Bank or homeless shelters in the Portland area. Thank you for choosing to support our efforts with your kindness and generosity."

From a world-class hospital to community schools, Sun Gro Horticulture continues to donate much needed product to benefit those in need, including donations to Tualatin High School in Tualatin, Oregon in support of their Timberwolf Support Organization as well as to Clackamas High School in Clackamas, Oregon in support of their silent auction and banquet benefitting Portland Rescue Mission.

Company Profile

Sun Gro Horticulture was founded in 1929 in Vancouver, BC and has grown to become North America's largest producer of sphagnum peat and the largest distributor of peat moss and peat and bark-based growing media to professional plant growers in the US and Canada. In addition to Sunshine Professional Mixes, Sun Gro sells a complete line of consumer potting soils, garden amendments, peat moss and fertilizers. Sun Gro's retail brands include Black Gold®, Sunshine® Pro, Sunshine® and Natures®.

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