

WINTER KILLS

Killing Your Roadside & Driveway Grass & Plants?

How to avoid “salt kill” told in recent news release from Maine State Highway Commission

Research Project Finds Gypsum Neutralizes Effects of Road

Salt A two-year research project financed by the State Highway Commission and carried out by Dr. Frederick Hutchinson, Chairman of the Department of Plant and Soil Sciences, University of Maine, finds that SOF’N-SOIL® Lawn & Garden Gypsum when applied to roadsides subject to winter road salt, effectively reduces the sodium level of the soil.

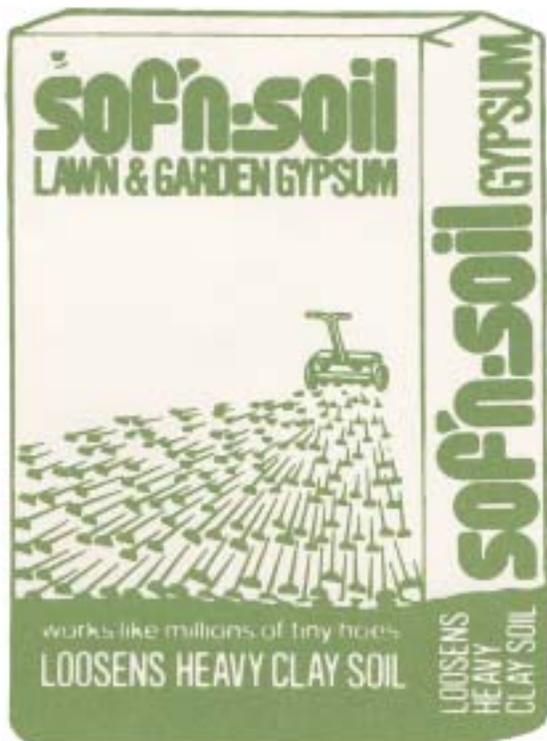
The study was aimed at the sodium in the road salt because sodium ions tend to become trapped in soils, are toxic to plants in high concentrations and cause “cementing” of the soil. Chloride ions, on the other hand, quickly disperse in water and are carried away with no significant buildup.

The research was carried out on three plots of ground adjacent to highways in the state. The gypsum was applied in different amounts to a maximum rate of 14 tons per acre. Soil samples were taken for analysis before and after treatment; samples were taken from untreated plots of ground as well.

In each instance, reports Dr. Hutchinson, there was a significant reduction in the sodium level during the period of the test where gypsum was applied.

Gypsum, a traditional soil amendment, remains in place because of its low solubility; therefore its effect should be long-lasting.

Limestone also was analyzed during the test, but was found to have no significant effect on the sodium level of the soil.



- Counteracts salt damage
- Loosens tight soil
- Promotes deep root growth
- Adds vital calcium and sulfur
- Breaks up clay soils
- Low-cost natural conditioner

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GYPSUM IS ECOLOGICALLY SAFE**

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