



## Topic: Epsom Salt as a Palm Fertilizer

**Question:** Can I use Epsom salt to green my palm tree fronds?

- Rita, email

**Answer:** Yes, you can, but it is certainly not a cure-all for palm nutrient problems. Epsom salt is magnesium sulfate and its application is used to correct or prevent magnesium deficiency. Magnesium deficiency is expressed on the older bottom leaves. The leaf margins become yellow while the center of the leaf remains green. It is most common on the Phoenix spp. of palms including Canary Island date palm and Pygmy date palm. Magnesium will not correct leaves already magnesium deficient. However, it can prevent new leaves from becoming so.

### Useful Links

[Nutrition and Fertilization of Palms](#)

[Stephen's Webpage](#)

Stephen Brown is a horticulture agent with the Lee County Extension Service. Submit questions by calling the horticulture desk at 533-7504 between 9 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. or by sending an email to [brownsh@leegov.com](mailto:brownsh@leegov.com).