Cocoa Mulch Superiority
Cocoa mulch is selected from the highest quality, with the most nutritional value for the garden and landscape. It undergoes several cleansing processes which are all heat centrifuge based, in order to produce a quality Organic Garden Mulch, Soil Conditioner, Fertilizer, 100% fat free and 100% moisture free, therefore excellent for use in the garden and landscape. The purification is complete without chemical use; once then completed cocoa mulch is then poured into UVA treated bags (ideal for storage) and sealed.

The Cocoa Mulch Advantage
- Cocoa Mulch is 100% organic garden mulch gained from natural resources, for use as ground cover, soil conditioner, and fertilizer.
- Unlike fresh bark mulch products, it does not use up Nitrogen levels from the ground.
- Cocoa Mulch is extremely light weight, as well as clean to handle and easy to spread. Its pH is 5.4 and has a fertility of N.P.K. 2-0.2-3.
- Enhances the appearance of any border, landscape, or garden design.
- After watering cocoa mulch a natural gum is activated, which binds the shells into a loosely knitted porous mat that holds moisture in the soil, suppresses weed growth and holds in place during normal rain or wind storms.
- The texture of cocoa mulch may reduce damage to plants by deterring slugs and snails. It also has virtuosity of deterring most cats.
- Cocoa mulch is a natural by-product derived from the Cocoa plant, and fully recycles itself back into the garden soil, without disturbing the balance of the environment.
- Disperses a natural aroma of chocolate.

Application Instructions
The correct application of Cocoa Mulch is important for enduring attractive and productive planting areas. The prepared area should be clear of weeds, flat and well drained. Cocoa Mulch should be applied to a depth of 2”.

1. Use straight from the bag and spread by hand or with a rake.
2. To break up clay soil, dig in generous amounts of Cocoa Mulch, then spread a top layer of 2”.
3. Cocoa Mulch should be evenly spread then lightly tamped down.
4. Soak thoroughly with a fine spray of water. This will activate the natural gum bind into a loosely knitted porous mat.
5. A covering of 1-2” can be topped up semi-annually with smaller quantities to maintain weed control and soil quality.

Once settled, the Cocoa Mulched areas can be cleaned with a lawn rake, broom or indirect use of a blower. Cocoa Mulch provides a perfect top dressing for your patio container plants.

Stabilizes and Improves the Soil
After watering Cocoa Mulch, a natural gum is activated. This activation binds the shells together into a loosely knitted mat that will help retain moisture in the ground and also reduce water evaporation. An additional benefit to this natural binding action is the ability to suppress weed germination. This will reduce garden maintenance as well as the need for costly herbicides.

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Cocoa Mulch will retain moisture in the soil as a natural benefit, however, in low lying areas or where the Cocoa Mulch is too thick, a harmless mold may appear. The appearance of the mold is a natural phase of the breakdown process. It may wash away with the rain, or it may be sprayed off with a hose. It may even go away when exposed to sunlight.

This process is normal and harmless to plants over time, as Cocoa Mulch begins to break down the color will darken.

It is recommended to re-apply a thin layer of Cocoa Mulch to restore the lighter natural look and beauty to your garden.

Unlike typical mulches such as pine bark, pine needles or cypress, Cocoa Mulch contains protein. The protein helps break down the shell into humus which in turn stimulates the production of soil bacteria. Cocoa Mulch will add organic matter to your soil as it decomposes. This additional organic matter leads to all sorts of great things. Soil structure is enhanced which improves aeration, water percolation, and nutrient movement through your soil.

Mulching will also encourage the presence of earth worms, which further aerate the soil and release nutrients in the form of "casting". This may become apparent after extended rain, when you notice patches of white larvae on your Cocoa they will burrow back into the soil when the sun comes out. Earthworms should be considered a prominent citizen in any garden and are particularly important in perennial beds or in garden plots that are rarely plowed or tilled. Cocoa Mulch keeps your soil fertile without you having to work it.

Mulch stimulates increased microbial activity in the soil. Certain bacteria are every bit as important as worms. The result of their work is that organic matter breaks down more rapidly and plant nutrients are made available to your plants sooner. This means that your garden is operating very much like a compost heap.

**Soil Temperature**
The effect Cocoa Mulch has on the soil temperature is probably one of the most overlooked benefits, especially by first time gardeners. Many spend much time pondering what’s happening underground. Simply stated Cocoa Mulch is insulation. It keeps the soil around your plants cooler during hot days and warmer during cooler nights. During long hot summer days, a mulch can reduce soil temperature by as much as 10 degrees F.

**Cocoa Mulch Helps to Grow Vigorous Plants**
Mulched plants, especially vegetables, are less diseased and more uniform than those without mulch. One reason is that Cocoa Mulch prevents fruits, flowers, and other plant parts from being splashed by mud and water during heavy rains. Not only can this splashing lead to unsightly spots and messy fruit, it is one of the primary means of infection for many soil-born diseases. Mulching protects ripening vegetables like tomatoes, melons, pumpkins, and squash from coming in contact with the soil, which means fewer bad spots, rotten places, and mold. Basically Cocoa Mulch helps reduce plant stress. And, as many gardeners have said, vigorous pants tend to be bothered less by insects, and other pests.

**Environmentally Friendly**
Using Cocoa Mulch for weed control helps cut down the use and dependence on chemical herbicides. The fewer chemicals we use, the lower the risk of ground water contamination and accidental poisonings. Cocoa Mulch recycles itself back to the soil without disturbing the balance of the environment.

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