



## **The Standability Nutrient**

*From [www.ppi-ppic.org/Elementary/homepage.html](http://www.ppi-ppic.org/Elementary/homepage.html)*

Potassium is the “standability” nutrient. It helps the plant’s posture. It can also be referred to as the “straw” nutrient, helping the plant drink.

Potassium can help crops withstand stress conditions—drought and cool soils, flooding, insects, and diseases. When a plant is hungry for potassium, there are definite signs. For example, some fruit tree leaves turn yellowish and curl; tomatoes have stunted growth, and older leaves turn grey-green; potatoes have leaves that are small and crinkled.

Put a flower with long stem (carnation) in water containing food coloring. The plant will soon show signs of the dye in the flower petals.

You will need

Water

Straw

Food colouring

White flower (carnation or daisy)