



Plant Nutrients and the Soil

Answer Key

1. **Answer:** B

Explanation: In hydroponics, plants are grown without soil and instead bathe the roots in mineral solutions.

2. **Answer:** A

Explanation: In the mutualistic association called mycorrhiza, the fungus benefits from the supply of sugar by the host plant while the fungus provides more surface area available for water uptake and other minerals from the soil for the plant.

3. **Answer:** D

Explanation: Sodium is an example of a micronutrient which is an element the plant needs in smaller quantities. The rest of the choices are all macronutrients which are required by plants in larger amounts.

4. **Answer:** C

Explanation: A nutrient is considered an essential element if a plant must obtain it from its environment to be able to complete its life cycle.

5. **Answer:** D

Explanation: Magnesium is a macronutrient and an important component of chlorophyll.



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