



# 2024 AUTOPOT GROW GUIDE

Everything you need to know to  
get growing with your AutoPot  
Watering System



Suitable for both indoor and outdoor growing

Includes capillary matting to irrigate & feed pots & trays

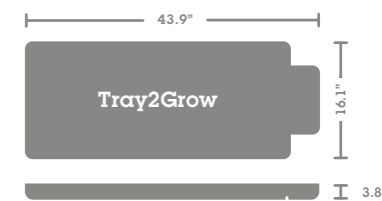
Tray2Grow Planter allows you to grow root veg anywhere



« TRAY2GROW COMPLETE APWS234

MSRP \$160.89

- Includes:**
- 3.3ft of 3/8" Pipe
  - 1x 1/2-3/8" Click-Fit Filter
  - 1x AQUAvalve5
  - 2x 3/8" Grommet
  - 1x 3/8" In-line Tap
  - 1x Capillary Matting
  - 1x Root Control Sheet
  - 4x Seed Trays (lids not incl.)
  - 1x Anti Slug Copper Tape
  - 10x Capillary Spikes



Left: Tray2Grow Complete includes capillary matting for use with pots, trays, and planters, plus capillary spikes for use with grow bags.

TRAY2GROW - TRAY & LID

MSRP \$38.99

APWS223



- Includes:**
- 1x Tray2Grow Tray & Lid
  - 1x 3/8" Grommet
  - 1x 1/4" Overflow Grommet
  - 3x Circular Spirit Level

TRAY2GROW PLANTER

APWS231

MSRP \$49.99



Right: Grow root veg anywhere with the washable, collapsible Tray2Grow Planter

# One Tray, Five Uses

Automatic watering at its versatile best.

Tray2Grow supports a multitude of cultivation methods and allows for unchecked horticultural adventurism wherever you grow.

From grow bags to seed trays, planters to pots and microgreens, Tray2Grow can be configured to suit every conceivable growth stage and every plant type.



Use with trays, pots, grow bags, microgreens, and planters

No need for electricity, pumps, timers, or mains water pressure

Gravity pressure from a water tank is all that's required

Above: As Tray2Grow operates power-free and with no need for running water you can cultivate anything you please, anywhere you please.

TRAY2GROW ACCESSORIES & SPARES


- « TRAY2GROW SPIKE & CAPILLARY APWS228 MSRP \$29.80
- « TRAY2GROW SPIKE ONLY APWS226 MSRP \$1.49
- « TRAY2GROW MICROGREENS TRAY (HOLES) APWS232 MSRP \$8.29
- « TRAY2GROW MICROGREENS TRAY (NO HOLES) APWS232N MSRP \$8.29
- « TRAY2GROW SEED TRAY APWS229 MSRP \$3.29
- « TRAY2GROW SEED TRAY PROP LID APWS229L MSRP \$3.39
- « TRAY2GROW ROOT CTRL SHEET APWS224 MSRP \$9.79
- « TRAY2GROW CAPILLARY MAT APWS225 MSRP \$17.99


# CO<sub>2</sub> MOTHERNATURE GENERATOR


## Introducing MotherNature CO<sub>2</sub> Generators


### Your All-in-One Solution for Optimal Growth!


Unlock the true potential of your growing environment with MotherNature CO<sub>2</sub> Generators. Our complete kits are designed to boost the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration of your grow space, giving your plants the boost they deserve.

 **Natural CO<sub>2</sub> Generation** : Experience the power of nature at its best! Our CO<sub>2</sub> Generator utilizes a unique combination of natural bacteria and specially formulated manure to produce CO<sub>2</sub> in the most eco-friendly way possible.

 **Achieve Optimal Conditions** : Providing the ideal environment for CO<sub>2</sub> production is vital, and that's why we've got you covered. The bacteria and manure thrive at a comfortable 72°F / 22°C, guaranteeing maximum CO<sub>2</sub> output for your plants' growth.

 **Life-Replenishing Energy**: Our CO<sub>2</sub> Generator doesn't rest when the lights go out. During the 'off' period, our hardworking CO<sub>2</sub>-producing bacteria come alive, infusing the Generator with more CO<sub>2</sub>, preparing it for a powerful release during the next daylight cycle. This perpetual rejuvenation guarantees the production of CO<sub>2</sub> for up to 6 months!

 **Elevate Your CO<sub>2</sub> Levels** : With atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> levels hovering around 412 PPM, your plants deserve better! The MotherNature CO<sub>2</sub> Generator can double the PPM in your growing area to a minimum of 800 PPM allowing your plants to thrive!

 **Timed Precision for Optimal Results** : We understand that CO<sub>2</sub> is essential during the daylight hours when your plants are most active. That's why the MotherNature CO<sub>2</sub> Generator comes with an AirPump, effortlessly connected to a Timer or CO<sub>2</sub> Monitor ensuring your plants get precisely what they need, when they need it.

- Lasts for up to 6 months
- Stimulates vigorous growth and is proven to increase productivity
- Increases CO<sub>2</sub> by up to 800 ppm

Contact AutoPot USA for more information

(702) 338-0373  
www.autopot-usa.com  
info@autopot-usa.com

# 2024 AUTOPOT GROW GUIDE

## CONTENTS

- 06 INTRO TO THE AQUAVALVE
- 07 POTTING UP
- 08 SUBSTRATES
- 11 NUTRIENT INFORMATION
- 13 RESERVOIRS & WATER
- 14 SYSTEM MAINTENANCE

## WELCOME TO AUTOPOT!

AutoPot is more than just a growing system. AutoPot is a community of like-minded individuals that aspire to see great results with minimal time spent. Your plants will feed themselves and thrive using AutoPot's unique automated, gravity-fed, bottom-feeding setup along with our one of a kind, patented AQUAvalve technology. Welcome to the AutoPot community!

## GETTING STARTED

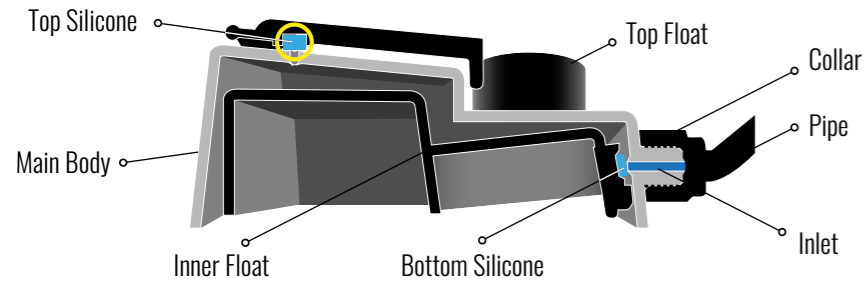
We encourage every AutoPot user to take a moment to read through this guide before potting up. A successful AutoPot grow requires a basic understanding of how the system works, including how to pot up, what substrate mix to use, and how to maintain your system. The more you know, the better you'll grow!

## NEED SOME HELP?

We understand that growing can be complicated. This guide will help you understand how AutoPot works, and how to make your AutoPot system work for your specific needs. If you have any questions that are not answered in this guide we're happy to help. Just give us a holler!

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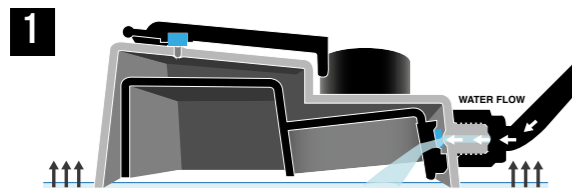
## AQUAvalve™

SEE THE AQUAVALVE IN ACTION!

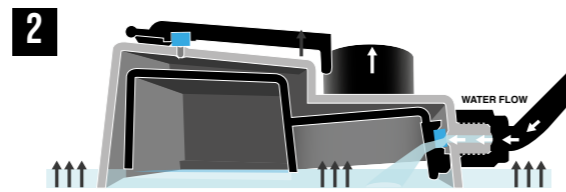
### THE HEART OF THE AUTOPOT SYSTEM

The AQUAvalve is a patented valve created to regulate the flow of liquids into the AutoPot System. Each valve receives liquids through tubing that runs from the nozzle of the valve to a reservoir. The valve can be secured to any AutoPot tray by inserting the half circle shape at the rear of the valve into the T shape on the bottom of the tray. A well maintained AQUAvalve is essential to ensuring proper functionality of the AutoPot System. **See page 14 for AQUAvalve cleaning and maintenance.**

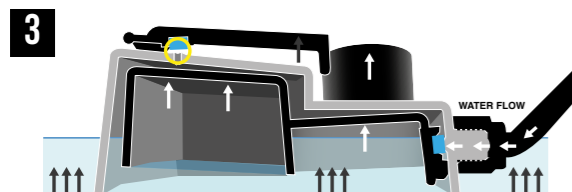
### HOW THE AQUAVALVE WORKS:



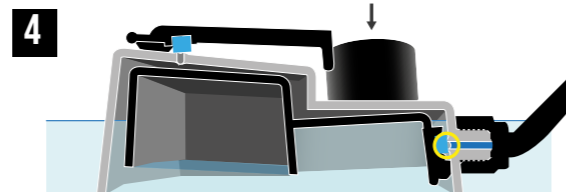
Once the AQUAvalve is positioned in a tray and connected to the water supply and the tap turned on, water will begin to flow into the tray through the AQUAvalve nozzle. The Inner Float will rise a little but the Top Float will remain in position, keeping the hole sealed on the Main Body and preventing the Inner Float from rising further.



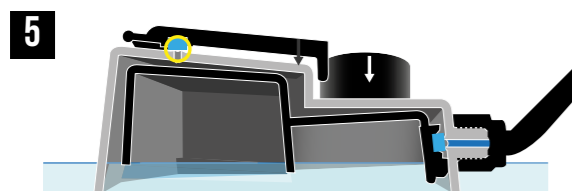
Trapped air inside the Main Body is unable to escape as the silicone in the Upper Float is creating a seal on the Main Body, water continues to enter into the tray as the Inner Float is unable to shut off due to the trapped air.



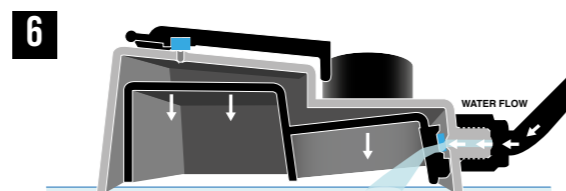
Once the water reaches 1" (half way on the AQUAvalve collar) the Upper Float will lift allowing the trapped air inside the Main Body to escape and simultaneously the Inner Float will rise and cut off the incoming water.



As the plants consume the nutrient solution the Top Float begins to drop back down re-sealing the hole on the Main Body creating an air tight seal.



The sealing of the Main Body ensures that there is an air tight seal which in turn creates a vacuum inside the Main Body, this prevents the Inner Float from dropping and preventing any further nutrient solution from entering.



Once the nutrient solution drops below the Main Body of the AQUAvalve the surface tension of the water around the AQUAvalve Main Body will break, this can take up to an hour. The vacuum in the Main Body is then released and the Inner Float drops to a position where the inlet can reopen and the filling process begins again.

### STEP 1: ROOT CONTROL

All AutoPot Watering Systems and Modules are supplied with root control. Depending on the system or module, root control may include some combination of PotSock and Root Control Disc (RCD). These are used in the following configurations:

- 1POT:** RCD in tray (gold face up)
- EASY2GROW:** RCD in pot & PotSock Square on base of pot (both gold face up)
- GEOPOT / XXL:** PotSock on base of pot (gold face up)
- 1POT XL:** RCD in pot (gold face down)

**NB:** If growing aggressive plants we suggest using a RCD in the pot (gold face down) & PotSock on the base of the pot (gold face up)



### STEP 2: SUBSTRATE CHOICE

A vast range of substrate options are viable with AutoPot. The following represent good examples of substrates that provide the requisite air retention and capillary action. Use quality substrates from reputable brands and ensure the mix is absorbent, light and fluffy. Ensure Clay Pebbles are pH stable or that they have been fully stabilised for at least 48hrs prior to use.



### STEP 3: ADDING SUBSTRATE

For good drainage we recommend an AirBase or a 1" / 2.5cm layer of pH stable clay pebbles, pea gravel, Growstones or Perlite No.3 in the base of each pot.

#### FIRST ADD A BASE FOR DRAINAGE



If using AirDomes place the AirDome on the Root Control Disc inside the pot and place AirBase on top. If no AirBase, pour in clay pebbles or perlite No. 3, leaving just the top of the AirDome uncovered.

#### ADD SUBSTRATE UNTIL 1-2" / 2.5-5CM FROM TOP OF THE POT

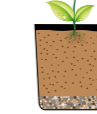


Place your choice of substrates into the pot. Fill until substrate is 1-2" / 2.5-5cm below the top.

### STEP 4: PLANT CHOICE

Always ensure an established plant is used when potting up. As a general rule: easy2grow 2.2gal - **Min. plant height 6"**  
1Pot 3.9gal - **Min. plant height 9"**  
XL/GeoPot 6.6gal / 5gal GeoPot - **Min. plant height 12"**  
XXL/GeoPot 9gal / 13gal GeoPot - **Min. plant height 12"**

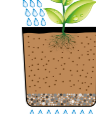
#### ONLY POT UP ESTABLISHED PLANTS



Pot up and with the pot outside the tray, water each pot through. When you see water draining from the bottom of the pot, stop. Allow the pot to drain for 15 mins.

#### HAND WATER POTS

#### OUTSIDE OF TRAYS AND ALLOW TO DRAIN

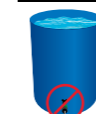


Before putting pots into trays clean the bottom and sides of each pot to help ensure the valve remains clean and free of substrate.

### STEP 5: SYSTEM ACTIVATION

At this point the system SHOULD NOT be turned on, allow the plants to establish first. As a guide allow:  
**5-7 days** for easy2grow 2.2gal  
**7-12 days** for 1Pot 3.9 gal  
**10-14 days** for GeoPot/XL/XXL

#### DO NOT SWITCH THE WATERING SYSTEM ON INITIALLY



During the rooting phase the roots will take up the initial "through-watering" and extend to seek out further moisture. Do not water again until day 5-10 of the rooting phase.

#### ALLOW PLANTS TIME TO ESTABLISH IN AUTOPOT POTS



Once you're happy the plants have rooted, turn the system on. Feeling the weight of the pots will give you an idea. If heavy plenty of moisture remains to be absorbed by developing roots, if light switch on.

### STEP 6: AIRDOME ACTIVATION

#### DO NOT SWITCH ON AIRDOMES FOR 2-3 WEEKS



If using AirDomes do not activate them straight away, allow 2-3 weeks for the plants to establish before air is blown into the root zone. Always ensure that warm air is blown into the root zone, temperatures between 64°F - 70°F are perfect. Never blow cold or hot air into the root zone.

#### ONLY BLOW WARM AIR - NEVER HOT OR COLD



If using air domes: place air pumps away from cold floor surfaces and, if the night temperatures in your grow space drop, use a timer to turn off the pump at night.

### STEP 7: NUTRIENT CHOICES & FLUSHING

AutoPot Watering Systems can be used with organic or mineral nutrients. As with all watering systems, care must be taken when using nutrients, especially in the case of organics. For full details of nutrient use and suitability see Nutrient Guides. Do not attempt feeding without first consulting these guides.

Flushing is NOT necessary with food crops. With other crops flushing FROM ABOVE is NOT necessary, simply supply plain water from the reservoir to the modules for the last 10-14 days. DO NOT pour water through the top of the pots. Salt build up occurs in the top 1"/2.5cm of the substrate, where it has no detrimental effect on plant growth. Pouring water through the pot at the flushing stage may damage roots due to the toxicity of the salt build up at the top of the substrate.

## ESSENTIALS

AutoPot Watering Systems are extremely versatile and can be used with the growing medium / substrate of your choice. In growing trials we have cultivated plants in a vast range of substrates from coral to denim and even pumice stone! Whatever substrate you decide to use make sure the mix is absorbent, light, fluffy and free draining. An ideal substrate for use with AutoPot is a 50% mix of perlite or clay pebbles with either soil or coco. The following guidelines and examples may provide a good basis for substrate success.

- For good drainage we recommend an AirBase or a 1" (maximum depth) layer of pH stable clay pebbles, pea gravel, Growstones or Perlite No.3 in the base of each pot.
  - Whether they are used at the bottom of the pot as additional drainage or as part of a mix, clay pebbles MUST be pH stable. Be aware that certain brands are NOT pH stable and will increase the pH of the water in the tray; this will negatively affect plant growth.
  - Pay close attention to manufacturers instructions where preparation of media is concerned.
  - Always use a good quality soil or coco from a reputable brand. Look for coco that has been buffered and stabilised. If unsure, pot up and pour approx 2.5 gal of pH 5.6 water and ¼ strength feed through each pot - this will instantly stabilize the coco. Allow to drain thoroughly before use.
  - Peat-based composts will compress if used alone, reducing the oxygen content in the root zone. Mix in perlite/clay pebbles/gravel to lighten the compost and improve aeration.
- Consider that, though rich, peat can compress to virtual solidity. On the other hand Perlite will never compress. Try to create a mix that balances richness with aeration.

## SUBSTRATE EXAMPLES & KEY QUALITIES

### COCO / CLAY PEBBLES



Coco represents a natural, free-draining substrate that can be enhanced with beneficial bacteria and fungi to strengthen the root-zone and accelerate plant growth. The porosity and texture of the pebbles aids water retention, drainage and root-zone oxygenation.

### COCO / GROWSTONES



Growstones are made from recycled glass and are engineered to provide high porosity, improved aeration and better drainage of the root zone, while retaining water well. Growstones are alkaline and must be pH stabilized before use. Coco adds an active element to the mix by supporting bio-activity and, it is claimed, by delivering nutrients in synch with the plants requirements.

### SOIL / CLAY PEBBLES



Soil is an excellent medium for supporting bio-activity and soil-based substrates are available to a vast number of specifications. A complimentary medium is essential in order to provide drainage, aeration, and prevent compression in the root zone. Clay pebbles are an ideal choice.

### COCO / PERLITE



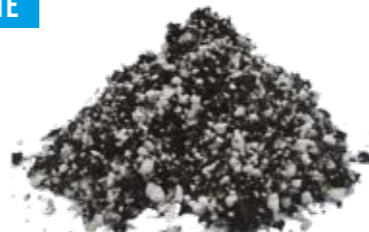
Irregular, porous and rough surface textures such as those found on perlite granules provide aeration, superb water retention and also excellent drainage. Combined with the natural benefits and microbial enhancements available to coco, such mixes can give great results.

### ROCKWOOL / CLAY PEBBLES



As it is derived from rocks Rockwool is inert and doesn't withhold or repel nutrients selectively in the way that some plant-based substrates can. Therefore it will deliver your nutrient solution in its purest form. However it will require buffering or stabilizing in advance of use. Pebbles provide drainage and water retention.

### SOIL / PERLITE



Combining any one of the huge range of soil-based grow media with perlite can produce a wonderfully diverse, active, and airy mix. Water is retained perfectly whilst still free to drain and the risk of compacting is minimized.

# GO with the FLOW

#1 AutoPot Recommended Reservoir & Line Cleaner

Keep your lines clear and your reservoir clean with AutoPot's BioEnzyme based solution, Easy2Flow!

## Ideal for AutoPot Watering Systems

Easy2Flow works perfectly with AutoPot Watering Systems! It will prevent clogs before they form, keeping your lines & reservoir clean from throughout your grow.

## Organic & Safe

Easy2Flow is OMRI certified. It's safe for use with beneficials & all microorganisms, and does not alter your PH. There is no need to flush your system after treatment. Extended exposure is natural, organic, and harmless.



## Includes Bio-Enzymes

Easy2Flow actively digests all biofilm layers and restores your irrigation system to 100% capacity. Unlike harsh chemical treatments, Easy2Flow bio-enzymes support your plants and soil by seeking out biofilm as food.



SCAN ME

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AutoPot Educational Grow Videos

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OPTIMIZES ROOT ZONE DRAINAGE IN AUTOPOT WATERING SYSTEMS

REMOVES THE NEED FOR A PEBBLE LAYER IN THE BASE OF YOUR POT

DESIGNED FOR EASY, OPTIONAL INTEGRATION WITH AIRDOME



### OPTIMIZE YOUR ROOT ZONE DRAINAGE WITH AIRBASE



AIRBASE SQUARE - APWS095



AIRBASE ROUND - APWS096

Give your plants a lift with AirBase. This handy plate fits into the bottom of your pot and allows you to sidestep the use of a pebble layer for drainage. A beautifully simple and effective innovation, AirBase is fabricated from tough ABS plastic making it highly durable and thus extensively reusable.

- AirBase Square fits AutoPot 2.2 and 3.9 gal plastic pots
- AirBase Round fits AutoPot 6.6 gal plastic pots & 3-5 gal fabric pots

### AIRDOME COMPATIBLE - AERATE YOUR ROOT ZONE FOR SUPERCHARGED GROWTH



AIRBASE SQUARE WITH AIRDOME



AIRBASE ROUND WITH AIRDOME

AirBase features a pop-out center-section allowing for easy, optional AirDome integration. The AirDome sits beneath the AirBase and pumps oxygen into your root zone via bubble pipe. This aeration helps roots expand more quickly and stimulates the development of a highly absorptive root structure for improved nutrient uptake. The aeration also helps to maintain the condition of your substrate, for a healthy, productive, disease-free root zone.



AIRBASE SQUARE WITH AIRDOME IN 1POT



AIRBASE ROUND WITH AIRDOME IN 1POT XL



AIRBASE ROUND WITH AIRDOME IN XL GEOPOT

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# NUTRIENT INFORMATION

AUTOPOT WATERING SYSTEMS



## MINERAL NUTRIENTS

If mineral feeding is selected, the liquid or soluble mineral nutrient is simply added to the water in the reservoir in a controlled manner and fed via the pipework to the AQUAvalves in the module trays. From there the plants take up the water/nutrient solution as and when they require it. Feed according to nutrient producers' guidelines.

## ORGANIC NUTRIENTS

We recommend the following techniques when using organics with AutoPot Watering Systems - see below for Reservoir Feeding and opposite for Pot Feeding. The arrival of AQUAvalve5 has revolutionized the way in which organics can be fed through AutoPot Watering Systems. For the first time, we can recommend almost constant feeding of liquid organic nutrients, additives, and boosters in solution via the reservoir and pipework. It should be noted that this applies only to systems equipped with AQUAvalve5 and 3/8" pipe and fittings. Earlier model AQUAvalves with 1/4" pipe and fittings cannot feed liquid organics in solution via the reservoir and pipework on a constant basis. The wider apertures of fittings and pipework on AQUAvalve5 equipped systems produce vastly increased flow rates that practically eliminate potential blockages.

## ORGANICS - RESERVOIR FEEDING

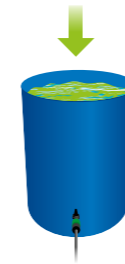
Supply of liquid organic feeds from the reservoir via pipework. **Only applicable to AQUAvalve5 equipped systems with 3/8" pipework and fittings.**

**Uses:** Employed by organic growers who wish to simplify and automate to the greatest possible degree. Ideal for confined spaces, large numbers of modules and max. automation.

**Requirements:** Watering system fitted with flush taps at ends of pipework runs. Reservoir to supply liquid organic feed in solution for the duration of the grow. Liquid organic feed.

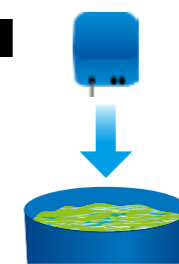
### Step 1. Setting Up

**A**



Fill reservoir with water and liquid organic nutrient. Follow nutrient producer's directions when adding feed.

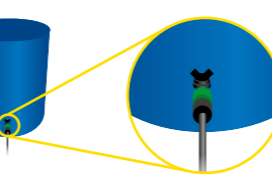
**B**



A water pump should be used in the reservoir to keep the solution moving. It should not be necessary to run the pump constantly. 15mins every 2hrs is ideal.

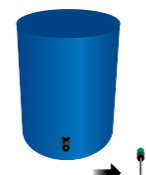
### Step 2. Once the reservoir has emptied

**A**



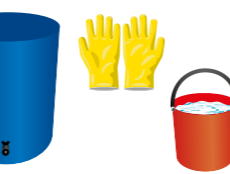
Switch the reservoir off.

**B**



Disconnect the reservoir.

**C**



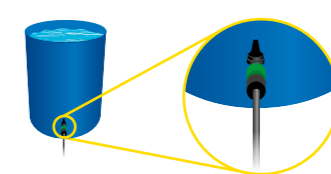
Clean the reservoir inside. Clean the water pump and inline filter. Reconnect.

**D**

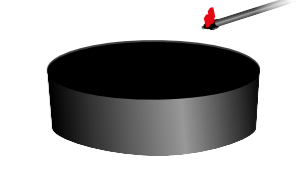


Refill with plain water only.

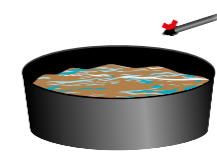
### Step 3. Flush the pipework



Switch the reservoir on.



Place the flush taps at the ends of pipework runs into a container / safe drainage.

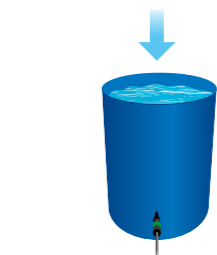


Open flush taps for 30-60 secs. Allow plain water to flow out until it runs clear

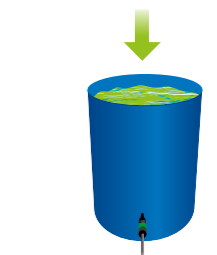


Close flush taps. Feed plants on plain water from reservoir for 24 hours.

### Step 4. 24hrs after flushing



Top up the reservoir with water as necessary.



Add liquid organic feed again to correct dosage. Repeat.

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Those wishing to grow organically with soil-based nutrients can also do so with AutoPot Watering Systems by Pot Feeding or Tray Feeding

## ORGANICS - POT FEEDING

Use organic time release tabs, organic soils and/or bacteria in the pots. Use the reservoir and pipework to supply water only during the useful lifespan of the soil-based nutrients. Then, if required, for latter stages of growth hand feed organic feeds/teas directly into the trays or employ Reservoir Feeding (see Reservoir Feeding opposite) via the reservoir and pipework.

Organic soils, bacteria and/or soil-based time-release tabs may become depleted after 5-7 weeks. The lifespan of soil or soil-based nutrients will depend on the type of plants being grown and the size of the pot being used. Regardless, an organic liquid supplement may become necessary during the latter stages of growth.

**Uses:** Employed by those wishing to maximize control, customization and/or use a variety of feed types including organic time release tabs/organic soils and/or bacteria in the pots with teas or organic feeds in latter stages.

**Requirements:** Watering system and reservoir. Reservoir supplies only plain water for the duration of the grow unless switching to Reservoir Feeding for latter growth stages.

Organic time release tabs/organic soils and/or bacteria in the pots.

Organic teas/boosters/feeds if Hand Feeding latter growth stages.

If Reservoir Feeding in latter growth stages see **Reservoir Feeding Requirements**.

## ORGANICS - TRAY FEEDING TECHNIQUE

### Step 1. Potting Up and Setting Up

- When potting up use organic soils and/or add bacteria and/or organic time release tabs of your choice to the substrate. Reservoir supplies your plants with water only.

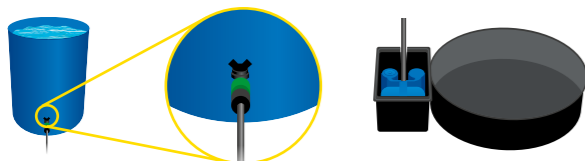


### Step 2. If useful lifespan of soil-based nutrients has elapsed

- Either Reservoir Feed. See Reservoir Feeding section (overleaf) for details.
- Or Hand Feed (see below) directly into module trays

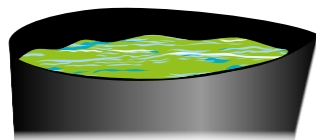
### Step 3. Hand Feed organics directly into the trays - Once every 5-7 days

- Switch Reservoir off and allow module trays to run dry - approx 12hrs



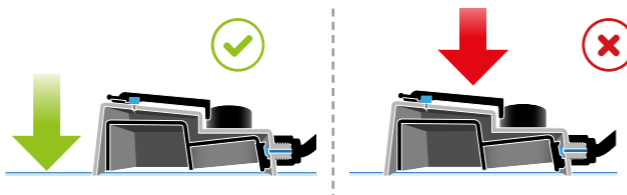
### Step 4. 12hrs after switching off Reservoir

- Prepare the organic solution of your choice

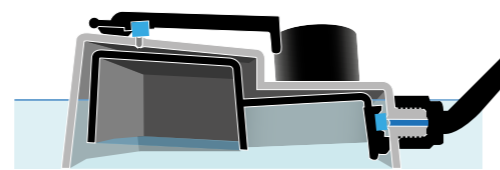


### Step 5.

- Using a small watering can or jug, pour the solution in a controlled manner next to the AQUAvalve, NOT ON THE AQUAvalve



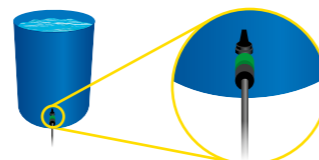
- Fill the tray to the point where the pipe enters the tray and stop
- DO NOT pour the solution into the top of the pot as you will potentially risk flooding the tray and growing area



- Leave the solution to be consumed by the plants in each tray and then repeat the process after 30 minutes

### Step 6. 24hrs after feeding/once trays have run dry

- Switch Reservoir on to restore supply of water.
- Repeat process every 4-5 days as required



## TYPES OF RESERVOIR

- AutoPot Watering Systems are supplied with reservoirs specifically selected on the basis of their capacity to serve the number of pots in that system.
- Should you wish to use an alternative reservoir it is simple to do so thanks to our range of click-fit adapters and filters but it is important to ensure you have sufficient capacity.
- AutoPot offer three types of reservoir: Rigid Plastic Reservoirs, FlexiTanks and FlexiTank Pro. Rigid Plastic Reservoirs are supplied with smaller systems. FlexiTanks come as standard with any system of six pots or more (1Pot XL/XL/XXL) and with any system of eight pots or more (1Pot/easy2grow). FlexiTank Pro is an optional upgrade / separate.
- The guidance below applies to all three types of AutoPot reservoirs. It also applies as a general guide to use of non-AutoPot reservoirs where combined with AutoPot Watering Systems, although we cannot take responsibility for any issues arising from the use of non-AutoPot reservoirs or the use of guidance below in relation to non-AutoPot reservoirs.

## SET UP

- Get your reservoir correctly positioned before filling. Never attempt to drag or otherwise reposition a reservoir when in use, regardless of the fill level.
- Gravity pressure is necessary in order for the system to function therefore always raise your reservoir to a minimum of 6" above the highest AQUAvalve5.
- Always use a filter with your reservoir, check filters once a week and clean if necessary - especially if using organics / if in a poor water area.
- Do not place an air stone in the reservoir as this can raise pH levels of the nutrient solution. A water pump may be used to agitate the solution but is not necessary.

## OPERATION

- Gravity pressure is necessary in order for the system to function - therefore always raise your tank to a minimum of 6" above the highest AQUAvalve5.
- AQUAvalve5 has revolutionized the way in which organics can be fed through AutoPot Watering Systems. For the first time, we can recommend almost constant feeding of liquid organic nutrients, additives, and boosters in solution via the reservoir and pipework. It should be noted that this applies only to systems equipped with AQUAvalve5 and 3/8" pipe and fittings. Earlier model AQUAvalves with 1/4" pipe and fittings cannot feed liquid organics in solution via the reservoir and pipework on a constant basis. The wider apertures of fittings and pipework on AQUAvalve5 equipped systems produce vastly increased flow rates that practically eliminate potential blockages.
- Re-fill the reservoir when there is approximately a 1/3 of the solution left - NEVER ALLOW THE RESERVOIR TO RUN EMPTY.
- When refilling the reservoir turn the tap off. Refill then leave for 30-60 minutes. Then turn the tap back on. This procedure prevents any sediment being pulled through the pipes whilst refilling.
- Use your reservoir to flush your pots at the end of your growing season. Simply supply pH stable plain water from the reservoir to the modules for the last 10-14 days. DO NOT pour water through the top of the pots. Salt build up occurs in the top 1 1/2.5cm of the substrate, where it has no detrimental effect on the plants growth. Pouring water through the pot at the flushing stage may damage roots due to the toxicity of the salt build up at the top of the substrate.

## WATER & TEMPERATURE

- Generally the reservoir is best positioned outside the growing area.
- Aim for a water temperatures of between 64°F and 70°F in the reservoir
- Aim for a pH of 5.8 if growing with soil or 5.5-5.6 if with coco.
- Always use a filter with your reservoir, check filters once a week and clean if necessary - especially if using organics / if in a poor water area.
- If you are in a hard water area it may be necessary to flush your pipework more than once a week. Hard water reacts more with nutrients creating sediments that can build up.
- We always recommend the use of Water Monitoring devices. Such devices allow you to monitor temperature, pH, and conductivity. They help you read the warning signs before your plants are affected by fluctuations, they can illuminate the causes of changes in growth and, ultimately, they can ensure you get the most from your plants.
- If your water temperatures exceed 21°C / 70° F oxygen content in the water starts to rapidly decrease. This may have an adverse effect on plant health.
- If using organics, additives, or boosters clean the reservoir every time it is almost empty. To do this, disconnect, empty and discard any remaining nutrient, clean the tank out, and refill with pH stable plain water. Reconnect and run with this pH stable plain water for 12/24hrs before adding feed again.

## ALL AUTOPOT MODULES & WATERING SYSTEMS

- The entire AutoPot range is now supplied as standard with the improved, large-bore AQUAvalve5 and with 3/8", 3/8"-1/2", and 1/2" pipework and fittings.
- The original AQUAvalve5, the 1/4" pipework and 1/4" fittings previously supplied with AutoPot Watering Systems are still available as spares, as are 1/2"-1/4" fittings.
- Newly sold Tray Systems, AQUAbox Straight, AQUAbox Spyder, and 12.4 gal reservoirs are drilled out to accept 3/8" pipe and fittings.



### FILTERS

- Always use a filter with your reservoir, check filters once a week and clean if necessary - especially if using organics / if in a poor water area.
- Wash filter material in mild soap and lukewarm water or in dilute hydrogen peroxide
- Once disassembled the filter bodies can be washed in mild soap and lukewarm water, in dilute hydrogen peroxide, or in a dishwasher
- Depending on the condition of your filter replace every 5 yrs. Golf Filters feature a replaceable material available separately from AutoPot.



**If elevating your FlexiTank on a stand, connect your inline filter so it is further down the 1/2" piping and not next to the tank. Installing the inline filter too close to the FlexiTank will pull at the material and may create leaks.**

### AQUAVALVE

**Ensuring that the AQUAvalve floods and drains correctly**

- Ensure the two silicones are in place. Hold the AQUAvalve at eye level so that you can see the silicone fitted to the top float resting on the hole below it. The silicone must create a tight seal when touching the hole. If it looks like it is not sitting parallel on the hole below, simply lift the top float and apply pressure to one side of the silicone, drop the float and hold at eye level again. Repeat the procedure if necessary.
- Ensure the AQUAvalve is secured to the tray. If using AutoPot trays position the half-moon on the bottom of the AQUAvalve over the T-section in the tray, push down firmly on the main body only. If using in a garden tray place an AQUAvalve Cover over the AQUAvalve.

### Cleaning

- AQUAvalve is easily disassembled. Held vertically the top float will slide all the way across. The bottom float unclips from its pivot position.
- Ensure that silicones are removed from the AQUAvalve before cleaning and are only replaced when the AQUAvalve is completely dry.
- AQUAvalves can be scrubbed using a toothbrush or even placed in the dishwasher.
- Blowing through the AQUAvalve nozzle or use of a pipe cleaner or paperclip will help remove any build up that has occurred.
- When disassembling the system dip the still-connected AQUAvalve and pipe in hot water to ease separation. Once loosened remove the pipework by pulling it directly away from the nozzle. Avoid twisting/wiggling the end of the pipe away from the nozzle.
- Do not under any circumstances use a drill to clear the AQUAvalve nozzle. This will potentially damage the AQUAvalve beyond repair.



### FITTINGS



- Utilize the flush taps at the ends of the pipework to help keep the system clean and free of sediment. To do so open each tap into a bucket or similar for 30 secs-1 min. Do this once a week if using mineral nutrient. Ideally undertake once you have re-filled your reservoir and allowed it to settle for an hour. A full reservoir provides you with the maximum pressure to flush.
- AutoPot only supply and only recommend official AutoPot-branded fittings for use with AutoPot Watering Systems.

### PIPEWORK



- Dip the end of your pipe in hot water before connecting to fittings. This will soften the pipe and allow you to connect fittings with ease.
- When disassembling the system dip the still-connected fitting and pipe in hot water to ease separation.
- If using mineral additives or organics in a larger system you may wish to use a line cleaner such as D-Block, Drip Clean or Keep It Clean. With regular plain water flushing this should not be absolutely necessary but remains an option if desired.

### GeoPots



- Available in a 3 gallon or 5 gallon size, GeoPots are incredibly durable and can be reused repeatedly. They can also be washed if desired.
- Powdery green or white discoloration can occur on the outside of the pot but is entirely natural. It is merely salt or mineral build up.
- Empty after using and let the pot dry. After a few days remaining debris will easily brush off. At this point the pot is ready for reuse.
- If desired, growers can then also wash the bags in peroxide to sterilize - either in a washing machine or dipped in a tub.
- Allow to dry naturally. Do not put GeoPots in a tumble dryer.

### PLASTIC POTS



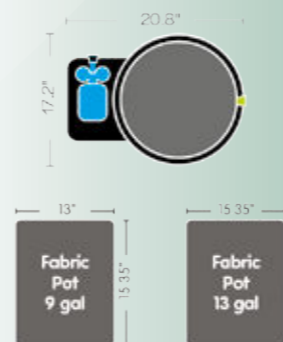
- Always clean the side and bottom of each pot before you place in the tray, this will remove any soil particles and ensure your system is clean. In turn ensuring your AQUAvalve5 is kept clean and free of growing media - especially if growing with Perlite.
- Don't place trays on cold concrete floors, water in the tray will be chilled from below and will effect plant growth. Consider placing polystyrene, cardboard under each tray to ensure the water temperature in the tray is not affected. Always ensure trays are level.

# Reach for the trees

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# AutoPot™ PRO series

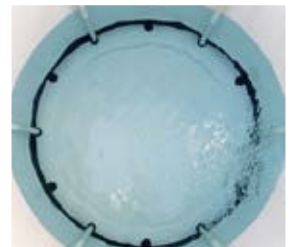
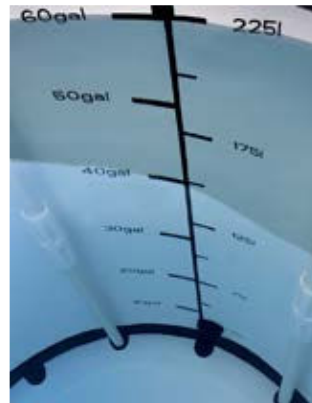
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This high-quality filter will help protect against blockages

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## PROFITTINGS

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