

# How to Pot up an AutoPot Pot

## 1

The Root Control Discs (RCD) and Matrix Discs work in the following configurations:

- A** Black Matrix Disc in the pot, RCD in tray gold face up
- B** RCD in pot gold face down
- C** RCD in pot gold face down and RCD in tray gold face up

## 2

Fill the bottom of the pot 1-2" (2.5-5cm) **NO HIGHER** with either, washed pH stable Clay Pebbles / GrowStones / Perlite size 3 / washed pea gravel. If using AirDomes firstly place the AirDome on the Root Control Disc, then fill with either Clay Pebbles / GrowStones / Perlite to the height of the AirDome.

**NB: Please ensure that if Clay Pebbles are used that they are pH stable or are fully stabilised for at least 48 hours prior to use.**

## 3

The choice of substrates and blends of substrates with AutoPot is endless, the following are good guidelines and have been trailed and tested, Coco / Perlite, Coco / Clay Pebbles, Soil / Perlite, Soil / Clay Pebbles, Rockwool / Clay Pebbles.

Which ever blends you decide to use please ensure that there is good air retention and capillary action. Always use reputable brands. Simply place your choice of substrates in the pot to 1-2" (2.5-5cm) below the top.

## 4

Always ensure that an established plant is used when potting up, pot up as you would any other pot, then water each pot through outside the tray, when you see water draining from the bottom of the pot, Stop.

Allow the pot to drain for 15 mins.

## 5

Once the pots have drained wipe the bottom and sides of each pot to remove any substrate that may be stuck to it and place into the AutoPot tray.



## 6

At this point the system **SHOULD NOT** be turned on, it is important to allow the plant/s to establish first, depending on the environment the plants will not need any more water for a further 5-10 days, sometimes longer if the plants are not in a controlled environment.

Once you are happy that the plants have rooted, then simply turn the system on. Feeling the weight of the pots will give you an indication. Always look at the largest plants as these will need watering sooner.

## 7

Only good clean well balanced Mineral Fertilisers should be added to the reservoirs, **NEVER** add organic fertilisers to the reservoir, as they have a tendency to block AQUAvalve nozzles and pipework. If using organic fertilisers only plain water should be used in the reservoirs, any organic feed that is needed should be poured through each pot. Slow release organic fertilisers can also be added to the pots at the correct ratio, generally time release organic fertiliser do not last long, so additional organic liquid teas will need to be poured through the top of each pot in a controlled and timely manner.

## 8

Flushing from above is **NOT** necessary, simply supply clean plain water from the reservoir to the modules for the last 10-14 days. **DO NOT**, especially if you are using mineral fertilisers pour water through the top of the pots. Salt build up when using mineral fertilisers occurs in the top 1" (2.5cm) of the pots substrate, where it has no detrimental effect on the plants growth. By pouring water through the pot at the flushing stage roots may become damaged due to the toxicity of the salt build up at the top of the substrate. Flush **ALL** plants by only using plain water in the reservoir.

# Additional Tips

TIP

1

AirDomes should not be turned on 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, ideally temperatures between 18°C – 21°C are perfect. Never blow cold or hot air into the root zone.

TIP

2

When adding mineral fertilisers to your reservoir it is prudent to turn off the reservoir tap while you are mixing and re-filling. Once you have finished calibrating your reservoir with the correct amount of feed and pH down, allow the reservoir sediment to settle to the bottom of the reservoir for up to an hour, then re-open the tap.

**PLEASE ALWAYS REMEMBER TO TURN THE TAP BACK ON.**

TIP

3

**ALWAYS RE-FILL** the reservoir when there is a 1/4 of the water / solution left, **NEVER** let the reservoir/s run empty, **NO WATER, NO GRAVITY**, ultimately no plants will receive water.

TIP

4

Do not use fertilisers in conjunction from different suppliers, unless already tested, quite often different fertilisers when mixed will cause problems and not work in harmony with each other.

TIP

5

Always utilise the flush taps at the ends of the pipework, by opening each tap into a bucket or similar, for a minute or two depending on the pressure will flush the pipework and keep the pipework clean and free of sediment, this should be carried out once a week if using mineral fertilisers or once every two-three weeks if using plain water.

TIP

6

Always check your water filters after each reservoir once every two-four weeks and clean if required.

TIP

7

Never sit AutoPot trays on **COLD** concrete floors, cold temperatures from the floors will radiate into the trays and chill the water, ideally if the floors are cold, polystyrene tiles can be placed under each tray to combat this issue.



watering systems

AutoPot Global Ltd  
Unit 5  
108 Hawley Lane  
Farnborough  
Hampshire  
GU14 8JE  
UNITED KINGDOM

Tel: +44 (0)844 8581520  
Fax: +44 (0)870 3836953

Email: [mail@autopot.co.uk](mailto:mail@autopot.co.uk)  
Web: [www.autopot.co.uk](http://www.autopot.co.uk)