

# "How to Use" OASIS® Growing Medium



## Getting Started

- OASIS® Horticubes® and Rootcubes® Media sheets can be separated into strips or individual cells if desired, depending on crop spacing, or as your hydroponics system requires. Space cubes to provide for good air circulation and establish proper light levels necessary for the specific plant.
- Sterilize all tools, trays, and equipment that will come into contact with seedlings/cuttings to reduce disease problems.
- Fully saturate the OASIS® Growing Medium with water and allow any excess to drain off. Dispose of the excess water from this initial irrigation and use fresh water with the next watering.
- Always keep OASIS® Growing Media moist after sowing seed or sticking unrooted plant cuttings.
- A clean, unused sheet of OASIS® Growing Media should be used every time a new crop is started to maintain a disease-free environment.

## Seed Germination

1. Prior to sowing, fully saturate OASIS® Horticubes® Growing Media with water.
2. Place seeds in the pre-dibbled, tapered holes in each cell. Either pelleted or raw seed may be used. It is not necessary to cover the seed with other forms of media.
3. Always keep Horticubes media moist during the germination process. Maintain a water level of at least one-third the height of the cube to start, lowering the level as roots develop.
4. For uniform growing results, maintain consistent bottom heat levels. In general the range should be 75-80° F.
5. Use of a humidity dome will aid in germination. Remove dome as soon as roots develop in order to reduce disease problems.
6. Begin fertilization program after germination to encourage growth. Adjust temperature and lighting according to specific plant needs.



## Unrooted Cutting Propagation

1. Prior to sticking unrooted cuttings, OASIS® Rootcubes® Growing Media must be fully saturated with water.
2. If desired, a rooting hormone may be applied to the cuttings open wound prior to sticking, speeding up callus formation.
3. Place cuttings in the pre-dibbled, tapered holes, with only enough pressure to seat the base of the cuttings at the bottom of the hole. Cuttings should be inserted at least 1/2 the depth and no more than 3/4 of the cube depth.
4. Since the cuttings initially have no roots, it's necessary to maintain high levels of humidity around the cuttings with the use of a humidity dome, spray bottle or mist system. Always keep the Rootcubes media moist. Stop the high humidity levels after you see initial root development.
5. For best performance, maintain consistent bottom heat of 75-80°F depending on crop requirements.
6. After plant roots develop, begin a fertilization program and adjust temperature and light levels according to specific plant needs.

## Transplanting

1. Depending on the crop grown and the hydroponics system used, seedlings/cuttings may need to be transplanted.
2. Transplant seedlings or cuttings when 5-7 roots protrude 1/4 to 1/2-inch from the OASIS® Growing Media.
3. Thoroughly water the OASIS® Growing Media prior to transplanting into another media.
4. Transplant into a porous and well draining potting medium such as a common "peat-lite" soilless, potting mix.
5. Transfer the entire plant with the OASIS® Growing Media still attached to the root.
6. Thoroughly water the new transplants to ensure there is good contact between the OASIS® Growing Media and the new potting mix.
7. Begin a regular fertilization program. Maintain proper temperature and light levels specific to the plant type.



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