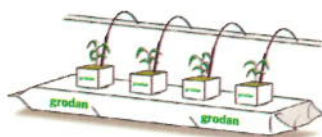




## The right way!

- Keep slabs as level as possible - only a slight (2%) tilt is needed to drain the slab well.
- Before sowing/ planting, always pre-wet blocks and slabs fully up with the fertilizer solution. To get sufficient water you have to use a hose or pitcher the first time you are wetting up blocks and unwrapped slabs.
- Make daily monitoring of pH and EC - both your stock tank and the solution in the stonewool.
- Water to achieve a drain of approximately 25% over the day. This will help to avoid unacceptable high EC levels or TDS build-up.
- Water by weight. If the slab, block or pot feels light it is time to water, then do so to ensure you achieve a drain of about 25%.
- Always use feeding solution suitable for hydroponics when watering.
- Keep EC between 1.5 and 3.2 as a general rule of thumb.
- Keep plants and growing area clean to help preventing diseases and discouraging pests.
- Make sure that the slab or block has free run off, avoiding situations where the Stonewool is sitting in water.
- Pay attention to the basics; light, water, temperature and fertilizer. If you keep these in balance, you will be rewarded with a healthy plant able to fight most diseases or fungus.
- Clean table/tank apparatus on a regular basis with 10% bleach solution. This will help in preventing root rot such as Pythium.
- Remove dead leaves. Decaying organic matter is an invitation to fungus gnats!
- Consider using drip irrigation. You will have more control and it is more likely to achieve better results than from ebb and flood irrigation systems.



## The wrong way!

- Avoid letting pH drop below 5.0. This will prevent the plant from readily taking up nutrients, contribute to a negative impact on plant development, and will be harmful to the integrity of stonewool.
- Do not plant in slabs, blocks or cubes without pre-wetting with pH adjusted water. For initial stonewool saturation, wet with pH 5 water 24 hours before use.
- 1 hour before transplanting drip irrigate long enough to soak & drain 25%.
- This way you should achieve your desired pH & EC levels without even testing it!
- Avoid cutting drain holes in the slabs immediately, saturate the slab first for 24 hours and then cut the drain holes at bottom edges 1-2 days after planting.
- Avoid transplanting into the next block size or onto the slab before the plant has a well established root system.
- Stonewool should never go 'bone' dry.
- Room and stock tank temperature should never drop below 70 °F.
- Fungicides or pesticides should not be used in full strength if you are applying it directly to the stonewool. Consider an application formula of 10-15% of the recommended strength.
- Do not water at night - (No light: no water).
- Avoid ebb & flood irrigation cycle longer than 10 minutes. This is the maximum time it should take for a 3-4 inch block to become fully saturated. Longer cycles may increase risks of root rot.
- Avoid rapid changes in your plant food as this causes plant stress. Even when you measure a very high pH in the block, do not fall for the temptation to water with really low pH.
- Do not get frustrated, remember plants love happy gardeners and experience is a great teacher.



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