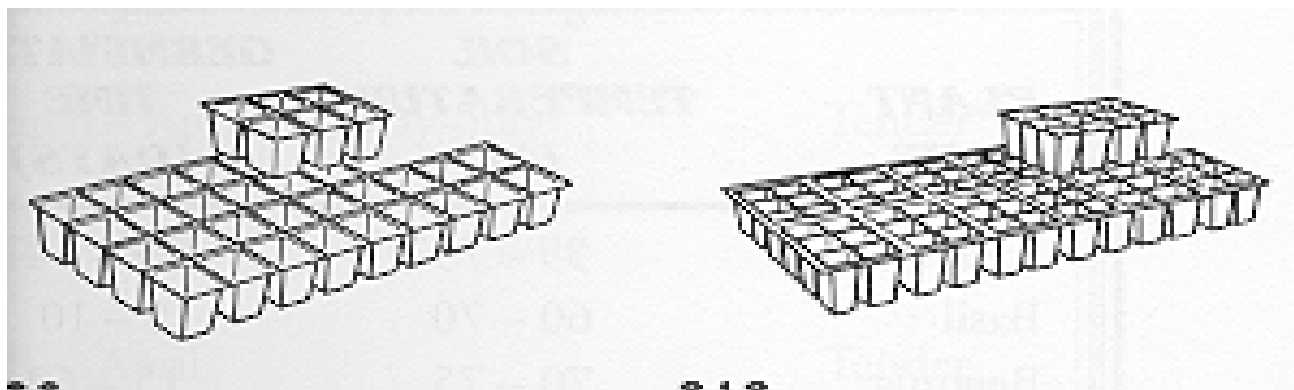


## **Vertical Gardening Planting Instructions for *Verti-Gro* vertical stacking growing systems**

Planting your VERTICAL GARDEN is an enjoyable and simple process. When choosing your crops you usually have two choices of how to start plants growing hydroponically in the Vertical Growing System. You can start from seed, and germinate your own seeds (commonly available at gardening centers and mail order seed companies). As another option, you can skip the seed germination process and plant small plug plants into your system that can be purchased at your local garden centers or nurseries. By starting from plug plants your selection of plants are limited to what can be found at your local nurseries and garden centers. Starting from seed, you do not have these limitations as to what varieties of plants to grow. Foliage cuttings have been proven very successful in the vertical garden also. Here is some helpful information for your planting options:

### Planting From Seed (Seed Germination in planting trays)



1. You will need to purchase at least one seed bedding plant container (diagram to right) to germinate seeds in. In these trays you will then produce a plug plant root system to later transplant into your vertical garden. These are inexpensive, and can normally be purchased at any garden center or nursery for around two dollars.
2. Sow seeds into seed bedding containers in a normal potting soil that you would also find at garden centers. Follow planting and watering instructions on the seed packages that you choose to plant. In most cases you plant one seed per cell, however do not be afraid to be creative. \*\*A general rule of thumb is planting at twice the depth of the seed thickness. For tiny seeds, place seed on top of planting soil, and sprinkle a light dusting of soil over the top, then firm soil down with your fingers.

3. Be sure to keep soil moist with room temperature water from a household spray bottle until germination occurs and seedling breaks ground. When seedling breaks ground, tray should be set in sunlight and hand watered twice daily until you have good root structure to transplant into your vertical growing system. Rule of thumb here is to wait until plant is at least 1-1/2 inches in height. Your only concern is to transplant as soon as you feel like you can do so without injuring the plant. (i.e.-breaking the leaf structure from the root structure)
4. For best germination, keep your newly planted seedlings inside your house until seedlings break the soil. Once seedlings are in the sunlight, it should only take approximately one to three weeks before it is strong enough to be safely transplanted from planting trays to the vertical garden.
5. You do not need to use liquid nutrient on you plants until 3-4 days after they have germinated. Normal watering from a spray bottle with normal tap water will be sufficient for germination and the first 3-4 days after. However, you can mix the hydroponic or organic nutrient at any time.
6. When you are ready to transplant your small plug plants (or from purchased plug plants ) into the vertical garden, start with the bottom pot on your system, and plant into the corners of the pots covering the roots. Stack the next pot taking care not to crush any lower newly planted corners, plant in the corners again, and repeat until the system is fully planted. Let the Vertical Garden‘ do the rest!
7. Plug the pump cord into the timer and then into an exterior wall outlet (or run an extension cord to it) and set your timer to water 2-4 times per day for 15 minutes. The timer should be inside. An adapter may be needed to connect 3-wire cord to 2-wire timer. Adjust the emitter to a flow that just trickles over the top of the emitter.

Refer to “Fertilizer Mixing Instructions” to finish your set-up.