

Outdoor Non-Recirculating Vertical Gardens

The essential ingredients for “**natural organic**” growing are included in the organic base growing media supplied with the “**organic**” vertical gardens. The “**organic base**” package includes enough growing media to mix with 60% perlite. For example use approximately 6 gallons of pre-mixed organic coconut fiber base with approximately 10 gallons of perlite to fill 15 **Verti-Gro** containers. Plain perlite can be added up to approximately 2 inches in the bottom of the pots for drainage. Perlite is neutral which means it is not considered organic or hydroponic. It is simply an aerator. Since “**slow release**” organic fertilizers do not supply all the elements in the right percentages there is a need to add liquid organic materials such as “**soluble seaweed extract**” fortified with organic trace minerals. Set the timer to feed only once per day for 2 minutes. Increase to 2-3 times per day as needed during the summer or for large plants. A slight leaching is OK since this is a natural fertilizer.

The addition of the organic supplement is quite straightforward. There is one supplement included with the organic package. This is the “**Concentrated Fortified Seaweed Extract**”, especially formulated for **Verti-Gro**. Add 1/2 ounce per 1 gallon. Feed each stack about 1 quart or until wet once every week or as needed. Since organic materials are essentially alive they can grow and also create growth. Mix only as much as needed to wet all the pots. **Verti-Gro** uses no animal waste in its organic fertilizer and growing media. Other additives may be needed from time to time and many organic and organic based fertilizers are available from **Verti-Gro**. A Micronutrient supplement may be needed from time to time depending on the types of plants grown. Worm casting are a good all-purpose organic supplement and can be used in mix or as a drench (tea solution). A 6" plastic pot can be used if a 1" hole is drilled to slide over the 3/4" conduit. Place about 2" of perlite in the bottom of the pot and fill with worm castings. Every time the water or liquid feed comes on it runs through the pot of worm castings and adds organic fertilizer to the growing media and directly to the roots of the plants.

At any time you may spray your vegetable plants and any house plants with seaweed extract at the rate of 1/2 ounce per gallon of the 8% Seaweed. This is also a deterrent for some insects.

(See other instructions for natural disease and insect control)

At **Verti-Gro** we have attempted to make “**organic growing**” natural, easy and fun while producing the highest quality whole food you have ever tasted. There can be no fresher, more nutritional way to produce fresh vegetables and strawberries. However, organic growing is not an exact science so adjustments will have to be made as you grow. In the near future we will offer liquid and dry organic fertilizers and natural pesticides to help you become a successful organic grower.

Vertical Gardening