

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR YOUR OUT DOOR MANUAL STARTER KIT

The “Vertical Garden” concept is the single most important break-through since hybrid seed for the home gardener. Space saving has become a critical issue and urbanization has taken away the gardening possibilities for most people, especially for those living in apartments or small homes, yet still want their own fresh produce. Anyone can have a successful flower or vegetable garden, in the “Vertical Garden”, at an affordable price.

The **Verti-Gro** System is easy to assemble, simple to use and fun to grow with. Units start at \$69.95 for the “manual feed” garden to the completely “automatic feed”. This is a scaled down version of “small scale home business”. Imagine the opportunities that lie ahead when you can grow fresh vegetables, herbs and flowers, the year round, and without the use of harmful chemicals. Everything is included but the seed, including the growing media (perlite and coconut fiber or perlite and coarse vermiculite). A complete list of free catalogs is enclosed with each unit.

### The Vertical outdoor garden is easy to set up

- Simply drive a 3/4" x 5' piece of electrical conduit or 1/2' black water pipe into the ground about 12" through the black ground cover which is supplied (4' x 15') with the manual kit.
- Layout your garden and cut a 3/4" x 3/4" slit in the plastic where you want the pipe to be driven into the ground.
- Select the length so that the pipe is about 6-8" above the top pot.  
(5 pots to a stack is maximum in small-scale outdoor gardens)

For each stack two swivel plates are supplied along with the 1" PVC spacer to keep the stacks off the ground and allow for stack rotation.

- Put one swivel at ground level.
- Slide the 1" x 5" spacer over the pipe.
- Slide the other swivel plate over the pipe.
- Then slide 5 pots over the pipe.
- Fill and plant! It is that simple!!!

The automatic kits include a pump, timer, pipe, and trickle emitters. The PVC tees are pre-drilled for the emitters and a punching tool (yellow) is supplied. There are manual feed kits and automatic kits. The basic stack set up is the same.

The coconut fiber brick is compressed.

- Add about 5 quarts of water to each small brick, preferably slightly warm, and let the coconut fiber expand. It will expand to over 2 gallons so start with at least a 2.5-gallon container per brick. (Larger compressed blocks are shipped with larger outdoor gardens)
- Once the coconut has expanded mix all but about 10% of it with all of the perlite. Save some of the coconut fiber for starting your own seed. This is an excellent potting soil by itself. You can add it to your soil or other potting mixes and the results will be noticeable. You may substitute **coarse** vermiculite for cocofiber.

Since the coconut fiber is wet, it will mix well with the perlite.

(Perlite is slightly dusty, but safe, so mix slowly or pre-wet the perlite before mixing it with the coconut fiber)

You can also use a dust mask if the Perlite is too dusty for you. Perlite is the only expanded sand that becomes very porous when heated. It is not harmful! Perlite is used commercially for growing healthy plants. Coconut fiber is very clean. It has been sterilized at high temperatures during the drying and compressing stage.

- Fill the pots and slightly compact the growing media (potting soil)
- Stack one pot on top of the other and nest in the slots on each pot.
- Plant the seed in each corner just as you would in soil or in a pot.  
Plugs or small potted plants help you get into harvest earlier.
- Make up one or more gallons of nutrient solution following the instructions included and on each bag.
- Water the pots from the top allowing the solution to trickle through slowly. It takes about 1 quart per container the first time then only about 1/2 gallon per stack of 5 pots each subsequent time.
- Water as needed just like you would with any other plant. Once a day is recommended but if excess water is draining out the bottom either reduce the amount of nutrient or the frequency. Always feed with nutrient solution unless you suspect something is too high in a certain element. Feeding with straight water will flush out any extra fertilizer if too much has been added.

The **Verti-Gro** nutrient formula was designed for easy use and for almost all plants. If you desire to feed less often you may order more coconut fiber and increase the mix to 50% perlite and 50% coconut fiber or up to 50% **coarse** vermiculite.

To automate your vertical garden a pump, timer, drip emitters, connectors and pipe is included. The pump and timer will allow you to double or even triple your system. Simple connect the pipe through the tees on top of the support pipe, install the emitters, hook up the pump and set the timer for 3 times per day at 2-4 minutes at 9-12 and 3 and enjoy not having to water or fertilize.