

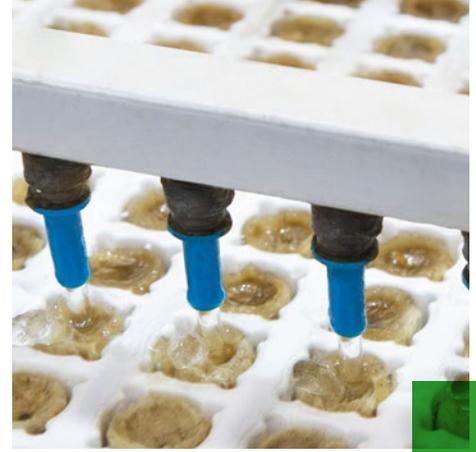
Grodan Plantop Plugs

Fast and healthy development
of young plants

Wetting instructions



Wetting instructions



Grodan's stone wool plugs show a high degree of uniformity, complemented by an ideal water and air balance. Their firmness, good shape retention and stability make them perfect for mechanical as well as manual processing, including sowing, transplant selection and transplanting into Grodan blocks. To guarantee successful use, it is essential that you follow these instructions.

Water supply and belt speed

Step 1

- Ensure there is sufficient water to saturate the products.
- Be aware of water pressure. A lower pressure will gently saturate the plugs, and the excess water will drain away.
- To prevent air becoming trapped in the plugs, ensure that water can easily drain away. This will avoid differences in the water content (WC) and electrical conductivity (EC).
- Be aware of the belt speed. A slow speed encourages good water absorption.
- Check the spray bar regularly for blockages, otherwise some plugs may be left partially or completely dry.

Spray bars

Step 2

- The wetting line should have at least 3 spray bars. The distance between the spray bars must be sufficiently large (a minimum of 50 cm), otherwise good water absorption cannot be guaranteed.
- 1st spray bar: the fibres are activated for the first absorption of water.
 - 2nd spray bar: the products become fully saturated.
 - 3rd spray bar: the water content of the products is optimised during the final water absorption. This creates an uniform WC and EC distribution.

Checking the water absorption

Step 3

- To ensure the products absorb sufficient water and nutrients on the wetting line, the saturated weight of a number of trays should be checked on a scale.
- Full saturation of the product is essential for the germination process. Advice for initial wetting: minimum weight 240-hole tray: 2.2 kg | 252-hole tray: 2.3 kg

Additional information for the Grodan Plantop NG2.0 Funnel Plug

The Grodan Plantop NG2.0 Funnel Plug can be used without vermiculite. This has enormous advantages for the propagator, including cost savings, improved hygiene, and preventing the degradation of machinery.



Step 4 and 5 should be included to get the full potential from the Grodan Plantop NG2.0 Funnel Plug.

Sowing process

Step
4

The sowing process in a Grodan Plantop NG2.0 Funnel Plug is optimal if the seed is centralised in the bottom of the seed-hole. The sowing line and process therefore need to be very precise.

It is preferable to use a 'drum-seeder', as this guarantees the highest accuracy when positioning the seed.

Rinse after sowing

Step
5

However, not every seed may end up in the right place during the sowing process. As an added precaution, it is advisable to rinse the plugs with nutrient rich water following sowing. This will ensure all seeds are located at the bottom of the seed hole. However, ensure that the water pressure does not wash the seed away!

Growing a better future

Grodan is the global leader in supplying innovative, sustainable stone wool growing media solutions for the professional horticulture industry, based on Precision Growing principles. These solutions are applied to the cultivation of vegetables and flowers, such as tomatoes, cucumbers, sweet peppers, egg plants, roses and gerberas. Research shows that high-tech greenhouses have the biggest positive impact on the UN Sustainable Development Goals compared to all other growing systems and score highest for water and nutrient efficiency. Using stone wool Precision Growing media in a greenhouse can produce higher yields with significantly less resources than other cultivation methods.

The key is precision. The essence of Precision Growing is the use of less soil, less water, less fertiliser, lower CO₂ emissions, and higher yield. Combined with stone wool growing media, Grodan offers a MultiSensor system, a software platform, and personal advice to help maximise crop potential with data-driven cultivation.

Grodan's innovative growing media solutions facilitate the sustainable production of healthy, safe, and fresh food produce. Furthermore, it creates the possibility to use biocontrol and reduce, or even eliminate, the use and risk of chemical plant protection products.

Sustainability plays a prominent role within Grodan, from the manufacture of stone wool growing media to end-of-life solutions. Grodan was founded in 1969 and is active in more than seventy countries worldwide. The head office is located in Roermond, the Netherlands.



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The substrates from Grodan are the only stone wool growing media awarded an EU Ecolabel.



EU Ecolabel: NL/048/001

