



The Achiltibuie Garden
...let's grow

Achiltibuie Garden general purpose liquid feed for hydroponic growing

A hydroponic feed must supply all the nutritional requirements of a plant because even if you are using a growing medium, this is inert and does not contribute to the nutrition of the plant. Our plant feed is the product of many years' research at the old Hydroponicum in Achiltibuie and is specially formulated to contain all the nutrients need for healthy plant growth supplied in such a way that it is very easy for the plant to take up. The feed is supplied as a set of three concentrates labelled 1, 2 and 3. (Please refer to the label on each bottle for breakdown of the constituents). Each of these three parts is needed to ensure healthy growth at specific stages of growth and the instructions give details of which part(s) is used at which stage.

We supply our feed as concentrated solutions for ease of transport and storage. They must be diluted before adding to your hydroponic system and you can make up a large quantity of diluted feed at a time because it can then be stored in a lidded container until you need it to top up your system.

In case the constituents interact, make sure that you dilute each of the concentrates separately; for the same reason, it's best not to mix the concentrates together and only to mix the diluted solutions when adding them to your hydroponic system. Both concentrated and diluted feed solutions should be stored in lidded containers in a cool place out of bright light to prevent deterioration due to bacterial or algal growth.

Feeding your plants

Some plants are more hungry than others, and an individual plant's needs varies at different stages of its growth, as well as on environmental conditions such as temperature, humidity and light intensity. In hot weather, for example, the plant will lose more water through its leaves (transpiration), so it will require to take up more water. We suggest that you cut the strength of the feed by 25% in these conditions with no detrimental effect on the plants.

The dilution rates given are therefore a guide and may be adjusted according to the types of plants you want to grow. Use the instructions given to make up batches of diluted feed for the appropriate stage of growth of your plants. By using the three concentrate solutions you can be sure that your plants are getting all of the essential growth elements.

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This General purpose feed gives great results for fruits, herbs, salads, vegetables, leafy & flowering plants growing in the same hydroponic system. For high-yielding fruiting plants such as tomatoes, cucumbers and courgettes, you'll get better results by using our specialised Tomato feed. Both types of feed are available from www.thehydroponicum.com or by telephoning The Achiltibuie Garden on 01854 622202.

Dilution rates for different stages of plant growth.

1). Seedlings and young plants:

Make a 1 in 400 solution of both "1" and "2" with water (=EC 0.4mS/cm) as follows:

Volume of diluted solution required	Amount of 1	Amount of 2	Amount of 3
1 litre	2.5ml	2.5ml	----
5 litres	12.5ml	12.5ml	----
25 litres	62.5ml	62.5ml	----

2). Growth stage for leafy growth :

fruiting crops at pre-flowering stage, leaf or root vegetables, foliage houseplants. Make a 1 in 200 solution of both "1" and "2" with water (=EC 0.8mS/cm) as follows:

Volume of diluted solution required	Amount of 1	Amount of 2	Amount of 3
1 litre	5ml	5ml	----
5 litres	25ml	25ml	----
25 litres	125ml	125ml	----

3). Flowering and fruiting stage:

Make a 1 in 100 solution of "1", "2" and "3" (=EC 1.6mS/cm) with water as follows:

Volume of diluted solution required	Amount of 1	Amount of 2	Amount of 3
1 litre	10ml	10ml	10ml
5 litres	50ml	50ml	50ml
25 litres	250ml	250ml	250ml