

SLACKER™ FAQ's

Q: What is the ideal pH when growing in Slacker?

A: As with all Coco Coir based medias, the ideal pH range is between 5.8 and 6.2

Q: What should my ppm be during each phase of growth when using Slacker?

A: We recommend following the feed sheets found here at botanicare.com. Please note that as the feed sheet indicates, always start by decreasing dosages by 25% when using a fortified soil such as Slacker.

Q: What makes Slacker unique from other grow medias?

A: Slacker contains only premium inputs, including our own 100% High Pith CocoGro, Hydrolite, Par Boiled Rice Hulls, and is completely peat free. Slacker is the most premium Coco Based Soil ever created. It defines a unique new category, Hybrid Grow Media.

Q: How is Slacker a hybrid grow media?

A: The Coco Coir base of Slacker enables it to be watered daily if desired and delivers hydroponic growth rates while the organics contained in Slacker contribute trace minerals, natural compounds that increase overall quality. Slacker doesn't just contain 'some' ratio of Coco Coir, select organics, and aerating inputs, it has the ideal ratio. This means that you reap the benefits of the organics (flavor, aroma, and quality), and you can achieve hydroponic growth rates and yields.

Q: Is Coco Coir really that much better than spagnum peat? My current mix has peat and everything seems ok. Does all the talk about Coco Coir based really translate into better results?

A: Yes, when used as directed it absolutely does. Coco Coir has something that is referred to as a "High Cation Exchange Capacity," or "High CEC." Simply put, this means that Coco Coir holds onto nutrients in the root zone, increasing overall nutrient availability. Coco Coir is also naturally disease free and has a superior air to water capacity when compared with peat moss.

Q: I am currently growing in Expanded Clay/RockWool/DWC, why would I want to switch to Slacker?

A: Are currently using Clay Pebbles, Rockwool, or other aquaculture methods and are looking for some of the flavors and aromas associated with the use of organics and soil, but don't want to sacrifice the yield you have become accustomed to? Slacker can increase yield, and quality. The Coco Coir base of Slacker enables it to be watered daily like your current medium, and delivers hydroponic growth rates. The premium organics contained in Slacker contribute trace minerals and natural compounds that increase overall quality.

Q: I am currently growing in a peat moss/compost based soil. Why would I want to switch to Slacker?

A: Are you happy with the quality of your fruits and flowers, but looking to increase your yield,

growth rates, and shorten the length of your flowering cycles? Slacker doesn't just contain 'some' ratio of Coco Coir, select organics, and aerating inputs, it has the ideal ratio. This means that you reap the benefits of the organics (flavor, aroma, and quality), and you can achieve hydroponic growth rates and yields.

Q: Is Slacker easy to use?

A: Of course! We don't call it Slacker for no reason. The Coco Coir base of Slacker naturally holds a 30% air to water ratio even when fully saturated. This means your root zone can thrive and grow without you having to wonder when the perfect time to water is, and how much is the perfect amount. With Slacker you simply water the container until you achieve 5-10% runoff, and your done. No overwatering and no muddy soils = less problems and greater success.

Q: When should I begin fertilizing when using Slacker?

A: Begin fertilizing immediately with the first watering! Although Slacker is fortified and amended with organics, it is Coco Coir based and performs best when fertilized with every watering. This ability to fertilize frequently is a huge advantage and leads to faster growth and bigger yields. This is just one reason why so many people have switched to Coco Coir based medias. Coco Coir based medias are virtually impossible to overwater, so you can feed more frequently, without the fear of overwatering as often happens with products that contain peat moss.

Q: What are the differences between Aeration and Moisture formulas? Is Moisture only for outdoor use and Aeration only for indoor use?

A: No not at all. Both formulas are suitable for either environment based on your growing style and preferences. Moisture can be used by those indoors who desire to water less, and Aeration can be used by outdoor growers who want the opportunity to water and fertilize more often.

Q: What are the disadvantages of Sphagnum Peat Moss?

A: Peat moss is hard to wet initially, and to re-wet once it dries out. This creates problems and a lack of uniform moisture since most of the soil mixes filled with peat recommend you let the soil dry out between waterings! This damages your root hairs which are essential for optimum growth and the uptake of trace minerals and organic compounds which are some of the most important factors in achieving the best flavors and aromas.

Q: I have noticed when using mixes containing Peat Moss the soil begins "pulling away" from the container over time. What's happening? Will Slacker do this?

A: Notice how this happens more and more throughout the growth cycle? This is because peat moss degrades rapidly. The root system of your plant is complex and forms an intricate network throughout the container during the growth cycle and as the peat degrades is compacts and strangulates your root system! This decreases the amount of oxygen in root zone, and also makes it more difficult for your plant to efficiently uptake nutrients. Some mixes try and counteract and mask this effect by putting an excessive amount of perlite in their mix as a filler. Slacker will not degrade or compact over time and uses the ideal ratio of Coco Coir, Par Boiled Rice Hulls, Hydrolite, and Perlite to maximize aeration and nutrient holding capacity.

Q: I have heard some peat moss *is* sustainable?

A: Peat harvesting is not sustainable. The microbial life contained in peat bogs is immense, and helps store mass amounts of carbon dioxide that would otherwise be released into the atmosphere and contribute to global warming (which is what happens when they harvest it for agricultural use). Although so called “sustainably” harvested and replanted bogs can be “regrown” after just a few years, the microbial life is permanently damaged and becomes “monocultural,” which means it less diverse and unnatural. This does not mitigate the environmental harm caused by peat harvesting.

Q: What is so unique about your coir fiber?

A: Our coir fiber has very low salt content, is aged a minimum of 18 months and has finished its decomposition stage. It has an extremely high air content, has extra long fibers and is double sifted to reduce dust. Cocogro is also buffered to balance out the high potassium naturally present in coir.

Q: How often should I change my reservoir water?

A: You should change your reservoir water every one to two weeks.