

# FytoClone Instructions

## WHY TAKE CLONES (CUTTINGS)?

Clones are cuttings of plants that can be propagated to produce a duplicate of the plant from which it was taken. In many instances clones are more reliable than seeds. If you have a very productive or superior plant, clones will be a duplicate of the original plant. They have the same genetic make up and characteristics as the original. In addition, you can shorten the time to production by as much as 4 weeks over seed grown plants.

## BEFORE YOU BEGIN...

Select a nice healthy plant that has proven qualities for your cuttings. Water it carefully for 2-3 days with plain tap water, distilled or R.O (reverse osmosis) water to leach out as much nitrogen fertiliser in the plant as possible. Excess nitrogen in the plant slows down the root formation of the clones.

Before taking your clones, soak for 12 hours the tray containing FytoCell FytoClone with tap water and allow it to become saturated. Adjust the tap water to a pH range of 5.8 to 6.5. When you are ready to start cloning, remove any standing water from the tray of FytoClone.

## WHAT YOU WILL NEED...

- A sharp single edged razor blade or a pair of sharp scissors
- A cutting board
- A small glass or plastic container to hold any excess cuttings you take initially
- Cloning solution or cloning gel (rooting hormone)
- The cloning kit with FytoClone, which you have pre soaked
- Rubbing alcohol and a swab
- A spray bottle of water

## YOU ARE NOW READY TO BEGIN...

1. Wipe your scissors with a cotton swab dipped in alcohol. Select a growing tip 4" to 6" (100 - 150 mm) in length from the plant with at least one leaf internode, preferably two or more. If you take more than one cutting at a time place them in the container and add enough water to submerge the cut.
2. A) Lay the cutting on the cutting board and B) remove one or two leaves from the bottom of the stem. Then C) with the blade cut the bottom portion of the stem off at a 45 degree angle. The cut should be about 1/4" (8 - 10 mm) below the last leaf that was removed. This is the leaf internode, where the leaf joins the stem. Cut cleanly and quickly without crushing the stem.
3. Have the FytoClone inserts ready. D) Dip the stem into the rooting hormone just enough to cover the cut section and E) gently insert it into one of the FytoClone cavities. Gently push down to halfway to allow enough area for the roots to form. Gently pack the FytoClone around the stem until the stem can stand upright.
4. After the clone has been inserted, gently spray the leaves with a mist of water from the spray bottle.
5. Repeat the process as noted above until you have the desired number of clones.
6. After taking your clones, place the tray with the clones under a brightly lit area. Keep the temperature between 72°F to 80°F for best results. (22°C to 27°C)
7. Once the clones are in a brightly lit area, it is a good idea to cover them with a humidity dome. Make sure you use a dome with a small ventilation hole to prevent the clones from being too wet.
8. Depending on the plant variety, you can expect most varieties' roots to form within a period of 4 to 14 days. You can either have the FytoClone just touching a reservoir of water at the bottom or water every 2 to 3 days depending on temperature. Never have the FytoClone sitting in water and preferably do not let it dry out.
9. After about 6 days, gently grasp the stem and tug slightly. You know roots have formed when you feel a slight resistance. Keep them in FytoClone for another few days until you can pull them out with FytoClone intact. You can then plant your clones in your chosen medium.

## 10. CONGRATULATIONS! You are now an "expert" cloner.

