

TYPES OF RESERVOIR

- AutoPot Watering Systems are supplied with reservoirs specifically selected on the basis of their capacity to serve the number of pots in that system.
- Should you wish to use an alternative reservoir it is simple to do so thanks to our range of click-fit adapters and filters but it is important to ensure you have sufficient capacity.
- AutoPot offer three types of reservoir; Rigid Plastic Reservoirs, FlexiTanks and FlexiTank Pro. Rigid Plastic Reservoirs are supplied with smaller systems. FlexiTanks come as standard with any system of six pots or more (1Pot XL/XL FlexiPot) and with any system of eight pots or more (1Pot/easy2grow). FlexiTank Pro is an optional upgrade / separate.
- The guidance below applies to all three types of AutoPot reservoirs. It also applies as a general guide to use of non-AutoPot reservoirs where combined with AutoPot Watering Systems, although we cannot take responsibility for any issues arising from the use of non-AutoPot reservoirs or the use of guidance below in relation to non-AutoPot reservoirs.

SET UP

- Get your reservoir correctly positioned before filling. Never attempt to drag or otherwise reposition a reservoir when in use, regardless of the fill level.
- Gravity pressure is necessary in order for the system to function therefore always raise your reservoir to a minimum of 150mm above the highest AQUAvalve.
- Always use a filter with your reservoir, check filters once a week and clean if necessary - especially if using organics / if in a poor water area.
- Do not place an air stone in the reservoir as this can raise pH levels of the nutrient solution. A water pump may be used to agitate the solution but is not necessary.

OPERATION

- Gravity pressure is necessary in order for the system to function - therefore always raise your tank to a minimum of 150mm above the highest AQUAvalve.
- AQUAvalve5 has revolutionised the way in which organics can be fed through AutoPot Watering Systems. For the first time, we can recommend almost constant feeding of liquid organic nutrients, additives, and boosters in solution via the reservoir and pipework. It should be noted that this applies only to systems equipped with AQUAvalve5 and 9mm pipe and fittings. Earlier model AQUAvalves with 6mm pipe and fittings cannot feed liquid organics in solution via the reservoir and pipework on a constant basis. The wider apertures of fittings and pipework on AQUAvalve5 equipped systems produce vastly increased flow rates that practically eliminate potential blockages.
- Re-fill the reservoir when there is approximately a 1/3 of the solution left - NEVER ALLOW THE RESERVOIR TO RUN EMPTY.
- When refilling the reservoir turn the tap off. Refill then leave for 30-60 minutes. Then turn the tap back on. This procedure prevents any sediment being pulled through the pipes whilst refilling.
- Use your reservoir to flush your pots at the end of your growing season. Simply supply pH stable plain water from the reservoir to the modules for the last 10-14 days. DO NOT pour water through the top of the pots. Salt build up occurs in the top 1"/2.5cm of the substrate, where it has no detrimental effect on the plants growth. Pouring water through the pot at the flushing stage may damage roots due to the toxicity of the salt build up at the top of the substrate.

WATER & TEMPERATURE

- Generally the reservoir is best positioned outside the growing area.
- Aim for a water temperatures of between 18 and 21°C in the reservoir
- Aim for a pH of 5.8 if growing with soil or 5.5-5.6 if with coco.
- Always use a filter with your reservoir, check filters once a week and clean if necessary - especially if using organics / if in a poor water area.
- If you are in a hard water area it may be necessary to flush your pipework more than once a week. Hard water reacts more with nutrients creating sediments that can build up.
- We always recommend the use of Water Monitoring devices. Such devices allow you to monitor temperature, pH, and conductivity. They help you read the warning signs before your plants are affected by fluctuations, they can illuminate the causes of changes in growth and, ultimately, they can ensure you get the most from your plants.
- If your water temperatures exceed 21°C / 70° F oxygen content in the water starts to rapidly decrease. This may have an adverse effect on plant health.
- If using organics, additives, or boosters clean the reservoir every time it is almost empty. To do this, disconnect, empty and discard any remaining nutrient, clean the tank out, and refill with pH stable plain water. Reconnect and run with this pH stable plain water for 12/24hrs before adding feed again.