## SYSTEM MAINTENANCE AUTOPOT WATERING SYSTEMS



# ALL AUTOPOT MODULES & WATERING SYSTEMS

- The entire AutoPot range is now supplied as standard with the improved, large-bore AQUAvalve5 and with 9mm, 9-16mm, and 16mm pipework and fittings.
- The original AQUAvalve, the 6mm pipework and 6mm fittings previously supplied with AutoPot Watering Systems are still available as spares, as are 16mm-6mm fittings.
- Your existing 47L/30L Tanks need existing holes drilling out to 12.5mm ø. Use a 9mm Grommet and 9mm Golf Filter to run 9mm pipe required for AQUAvalve5.
- · FlexiTank and FlexiTank Pro Couplers are unchanged. Only in the event of connecting directly to 9mm pipe do they require the new 16mm-9mm Filter and Adapter.

FILTERS	<ul> <li>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 are</li> <li>Wash filter material in mild soap and lukewarm water or in dilute hydrogen peroxide</li> <li>Once disassembled the filter bodies can be washed in mild soap and lukewarm water, in dilute hydrogen peroxide, or in a dishwasher</li> <li>Depending on the condition of your filter replace every 5 yrs. Golf Filters feature a replaceable material available separately from AutoPot.</li> </ul>
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- Ensuring that the AQUAvalve floods and drains correctly
  - Ensure the two silicones are in place. Hold the AQUAvalve at eye level so that you can see the silicone fitted to the top float resting on the hole below it. The silicone must create a tight seal when touching the hole. If it looks like it is not sitting parallel on the hole below, simply lift the top float and apply pressure to one side of the silicone, drop the float and hold at eye level again. Repeat the procedure if necessary.
  - Ensure the AQUAvalve is secured to the tray. If using AutoPot trays position the half-moon on the bottom of the AQUAvalve over the T-section in the tray, push down firmly on the main body only. If using in a garden tray place an AQUAvalve Cover over the AQUAvalve. **Cleaning**
  - AQUAvalve is easily disassembled. Held vertically the top float will slide all the way across. The bottom float unclips from its pivot position.
  - Ensure that silicones are removed from the AQUAvalve before cleaning and are only replaced when the AQUAvalve is completely dry.
  - AQUAvalves can be scrubbed using a toothbrush or even placed in the dishwasher.
  - Blowing through the AQUAvalve nozzle or use of a pipe cleaner or paperclip will help remove any build up that has occurred.
  - When disassembling the system dip the still-connected AQUAvalve and pipe in hot water to ease separation. Once loosened remove the pipework by pulling it directly away from the nozzle. Avoid twisting/wiggling the end of the pipe away from the nozzle.
  - Do not under any circumstances use a drill to clear the AQUAvalve nozzle. This will potentially damage the AQUAvalve beyond repair.

FITTINGS	• Utilise the flush taps at the ends of the pipework to help keep the system clean and free of sediment. To do so open each tap into a bucket
- FX	or similar for 30 secs-1 min. Do this once a week if using mineral nutrient. Ideally undertake once you have re-filled your reservoir and
	allowed it to settle for an hour. A full reservoir provides you with the maximum pressure to flush.
	AutoPot only supply and only recommend official AutoPot-branded fittings for use with AutoPot Watering Systems.

PIPEWORK

- Dip the end of your pipe in hot water before connecting to fittings. This will soften the pipe and allow you to connect fittings with ease.
- When disassembling the system dip the still-connected fitting and pipe in hot water to ease seaparation.
- If using mineral additives or organics in a larger system you may wish to use a line cleaner such as D-Block, Drip Clean or Keep It Clean. With regular plain water flushing this should not be absolutely necessary but remains an option if desired.

FLEXIPOTS	<ul> <li>FlexiPots are incredibly durable and can be reused repeatedly. They can also be washed if desired.</li> <li>Powdery green or white discolouration can occur on the outside of the pot but is entirely natural. It is merely salt or mineral build up.</li> <li>Empty after using and let the pot dry. After a few days remaining debris will easily brush off. At this point the pot is ready for reuse.</li> <li>If desired, growers can then also wash the bags in peroxide to sterilize - either in a washing machine or dipped in a tub.</li> </ul>
	• Allow to dry naturally. Do not put FlexiPots in a tumbledryer.



- Always clean the side and bottom of each pot before you place in the tray, this will remove any soil particles and ensure your system is clean. In turn ensuring your AQUAvalve is kept clean and free of growing media - especially if growing with Perlite.
- The 15L pots used in the 1Pot module and the 8.5L pots used in the easy2grow module are interchangeable and can be used in either tray.
- Don't place trays on cold concrete floors, water in the tray will be chilled from below and will effect plant growth. Consider placing polystyrene, cardboard under each tray to ensure the water temperature in the tray is not affected. Always ensure trays are level.

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