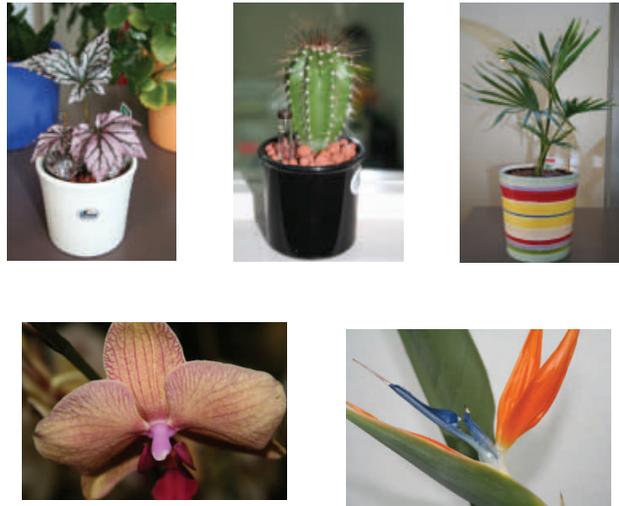
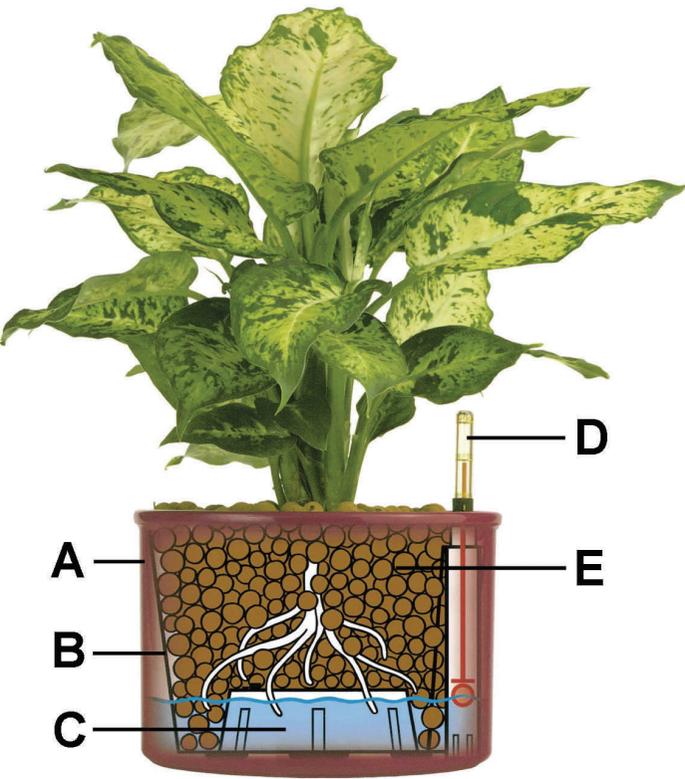


www.florax.co.nz

HydroCulture plants



CARE TIPS



Clever and ingenious structure and assembly

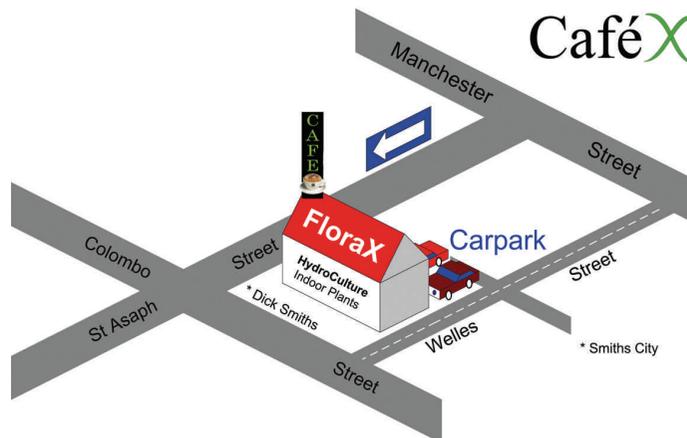
The whole system is hidden within a decorative pot A. The culture pot B is placed inside the decorative pot. The water is mixed with fertiliser C, whose level in the pot is indicated by the water-level indicator D. This provides the plant with water and nutritive substances. The expanded clay E anchors the plant, stores air and water and has a decorative effect.

What is HydroCulture?

Your plants are rooted not in soil but in expanded clay granules, a clay-based one-hundred percent natural product. In this way the plants profit by optimal growing conditions: an ideal balance between air, water and food supply. The reserve of nutrient solution in the pot provides a well-balanced feeding.

FloraX HydroCulture Indoor Plants & Café
192 St Asaph Street
Christchurch

03 366 3808 info@florax.co.nz www.florax.co.nz



FloraX[®]

HydroCulture

'a fun way to grow indoor plants'

Being successful with HydroCulture

Location

The location requirements of the HydroCulture plants are essentially the same as for conventional soil plants. Special books about plants give information about the specific requirements of each plant. For most plants the following is applicable:

- As much light as possible without direct exposure to sunlight.
- Adequate warmth (ideal 18-22°C)
- Avoid draughts but guarantee good airing. Do not expose the plants to cold in the winter if you air the room.
- Sufficient humidity (50-60%)

Watering

The water-level indicator shows exactly how much water is in the pot so that one can keep the amount of water at an optimal level for the plant.

Always wait until the water-level indicator indicates **MIN** ("minimum"). Only after that should you water up to **OPT** ("optimum"). Use tap water only (not rain water) which should be at room temperature. If after 3 weeks, the water-level indicator has not reached the minimum level, use less water next time. You can fill the pot up to **MAX** ("maximum") in case of a longer absence from home.

Tip: If the water reserve is not sufficient for a week, it is time to move the plant into a bigger container



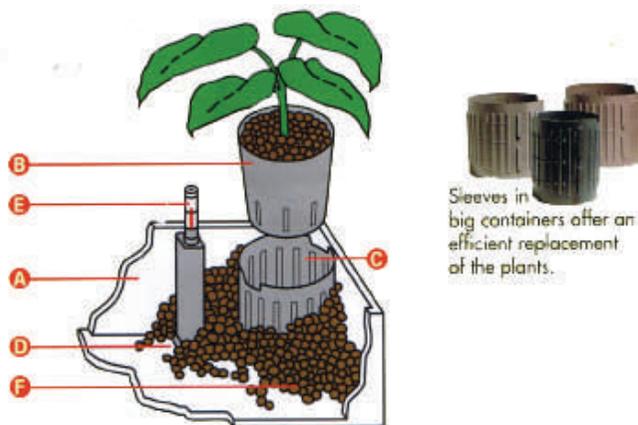
Fertilising

Every time you water you should also give the plants liquid Luwasa fertiliser to ensure that they get the required and equilibrated nutrients. Or use the practical nutrient Longtime which provides automatically and appropriately your plants during 4 months. This product is also available in single portions for table containers.

Tip: The little window of the water-level indicator shows you when you have to replace the old long-time nutrient with a new one.

Plant care

Every 4 months the used nutrient solution should be emptied completely and be replaced by a new one. By this procedure all dead roots and fertiliser residues will be eliminated. In the case of small containers you can empty the exterior container. In the case of big containers you can use a Luwasa drainage pump. You can get healthy and brilliant leaves if you dust them with a humid cloth or shower lightly with a shower jet and spray them with the Luwasa leafshine-spray. The contained oils in the leafshine produce a preventive effect against pests. Treat existing pests with an ordinary pesticide.



Planting large containers

The planting with hydroculture is very simple:

1. Make sure that all selected plants have the same height of the culture pot **B**. When the plants are placed in the container **A** they should be approx. 2 cm below the upper border.

Tip: if the container is too deep, a polystyrene insert can be placed inside.

2. Now put the sleeve **C** around the minor plants. This will guarantee an easy replacement of an individual plant later.

3. Put the water level indicator **E** into the container. Use one with a drainage tube, which has been developed particularly for larger containers. This water level indicator should be below the upper border when it is placed at the bottom of the container.

4. When all the plants are correctly located in the container, it can be filled up with expanded clay.

Tip: First hold the water level indicator and stabilise it by filling clay around it.

5. Fill the container with water and fertilizer up to **OPT**imum.

Important: Only combine plants, which correspond to the light values in your room.

Tip: For ceramics, only use special hydro containers, because only these are guaranteed to be waterproof. Never put the ceramic pots directly on the floor. Due to variations of the temperature, it may cause condensation.

Changing from soil to HydroCulture

Almost all plant types can be changed to HydroCulture. The ideal time for re-planting is in spring until late summer, when the plants are in growth.

1. Choose healthy, young and well growing plants. Take the plant out of the pot and remove the soil. It is much easier when the soil is slightly damp. The roots have to be rinsed with lukewarm water. The soil has to be removed completely, as this would lead to root rot. Long and damaged roots have to be shortened with a sharp knife or scissors.

3. The roots should fill out 2/3 of the height of the pot (it is not necessary that they reach the bottom of the container).

Replanting of containers which are too small

If the water supply lasts less than 7 days, it is time for replanting. Remove carefully the old culture pot (if necessary cut it). Rotten and damaged roots have to be shortened. Select a new pot which is one size larger.

2. **Cuttings:** Cuttings can be obtained from many plants. In a water glass, the cuttings with roots are optimally prepared and can be planted directly.

3. **Plantings:** Fill the culture pot with 1/4 of expanded clay. Hold the plant into the culture pot and distribute the expanded clay around the roots. Fill up to the edge.

4. Put the culture pot with the plant into the HydroCulture container and fill it up with tap water (room temperature) until "OPTimum" marker. (Do not fill to MAX) Fertilise only when new growth is visible.

5. Spray the replanted plant daily with lukewarm water or cover it with a transparent plastic bag during the first 2 weeks.

