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Stocker Horticultural & Hydroponic Supplies Ltd

Newsletter

Number 182

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GROWER TIP

This time of year more than any other – faster growth is required – cold, cloudy and shorter daylight length are serious problems.

Here we are, the end of June with only one frost under the belt and very high rainfall. Ideal conditions for fungal problems. The best thing to do is to open up the green house and get those fans running to reduce condensation.

At this critical time of year more than any other doing the basics is paramount. So ventilate and reduce the wetness of the cubes in your seedling area – they don't need to be soaking wet all the time – good ventilation in this area is important. Use an anti-fungal before the seedlings go out into the main system.

Before you start pouring the magic snake oil into your tank take a quick look at a few things:

- Check out your water treatment.

- Is your water up to spec – if it hasn't been tested in the last 12 months – take a look. Things do change and the nutrient may be in need of adjustment.
- Is the venturi area working well. It should be sucking like a vacuum cleaner.
- Clean and re-calibrate the pH and CF probes. Get new standard solutions. 50 ml - \$8.50 + GST, 500 ml - \$25.00 + GST, 1 litre - \$40.00 + GST.
- Have the solenoid valves been serviced in the last 12 months – if a diaphragm fails, all what is in that tank gets dosed in – resulting most likely in crop death or serious damage.
- Give the green house a treat and clean the moss and algae off. Duraclean – 2 litre, green house cleaner - \$19.80 + GST.

At this time of year agronomix will kick your production ahead.

ROCKWOOL MISTAKE

We have a few boxes of 25 x 25 x 40 Rockwool. Our manufacturer produced them with the grain going horizontally instead of vertically. If you think you can use these they are \$50.00 + GST + freight per box of 6000 cubes.

THERMO-GRO HEATING PANELS

400 X 500	30 watt	\$105.00 + GST
450 x 750	45 watt	\$126.50 + GST
450 x 1200	80 watt	\$154.00 + GST
600 x 750	65 watt	\$132.50 + GST
600 x 1200	85 watt	\$169.50 + GST
600 x 1520	140 watt	\$208.00 + GST

AG BLANKETS

300 x 340	\$36.50 + GST
850 x 550	\$79.00 + GST
550 x any length	\$112.50 + GST per metre
Thermostat	\$99.00 + GST



WE ARE MOVING

Wayne and staff (all hailing from Cambridge) are sick of all the travelling down to Tirau. It will be nice to have an extra hour every day. What the hell do you do with an extra hour problems, problems!!!

The move has been well thought out and we are officially out of Tirau on 31 August 2010. Wow, we have been here 6 years. It only seems like yesterday that we purchased the business.

We have a huge number of construction jobs at various stages of development at the moment. Our industry is very buoyant right now – so if you are not going forward – look out, some one may be snapping at your heels.

Our new building has an advantage in that we can have the complete operation under the one roof. The main driver though has been the

need to be closer to home. So Bruntwood (the old cheese factory) here we come. 485 Peake will be our new our 0800 number obviously be OK. At don't know if it will be operate a P O Box or just use rural delivery. Our courier, trucking service in and out of the new depot will continue largely unchanged. If any specific developments come to light we will let you know. Otherwise it will be business as usual with the whole operation remaining the same. It will take a few months to get our new trial gardens under way though. We are keen to trial the new seasons offerings from all of the seed companies. We want our growers to enjoy the best in both seed and nutrient.



I have just received my latest copy of Soilless Australia – the magazine produced by the Australian Hydroponic and Greenhouse Association.

Graeme Smith is busy organising a North American Green house Study Tour taking in Canada, Los Angeles and Mexico – October 3 – 17. Cost would be approx AUS\$5,900 per twin share.

The outstanding article to me is one headed pre-packed veggies fetch 5 times the price – www.ausveg.com.au.

Please pay accounts: Directly to our bank A/c 06-0317-0725026-00 (we NEED your **grower** name on the statement) or You can Mail to Stocker Hort & Hydro, P O Box 32, Tirau.