

Germinating and Seed Propagation in Rockwool Cubes

1. Prepare a vessel and fill it with an amount of water sufficient for soaking as many rockwool cubes as you plan to use+2 extra liters to be used as a moisture spray later on
2. Stabilize the water's pH on between 5.5 and 6.0. You can use pH Down (no fertilizer needed)
3. Soak the cubes in water and then gently drain the excess water - do not squeeze them as this would compromise their shape
4. Insert each seed to the hole in a cube and use a toothpick to press them down to around 1 cm depth.
 *For plants you want one single units of (lettuce, tomato, mangold, cucumber) use 1-3 seeds for each cube
 *For plants you want bundles of (green onions, baby leaves, mizuna, arugula, parsley, coriander) use 8-10 seeds for every cube
5. After the seeding, place the tray on a warm (20-25 celsius degrees), dark place and cover it
6. The first sprouts will visibly germinate within 3-5 days
7. Once the first seedlings have sprouted, place the tray where it gets light, but is protected from wind. Spray them moist using the water we prepared in step 1
8. Once mature leaves start showing (3-5 after sprouting), thin down the smaller, weaker seedlings in the cubes where you want one plant unit. Thin them by cutting, not by pulling out
9. Once the leaves are out and the root structure has established itself (the roots should be visible through the cube walls), the seedlings are ready to be replanted inside net cups in a hydroponic system
10. Do not let the seedlings overstay in the cubes
11. Make sure the cube is constantly moist and the roots are in direct contact with water

Please Note

- Rockwool can cause skin irritation, so moisturising it prior to work and wearing gloves while working with it is recommended.
- Do not keep the seedlings in the cubes for too long, as they would need nutrients from a certain stage of their growth
- Make sure the roots are not constantly soaked in water, to guarantee their healthy growth
- When in the hydroponic system, if there is no contact between the roots and the water, cut the cups's bottom or close it around the cube
- Do not add fertilizer during the cube phase, as this decreases the germination rates
- Successful growth rates would be 80-90%



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