

## **GRO-QUICK COMMON QUESTIONS**

**Q: What size Gro-Quick cable do I need for my seed bed?**

**A: A proper installation will use approximately 4 lineal feet of Gro-Quick cable for each square foot of planting area.**

**Q: Can I use Gro-Quick in a seed bed filled with sand or vermiculite instead of soil?**

**A: No. Sand and vermiculite act as insulators and prevent the heat generated by the cable from radiating out from the cable into the seed bed. All the heat is trapped around the cable itself.**

**Q: Can I use a Gro-Quick cable in a plastic or wood seed tray?**

**A: Yes, just make certain the cable does not come in direct contact with the plastic or wood.**

**Q: About how far away from the sides of the tray should I keep the cable?**

**A: About ½ inch.**

**Q: Can I lay the cable directly on the bottom of the tray?**

**A: No. Place approximately ½ inch of soil in the bottom of the tray before installing the cable.**

**Q: About how far apart should the loops of cable be?**

**A: Approximately 3 Inches**

**Q: At what temperature does the thermostat turn the cable on & off?**

**A: About 72° F**

**Q: How do I adjust the soil temperature in my seed tray?**

**A: By changing the cable layout. Moving a loop of cable closer to the thermostat will cause the cable to turn off sooner, resulting in lower soil temperatures. Moving the cable farther away from the thermostat will keep the cable on longer, resulting in higher soil temperatures. The depth of the cable in the soil and the moisture content of the soil will also affect the overall temperature.**

**Q: Can Gro-Quick cable be immersed in water?**

**A: No. While the cable is waterproof, it is not designed to be submerged**

## Gro-Quick Questions Page 2

**Q:** Is the thermostat adjustable?

**A:** No, the thermostat on the Automatic Gro-Quick cable is factory pre-set and is not adjustable. If variable temperature settings are desired, we recommend using a non-automatic Heavy Duty Gro-Quick with the separate 18500 adjustable thermostat

**Q:** How much power do the Gro-Quick cables put out?

**A:** Standard Gro-Quick cables operate at 3 ½ watts per foot. Heavy Duty Gro-Quick cables operate at 5 watts per foot.

**Q:** The soil in my seed bed is not getting warm or the temperature is decreasing. What do I do?

**A:** First, make certain the outlet has power. Second, recalculate the length of cable needed to be sure you have enough cable for the size of your seed bed / tray. Also be certain the cable is buried in soil, not sand or vermiculite. Next check to be certain that the soil in the seed bed is sufficiently moist ( it's the moisture that transfers the heat ). If the power, cable size, soil type and moisture level are O.K., test the thermostat for proper operation. To perform this test, uncover the thermostat and place a plastic bag with ice directly on top. If this does not cause the cable to begin heating within one hour, the cable may be inoperative.

**Q:** How can I tell if the cable is working?

**A:** Since even a properly operating cable will feel cool to the touch, an accurate soil thermometer is required to determine if the cable is working

**Q:** If the cable is not operating, what do I do?

**A:** Since the cable is not repairable, it must be replaced. If it is less than one year old it can be returned to Wrap-On for repair or replacement under warranty. If the cable is older than one year, replacement is the user's responsibility.

**Q:** What is hardware cloth?

**A:** Hardware cloth is a stiff metal or plastic mesh with about ¼ or ½ inch squares. It looks like oversized, heavy duty screen. It can be purchased at most any hardware store or home center.

**Q:** Is it absolutely necessary to attach the Gro-Quick cable to hardware cloth?

**A:** While it is not mandatory you use hardware cloth, it is strongly recommended. The hardware cloth not only holds the Gro-Quick in place in the seed bed, it protects the cable from being damaged by your garden tools when you are digging in the bed.



### **Gro-Quick Questions Page 3**

**Q:** Should the cable be on top of, or underneath the hardware cloth when installed in the seed bed?

**A:** The cable should be underneath the hardware cloth. The hardware cloth will protect the cable from possible damage from garden tools

**Q:** Can I just set my seed pots on top of the cable or dirt?

**A:** This is not recommended as you will get little if any heat transfer to the seed pot. Instead, install the cable as per the instructions with about 1 inch of soil on top of the cable. Arrange your seed pots in the tray and fill in dirt around the pots to  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch or less from the top of pots. This method will surround the pots with warm soil and greatly increase the efficiency of the Gro-Quick cable.