

SUBROSA FARMS

Clone Care Basics

STORING CLONES TEMPORARILY

Ideally, clones should be planted as soon as they get to your facility. We recommend preparing the space before picking up or having your plants delivered. If you do need to store them temporarily before transplanting, the following is suggested:

1. Water your clones with a diluted nutrient solution (400-600 parts per million or ppm) and place them under a low-intensity fluorescent fixture; T8 or T12 bulbs are ideal for this purpose, T5 bulbs can cause plants to begin “stretching” before you are ready.
2. Be sure to keep the cubes moist, but be careful not to allow standing water to accumulate in the tray. This will cause the rate of growth to slow, keeping them a manageable size and ensuring that some clones are not dwarfed by larger ones.
3. As your clones begin to stretch, be sure to rearrange them to prevent some clones from being “shaded out,” and transplant them as soon as possible.

PREPARING FOR TRANSPLANTING

Fill your pots with your chosen media. Since it is essential that you have a developed rootball before transplanting into a larger pot, planter bag, box or direct ground space, it is recommended to first transplant into a **1-gallon pot**. After a couple weeks your rootball should be developed enough to be transplanted into a larger vessel.

Fill to 1 inch from the top of the pot and gently tamp soil by pressing it down with your hand. This helps ensure that air pockets do not develop; these can dry out your roots and will negatively affect plant health. After tamping, you should have 1 ½ to 2 inches of space between the lip of the pot and the media. This space is important so that you do not overflow the pot while watering.

Pro Tip: Some growers reduce “transplant shock” to their clones by soaking them in a vitamin and hormone solution such as Super Thrive. Super Thrive and similar products contain vitamins and hormones that are reported to minimize stress on growing plants. Prepare a batch by mixing one gallon of water with ¼ teaspoon of concentrate. Soak clones for 15 minutes before transplanting.

First, dig a small hole in the media about the size of the 1-gallon pot. Place the clone in the hole. The top of the cube should be level with the media. If the rockwool cube is exposed too much, it will dry out easily. If the media level is

above the cube, it may come into contact with the stem. This can cause fungal disease. The stem of the clone should be as vertical as possible. Sometimes this means that the rockwool cube will need to be planted crooked. We find that having a vertical stem leads to superior growing results.

Next, fill in the media around the clone's cube. Be sure that the bottom and sides of the cube are in good contact with the media. The rockwool cube should be planted so that just the very top of the cube is exposed. If more of the cube becomes exposed through watering, gently pack some soil back around it. After several weeks, the clone will be well-rooted, and this will not be an issue.

Finally, thoroughly water your clone. Thorough initial watering helps ensure there are no air pockets or dry spots in your media so that the cube comes into good contact with the water.

HARDENING OFF YOUR CLONES - EASING INTO DIRECT LIGHT

Clones are kept under 24 hours of light in our nursery using fluorescent or LED lighting and are not yet used to strong or powerful light/heat given off from some commercial lighting such as HPS or Metal Halide. When a clone is moved from 24 hours of gentle light directly into intense light, it can experience shock.

You need to introduce your clones to their new environment (after transplant) in a gradual, slow manner. Starting with

dimming of the lights or even turning some lights off will be beneficial for the first few days. The partial light will get them invigorated to grow and the shade will ensure the heat is not so strong that they are overwhelmed and go into shock.

AFTER TRANSPLANTING

For the first week or two, be sure to check the moisture of the actual rockwool cube. In some cases, it is possible for the potting media to wick moisture away from the cube. In these cases, the potting media would be moist, but the cube may be too dry to support the plant. If this happens, pour about 1 cup of water onto the cube itself. Within two weeks the plant will develop a stronger root system, and this will not be an issue.

DON'T FORGET TO HAVE FUN!
GROWING CANNABIS IS GOOD FOR
THE SOUL!