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😊 A Cannabis Growing Guide - All that you need to know to get started

GROWING GOOD WEED



I thought that I would share what I have learned during my years as a ganja farmer so I put together this guide.

Most of these points relate to growing in soil indoors. I'll leave the tips on how to grow hydroponically to the experts. Most of the information in this text is based on personal experience and common belief. I have gathered this information by growing indoors and outdoors, both indicas and sativas. There are many effective ways of growing weed and the guidelines presented here are either of a general nature or directly related to my own style of growing. I have tried to cover as much as possible in order to give you a clear picture of what you can expect. Keep in mind that some of the things explained in this guide might be simplified for practical reasons and that there might also be different theories on how the plant works which are not covered here.

All the underlined text in this guide contain links, so you might want to check them out.

Herb is for the use of Man


It comes from the earth. Cannabis plants have a wide variety of uses, ranging from its *psychoactive* and medicinal properties to fiber *hemp* used to make fabric, fuel and building material.

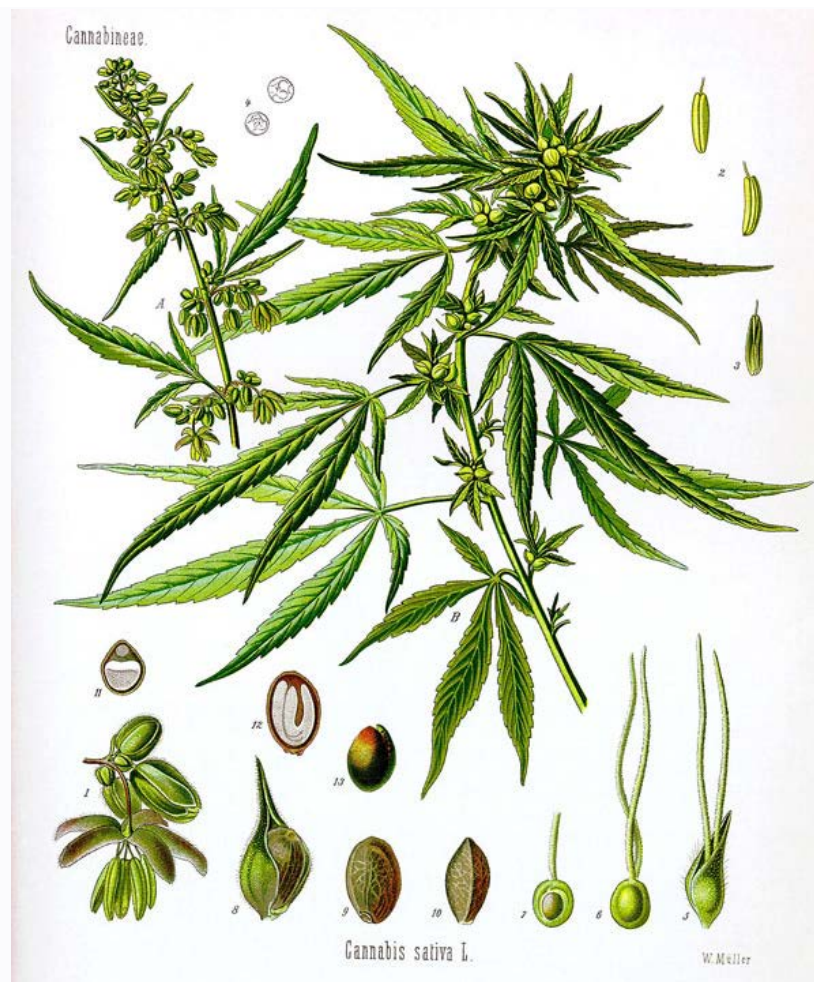
All and all it is a very versatile plant.

Cannabis has been grown for a very long time. The oldest stash of seeds and bud ever found was 2,700 years old and was discovered on two mummies in China. The research team could not get the seeds to germinate and the *THC* in the bud was long gone but this proves that we have a long history of cultivating cannabis.

The very fact that we have receptors in our brains which sole purpose is to bind cannabinoids, proves a strong point for the recreational, spiritual and medicinal use of cannabis.

This guide contains information on how to grow, flower and harvest your crops, what equipment you will need and how to setup your grow room.

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Indica / Sativa / Ruderalis

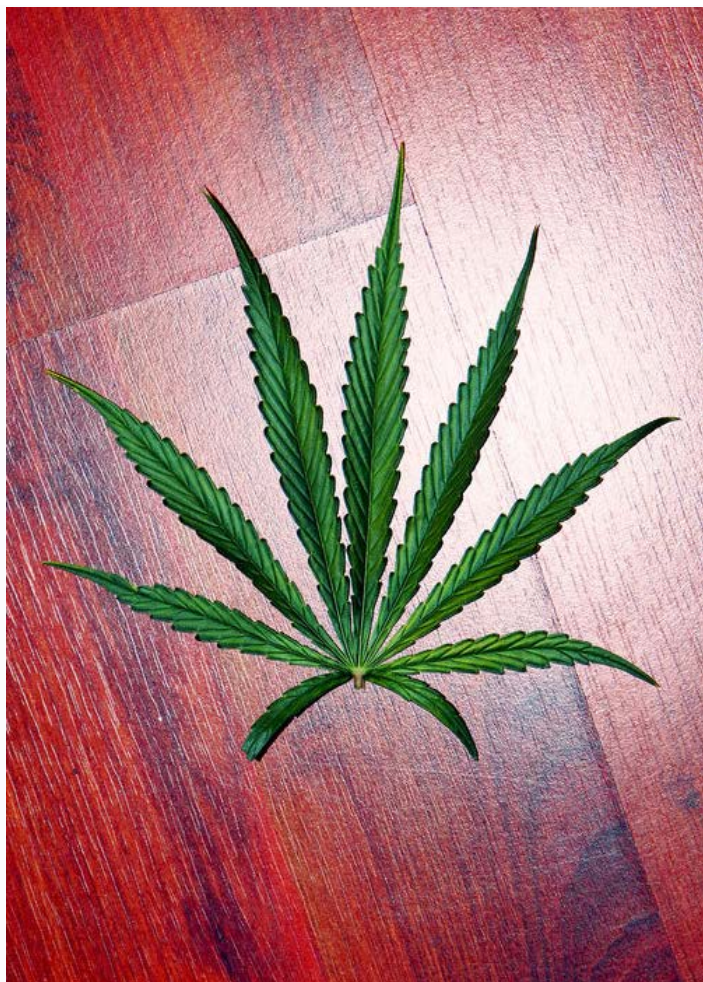
Cannabis Sativa is a dioecious (distinctly male or female), equatorial plant, that originates from tropical regions of the world. The seedless female flower or "Sensimilla" is what we are after when we grow these plants. Different species and strains of cannabis flower under different conditions depending on their place of origin. In theory we can divide the cannabis plant into three different subspecies; Sativa, Indica and Ruderalis.

In order to induce flowering in the cannabis plant indoors, we have to manipulate the hours of light that the plant receives each day. Most cannabis plants will remain in a vegetative state until the day becomes as long as the night, in other words, until we put them under a 12/12, lights on/off schedule.

It is also during this time that the plants will reveal their sex.

Sativa plants are usually found in tropical areas of the world, close to the equator, where the length of day and night is about the same all year round. It is therefore perfectly acceptable to grow tropical sativas under a light regime of 13/11 during vegetative growth and to flower them under 11/13 on/off. Sometimes sativas won't even flower under 12/12 as it is so close to "home" that they just keep on growing. Sativas take longer to finish flowering than indicas, usually twice as long and sometimes even three times as long. Sativas are generally more tall and lanky than their indica counterparts. They have thin and modestly serrated leaves like in the picture above. Indica leaves on the other hand can be very wide and heavily serrated. Both species can have very large leaves, sometimes several times larger than your hand.

 Click this bar to view the full image.



The sativa buds are also different in appearance and structure to the indica buds. Sativa buds sometimes resemble a fox-tail and are not as tightly packed as indica buds. Getting tight sativa buds really is an art form that requires some practice.

The Cannabis Indica subspecies on the other hand, has adapted to the colder climates and shorter days further up north from the equator. Some sources actually identify the Indica subspecies as the first cannabis plants and theorize that the plant adapted to the tropics. They place the birth of cannabis somewhere in the Hindu Kush mountain regions, that span across Afghanistan, Pakistan and India. Most indica plants will remain in a vegetative state until the light regime is changed to 12/12, with some variation between strains. Some early maturing indica strains will flower under 18/6, lights on/off. Indicas have thicker and broader, more prominently serrated leaves than their sativa counter parts and the buds are usually more compact, sometimes even rock hard. They stay shorter and grow wider than sativas, often branching out heavily with frequent nodes (bud sites).

Sativa plants pack a more racy, cerebral and creative high compared the sedating, body stone effect that you get from smoking indica plants. The high can be very strong in both cases although the experience might be different. Some growers prefer the cerebral high but it can sometimes make you a bit paranoid and raise your pulse, so others prefer to get stoned because the experience is more gentle on the mind.

The third subspecies is Cannabis Ruderalis which originates from sativa plants that escaped from outdoor plantations in northern Russia and other parts of Eastern Europe. Because the day can be very long during parts of the year in these areas, reaching up to 24/0 in the summertime, the plants developed the unusual ability to flower under any light conditions.

Some commercial strains like Lowryder carry Ruderalis genes which means that they can be grown outdoors in arctic regions of the world since they will flower regardless of the photoperiod. They are also a valid choice for indoor grows where height is an issue, because these plants are cannabis dwarfs and only grow so big. There are mixed opinions regarding these auto-flowering plants but personally I find them to be an interesting addition to the spectrum of cannabis strains that are commercially available today.

It is more difficult to grow sativas because of the way they behave but once you learn how to grow them properly, growing indicas becomes a breeze. Indicas have a more predictable growth pattern, they can be kept quite low and do not stretch as much as sativas. The closer you get to a pure sativa, the more trouble you are looking at. Sativa plants also seem to have less distinction between the vegetative and flowering stage compared to indica plants, which means that they might continue growing in height even when the light schedule is reduced to 12/12. This also means that they are more difficult to control in the indoor environment. Often a good 50/50 mix will have the best of both worlds

in terms of easiness and potency.



⚠ Click this bar to view the full image.

Equipment and Hardware

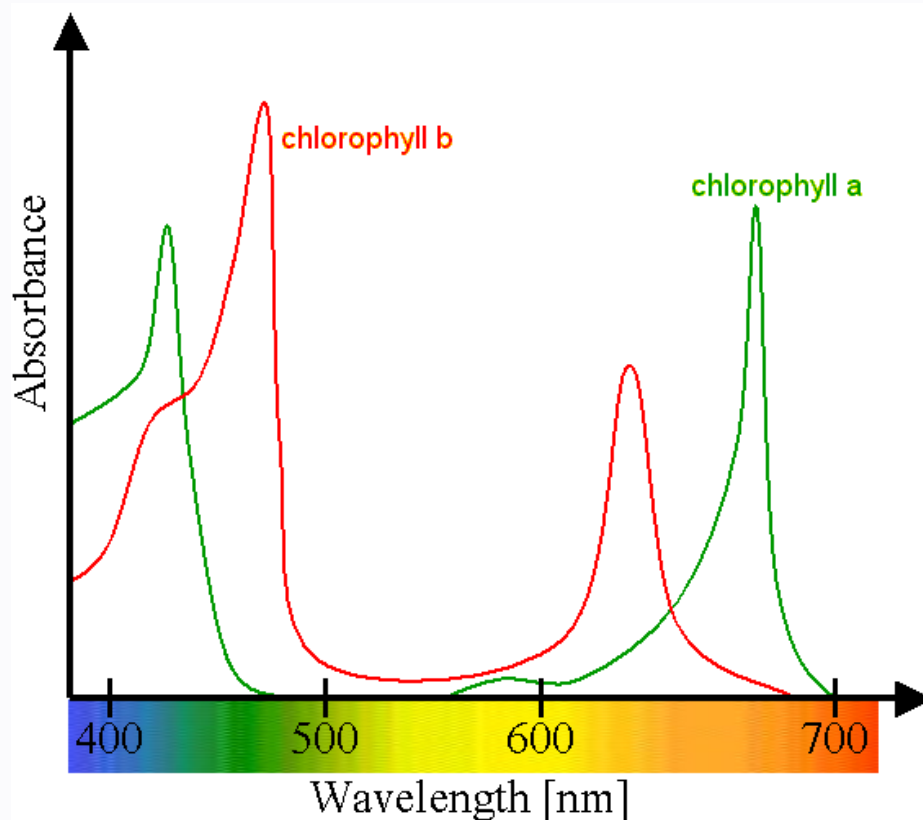
It is generally known that plants prefer light from the blue spectrum (6400K) during vegetative growth and light from the yellow/red spectrum (2700K) during flowering. Sources of blue light are compact fluoros and metal halide gas discharge bulbs. High pressure sodium is currently the best solution for the flowering spectrum although there are also more advanced solutions, like the Ceramic Metal Halides or CMH. The CMH's put out less heat but only come in smaller sizes, so the HPS might still be your best solution. The gas discharge bulbs must be connected to a ballast in order to operate.

Naturally you will also need to put your light on a timer as pulling the plug every day during flowering is not a very practical solution. Make sure that the timer can handle more watts than your ballast puts out. The output of gas discharge bulbs range anywhere from 35 watts to 1000 watts, where the 600 watt lights are the best bang for buck because they put out twice the amount of light of the 400 watt light at a low cost of 200 watts. The step upwards to 1000 watts is not as cost efficient but more light is always better so many people use them nonetheless.

The gas discharge bulbs will always outperform the compact fluoros, although they also do a pretty good job at close range. The benefit here is that compact fluoros emit almost no heat so there is no need for noisy fans etc, which means that your setup is basically running silent. I have tried both and can honestly say that nothing beats MH and HPS in terms of plant vigor and health as well as bud development and crop size.


What is generally not known is that there are photosynthetic pigments in plants relating to each spectrum of light, chlorophyll a (red) and chlorophyll b (blue) respectively. The plant is capable of producing more or less of each pigment in its fan leaves, depending on what sort of light is available. That said, plants still grow stronger under the corresponding light for each stage of development but also benefit from receiving both during their whole lifespan as both pigments are active to some degree outside their optimal wavelength. The perfect setup would include 2:1 metal halide sources during the vegetative stage and 2:1 high pressure sodium sources during flowering. Since few growers can afford a setup like this, you might have to compromise. A good solution are enhanced spectrum HPS bulbs that emit a little blue light as well as the red light, like the Eye Hortilux or the Osram Plantastar for example, which I personally use during flowering with great results. You can both veg and flower the plants under HPS lights but MH

lights are mostly good for the vegetative stage, although they improve on the quality of the finished product when used during flowering alongside the HPS.



Always try to get the light as close to the plants as you can without burning them. The distance is good if you can keep your hand in place above the canopy for a longer period of time without any discomfort. It is good to remember however that both HPS and MH bulbs put out a fair deal of infrared radiation and the heat from the light can cause harm to the plant.

Here are reference charts for both MH and HPS lights that might help you decide how close you will keep them to the canopy. Thanks to CaliGrower for putting them together.


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		Metal Halide					
Foot-Candles Received from varying distances.		Foot-Candles Received from varying distances.					
This chart is in reference to the amount of light, not heat.		This chart is in reference to the amount of light, not heat.					
		Lumen Output Of Bulb.					
		Wattage Of Bulb.					
		Inches From Bulb.					
		5,500	6,500	14,000	20,000	36,000	110,000
		70	100	175	250	400	1,000
3	28,011	33,104	71,301	101,859	183,346	560,225	
4	15,756	18,621	40,107	57,296	103,132	315,127	
5	10,084	11,918	25,669	36,669	66,005	201,681	
6	7,003	8,276	17,825	25,465	45,837	140,056	
7	5,145	6,080	13,096	18,709	33,676	102,899	
8	3,939	4,655	10,027	14,324	25,783	78,782	
9	3,112	3,678	7,922	11,318	20,372	62,247	
10	2,521	2,979	6,417	9,167	16,501	50,420	
11	2,083	2,462	5,303	7,576	13,637	41,670	
12	1,751	2,069	4,456	6,366	11,459	35,014	
13	1,492	1,763	3,797	5,424	9,764	29,834	
14	1,286	1,520	3,274	4,677	8,419	25,725	
15	1,120	1,324	2,852	4,074	7,334	22,409	
16	985	1,164	2,507	3,581	6,446	19,695	
17	872	1,031	2,220	3,172	5,710	17,446	
18	778	920	1,981	2,829	5,093	15,562	
19	698	825	1,778	2,539	4,571	13,967	
20	630	745	1,604	2,292	4,125	12,605	
21	572	676	1,455	2,079	3,742	11,433	
22	521	616	1,326	1,894	3,409	10,417	
23	477	563	1,213	1,733	3,119	9,531	
24	438	517	1,114	1,592	2,865	8,754	
25	403	477	1,027	1,467	2,640	8,067	
26	373	441	949	1,356	2,441	7,459	
27	346	409	880	1,258	2,264	6,916	
28	322	380	819	1,169	2,105	6,431	
29	300	354	763	1,090	1,962	5,995	
30	280	331	713	1,019	1,833	5,602	
31	262	310	668	954	1,717	5,247	
32	246	291	627	895	1,611	4,924	
33	231	274	589	842	1,515	4,630	
34	218	258	555	793	1,427	4,362	
35	206	243	524	748	1,347	4,116	

Too Close To Bulb

Optimal Distance Range

Too Far From Bulb



Created by: CaliGrower

		High Pressure Sodium					
Foot-Candles Received from varying distances.		Foot-Candles Received from varying distances.					
This chart is in reference to the amount of light, not heat.		This chart is in reference to the amount of light, not heat.					
		Lumen Output Of Bulb.					
		Wattage Of Bulb.					
		Inches From Bulb.					
		16,000	27,500	50,000	53,000	92,000	140,000
		150	250	400	430	600	1,000
4	45,837	78,782	143,239	151,834	263,561	401,070	
5	29,335	50,420	91,673	97,174	168,679	256,685	
6	20,372	35,014	63,662	67,482	117,138	178,254	
7	14,967	25,725	46,772	49,578	86,061	130,962	
8	11,459	19,695	35,810	37,958	65,890	100,288	
9	9,054	15,562	28,294	29,992	52,061	79,224	
10	7,334	12,605	22,918	24,293	42,170	64,171	
11	6,061	10,417	18,941	20,077	34,851	53,034	
12	5,093	8,754	15,915	16,870	29,285	44,563	
13	4,340	7,459	13,561	14,375	24,952	37,971	
14	3,742	6,431	11,693	12,395	21,515	32,740	
15	3,259	5,602	10,186	10,797	18,742	28,521	
16	2,865	4,924	8,952	9,490	16,473	25,067	
17	2,538	4,362	7,930	8,406	14,592	22,205	
18	2,264	3,890	7,074	7,498	13,015	19,806	
19	2,032	3,492	6,349	6,729	11,681	17,776	
20	1,833	3,151	5,730	6,073	10,542	16,043	
21	1,663	2,858	5,197	5,509	9,562	14,551	
22	1,515	2,604	4,735	5,019	8,713	13,259	
23	1,386	2,383	4,332	4,592	7,972	12,131	
24	1,273	2,188	3,979	4,218	7,321	11,141	
25	1,173	2,017	3,667	3,887	6,747	10,267	
26	1,085	1,865	3,390	3,594	6,238	9,493	
27	1,006	1,729	3,144	3,332	5,785	8,803	
28	935	1,608	2,923	3,099	5,379	8,185	
29	872	1,499	2,725	2,889	5,014	7,630	
30	815	1,401	2,546	2,699	4,686	7,130	
31	763	1,312	2,385	2,528	4,388	6,678	
32	716	1,231	2,238	2,372	4,118	6,267	
33	673	1,157	2,105	2,231	3,872	5,893	
34	634	1,090	1,983	2,102	3,648	5,551	
35	599	1,029	1,871	1,963	3,442	5,238	
36	566	973	1,768	1,874	3,254	4,951	

Too Close To Bulb

Optimal Distance Range

Too Far From Bulb



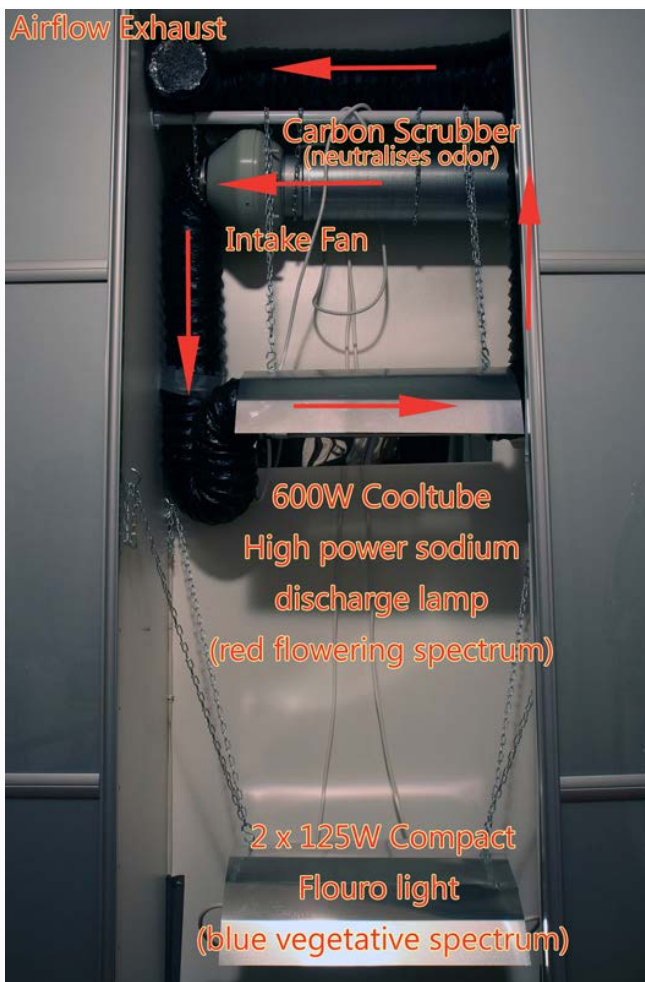
Created by: CaliGrower

Those used to the metric system must use a [converter](#) to get the right distance.

It is advisable to change the gas discharge bulb (MH and HPS) every other harvest or at least after four harvests, depending on the bulb. You can find the specifications for your bulb on the manufacturer's website but generally HPS and MH lamps should be good for 10,000 hours of constant use.

Here is an example of how you can hook up your equipment. In this case I had to fit a lot of hardware into a closet and have since updated the setup but at least you get an idea of what I am talking about. You can use this picture as reference and scale your setup according to your needs. You might want to start out with something smaller and more simple but if you feel up to it, but I would never discourage anyone from putting together the best possible setup. You can get the necessary hardware first and later upgrade when you need something new. That's what I did.

 Click this bar to view the full image.



Nothing is more important than stealth so make sure that you have some kind of odor control, either a carbon scrubber or an ionizer. The benefit of using a carbon scrubber is that you can hook the fan (and scrubber) to a cool tube or air-cooled hood, thereby killing two birds with one stone by allowing the fan to both neutralize odor and cool the hot HPS or MH bulb. You can have the fan sucking or blowing air through the filter, both methods work but the filters are not designed to have air blown out through them so my recommendation is that you use them as they were intended. A high-performance fan, like say an industrial duct fan will also ensure that the grow room gets proper air exchange. This means that a lot of free CO₂ will stream to the grow room and keep your plants healthy. I like to keep my setup as silent as possible, which means that I have noise-insulated ducting etc.

Personally I prefer the air-cooled hood as cool tubes tend to create "hotspots" which basically means that the rounded glass of the cool tube works as a magnifying glass, burning the plants directly underneath it. Hoods also do a better job at dispersing the reflected light over a greater area as cool tubes usually come with a small reflector. If the light is dispersed over a greater area the ambient temperature also drops in the grow room and the plants receive more light.

In terms of reflective efficiency, solid white surfaces do the best job reflecting upwards of 90% of the light emitted by your bulb. Second comes mylar with something close to those percentages. Avoid using mirrors in the grow room as they in fact absorb more light than they reflect.

A great addition to your setup is a humidifier or mister. This will ensure that you have a high relative humidity in your grow room during the vegetative stage. Since plants can also be foliar fed by spraying the leaves, they will be very happy with the constant supply of humidity and remain nicely green and healthy. One could even add nutrients to the mister if one wanted but I rather keep the machine clean and foliar feed manually.

Another good addition to the grow room are fans. Not only do they keep the plants cool and distribute Co₂ around the grow room, they also make the stems grow thicker due to the rocking, wind-effect found in nature. Fans can however be quite noisy so it is up to you to decide if you want them in the grow room. Also make sure that the fans are not touching the walls or you might get resonance which can draw unwanted attention to your grow room. If you do not use fans you will have to provide other means of support for the plants during flowering because the buds might get so heavy that the branches cannot support them throughout flowering.

The absolutely, positively most important thing to remember is that you have to make

your grow room entirely light proof. If you can see your own hand at close range it is not dark enough. It really has to be pitch-black in the grow room during the dark hours or the plants will not flower properly and might even become hermaphrodites. You have to remember that in nature when the sun goes down, there is absolutely no light present besides moon light, which is so low in strength that some have speculated that even the light from a candle, placed on the other side of a room, is enough to confuse the plants. This is something that you really have to get right in order to successfully flower your cannabis plants.



General Growing Information

It is always a good idea to mix fertilizers into the soil no matter what form of fertilization one intends to use. This will keep the plants healthy and they will also have something to fall back on in case they need to. Since plants need mostly Nitrogen (N) during the vegetative stage and Phosphorus (P) during flowering, a mix of say guano and bone meal with some blood meal will ensure that the plant has what it needs. The plant also needs a variety of other micro nutrients and trace metals in order to grow to its full potential so the best advice that I can give is that you try to provide the best environment possible for your plants. The fact that plants need water in order to survive goes without saying. The nutrients that are in the picture above are just an example of what you could use. There are many different ways to go and even the regular plant nutrients that you can find in your local shop will work.

Fan leaves (the big ones) are used both as solar panels and for storing energy. This is where most of the photosynthetic process takes place and where the bulk of the energy is stored. There are mixed opinions whether or not to trim fan leaves but in general you should leave them be even if you are tempted to remove them. I sometimes remove the smaller leaves on the branches but leave the big ones alone for most of the time. The plant will decide whether or not the leaf is needed and relocates the energy stored in it if needed. The argument for removing them has been that they might prevent light from reaching buds sites in flowering but the counter argument would be that light does pass through the leaves although we cannot observe this with the naked eye. You decide, a third option would be to split the fan leaves in half allowing more light to pass through. They can also be tucked or tied down, allowing more light to pass further down the canopy without actually removing any growth.

Remember that it is possible to feed your plants too much and cause nutrient burn and other problems. By doing so you may also create micronutrient lockouts which will resemble under or over-fertilization and salt build-up in the soil

that can severely damage your plant. By feeding the plant more at this stage you actually make things even worse. If you notice these symptoms, flush the plant with plenty of water and look up a nutrient disorder guide.

Here are some diagrams explaining the most common problems:

[Nitrogen](#) - [Phosphorus](#) - [Potassium](#) - [Magnesium](#) - [Iron & Sulphur](#) - [Zinc & Manganese](#) - [Toxic Salts Buildup](#)

I will not go into this here because there are a lot of good posts by educated experts on this forum regarding nutrient disorders.

Nothing beats organic fertilizers when it comes to how they affect the scent and taste of buds in my opinion. Chemical fertilizers are very strong and more difficult for the plant to break down. Great results can be achieved with both but the organic way resembles more the conditions in nature. Organic fertilizers include compost, organic material like seaweed, ash, bone meal, blood meal, guano etc.. etc.. It is also easier to cause nutrient burn with synthetic fertilizers. If you use chemical fertilizers make sure that you flush your plants for at least two weeks prior to harvest or they might affect the taste. Plants that are grown with chemical fertilizers, that have not been flushed properly prior to harvest, can actually contain so much nutrients that they burn your lips when you smoke the weed.

By flushing I mean that you stop feeding the plants nutrients and only supply ph adjusted water. It is generally a good idea to flush your plants regardless of what means of fertilization you chose, although it is not necessary when growing organically. The plants will draw energy from its leaves and direct it into the flowers. At this stage the chlorophyll is drawn from the leaves, revealing the underlying colors of the carotenoids, micronutrients and trace metals. The plant might display an array of beautiful colors ranging from deep purple to orange and red.

Keep in mind that you can also foliar feed your plants by spraying the top and especially the underside of the leaves with a weak nutrient solution. Plants love this.

Always make sure that the pots you use have holes in the bottom to allow the excess water to drain off. If you have solid pots water will gather at the bottom and eventually go sour, causing problems with ph and possibly root rot. Plants do not like "wet feet". Also remember that you need to add something to the soil to keep it from packing together and essentially turning into mud. There are various products that fill this description, all of which can be found at most gardening stores.

A large pot is always better than a small one. More space equals more root mass which in turn equals bigger plants.

In the end it's all about roots. Good soil goes a long way.

You can always repot your plants once they gain size but generally it's better to start them in the pot that they will use throughout their entire lifecycle. Sometimes it is more practical to start them in smaller pots, say if you start more plants from seeds than you will have room for. Then you need to sex your plants and as soon as you find the females, repot them into a pot of decent size. It all depends on how much room you have but generally a 10L or 2.6 gallon pot will do. I use slightly smaller pots so that I will have room for more plants. Pot size also determines the final size of the plant so if you want them to stay a bit smaller, use smaller pots.

Cannabis plant can handle a wide range of environmental fluctuations but a temperature of 25-27 degrees Celsius or 77 to 81 degrees Fahrenheit is generally considered the optimal. Your plants can handle lower and higher temperatures but once you get to the extremes your plants will suffer from stress related symptoms, so try your best to keep it inside the good range. When the temperature gets really cold, photosynthesis stops and the plant goes into hibernation. If the temperature drop to freezing the plant gets frostbite and severe tissue damage as water is essentially it's blood. Too high temperatures will also harm your plants, a good rule of thumb is that the ambient temperature should be pleasant, like a warm day at the beach say.

A ph of 6-7 is considered optimum, which can easily be regulated with ph up or down solutions. You can get a successful grow by mixing nutrients into the soil and then just let the plants extract what they need throughout the grow, but if you intend to feed the plants liquid nutrients in order to improve on taste and scent you will need a couple of things. In order to adjust the ph of your nutrient mix you will need some PH+ and PH- solutions and a pipette. You will also need some means of measuring the ph. There are a few alternatives, one being litmus paper, another a drop tester, or if you want to go high-tech get an electronic meter. They are however quite expensive and you won't really need to be that precise unless you growing hydroponically. If that is the case you will also need an EC meter that measures the electro conductivity or salt concentration of your nutrient solution. Soil is more forgiving due to the slow uptake of nutrients so you get away with more flux.

There are several more things that affect the health of the plant, like the hardness and calcium content of your tap water etc. etc. Just make sure that you provide the best environment that you can for your plants.

The rate of photosynthesis is directly related to the availability of CO2 so talk to your plants!

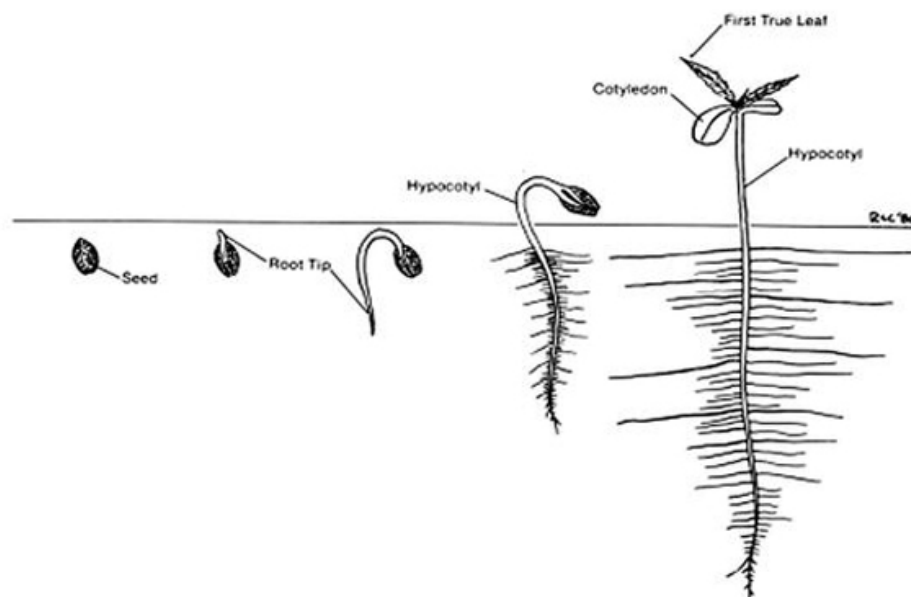
Some grower who want to give their plants the best possible environment will rig up bottled CO2 with a slow-release valve and use air conditioning to keep the temperature in the grow room at optimal levels. Anything is possible.



Seed Germination

There are several ways of germinating seeds, where the most common is to place the seeds between a few sheets of wet paper towel. This is probably the best method but seeds will also germinate when planted directly into soil.

After placing the seeds between the paper towels, put them in a box and keep the paper towels wet at all times. Seeds will usually germinate in 1-7 days. If it takes much longer than that, you might have to assume that the seeds are dead or that they need some help. Applying some heat underneath the box (like placing it on the heating element/radiator) will effectively turn the box into an incubator and the seeds will germinate faster. Once the taproot has cracked the seed and emerged, it ready to be planted into soil.



What emerges from the seed is the tap root so it should therefore be planted so that it points down towards the earth. The green, or top part of the plant, which eventually emerges from the seed, is guided by light (Phototropism). The roots navigate in response to gravity (Gravitropism). Roots towards the earth and leaf towards the sky.

Sometimes you will run into tough or old seeds that fail to crack the shell. There are a few ways of getting them to germinate. If your seeds do not germinate normally within a week, I recommend that you try one of these methods.

Method 1:

Take a really sharp knife, a scalpel or maybe a carpet knife will do. Something really sharp anyway, the smaller the blade the better as this is precision work. Hold the seed between your fingers and chip the outer shell /seed coat at the top (sharp end). This will expose the seed embryo to the moisture of the paper towel. If you chip the seed coat at the bottom, where there is something that looks like a small plug, the taproot might try to work its way to the other side inside the shell and usually the embryo dies before it succeeds. The trick here is not to hurt the innards of the seed in any way. If you chip too deep you end up slicing the embryonic seed you can kiss it goodbye.

If you look at the picture above you can see how the seed coat is chipped. This method is so effective that seeds usually germinate within a few hours after a piece of the coat has been removed.

Using this method I have managed to get high germination rates upward of 75% with really old and tough seeds.

It's a gamble but if done carefully it will work almost every time.

Method 2:

This is the safer option with less change of ruining the seed. It might take a little bit longer for the seed to germinate than with the first method but still pretty fast compared to regular germination.

Use fine grain sand paper and carefully thin out the seed coat until it looks like there is only a very fine layer of the outer shell left. That's it.

One easy way to do this would be to line the inside of a match box with fine sand paper and then scuff the seed by shaking it around in the box.

Both methods increase germination rates considerably.



Vegetative Growth

By vegetative growth we mean the stage prior to flowering where the plant develops its stem, branches and leaves. This growth usually diminishes or stops during flowering, when all the energy is directed towards the buds, so you will have to decide wisely how long you intend to veg your plants. In my experience plants benefit from being kept in a vegetative state for at least 4 weeks or basically until they show fully developed pre-flowers, which also means that they are sexually mature. Some strains will take longer than others to grow into a decent size, so you will have to try and see what works for your plants.

Keeping the relative humidity high in the grow room during this stage will ensure that your plants are happy campers. I keep the RH above 80% by using a humidifier. It creates the fine mist that you can observe in the picture at the beginning of the guide. By keeping the RH high, the leaves become nice and thick and you will also see more roots forming on the main stem, even in places where it is not covered by soil. These are called "*adventitious roots*", more on that later.

One good way of telling how your plants are doing is looking at their leaves. When plants are well fed and happy the leaves have a deep green color and they point upwards, towards the light. When your plants are hungry the leaves will lose their color and look bleak. If the leaves are drooping they probably need some water or perhaps less water if the soil is already soaked. Mild nutrient burn is not uncommon as all plants behave differently, but if that occurs, just feed that plant less nutrients until the problem is buffered out. Sooner or later you will find the optimal amount of nutrients to feed your plants.

If you are growing plants from seed you'll have no idea whether they are male or female unless you are growing feminized hybrids. Pre-flowers are small flowers that appear at each node of the plant once it reaches sexual maturity. There are a ton of information relating to this topic but basically female plants produce a small elongated "pod" with white hairs sticking out of it. Males produce "balls" that stack together like clusters of grapes. To the trained eye these are very easy to tell apart. If you wait long enough the white hairs will be recognizable by the naked eye but if you wish to determine sex earlier, use a magnifying loupe with at least 10x magnification. Undifferentiated vegetative growth at the nodes can sometimes be mistaken for flowers but if you wait long enough you will be able to tell the difference.

If you are growing plants in order to harvest Sensimilla, or seedless female flowers (a.k.a. bud), you are not interested in the males so they will have to be removed or they will pollinate the females, which results in mostly seeds and little smokeable bud. You should not be too hasty and jump to conclusions about which sex your plants belong to, because you might end up removing females by mistake. There is no harm in leaving the plants alone until you are sure of their sex. It takes many weeks for the males to

produce viable pollen so there is really no reason to hurry.

These pictures might be of some help when you are trying to determine the sex of your plants.



You might get around to cloning you females and clones can be started under 12/12 from the start since they are already mature so the transition into flowering is rather painless. Generally though, it's a good idea to wait until the clones gain some size before flowering them. It is good to keep in mind that although your plants will mainly concentrate on growing flowers, they will also direct some energy to vegetative growth during flowering as well, especially sativa dominant plants.


Keep in mind that plants will generally double or triple in height once you change the light schedule to 12/12, so some consideration should be placed on the time of flowering.



Topping, Training and Pruning

Please refer to my [extended guide](#) for more information on topping, training and pruning plants for an improved harvest.

The extended guide also contains detailed information on how plants work in case you want to find out more.

 Click this bar to view the full image.



My Take on Different Light Schedules

I have grown cannabis under many different light schedules in many different combinations and here is my take on it. I'm leaving out combinations that did not differ much from the ones listed here. I have not considered problems with space in grow rooms here. Basically if you are running a small cab or pc case grow, grow Lowryders for best result.

Cannabis plants are capable of constant photosynthesis under 24h of light during the vegetative stage of development.

In the words of Ed Rosenthal:

"Cannabis under continuous light will grow 33% faster than the same plants on an 18-6 light regime."

There seems to be some confusion when it comes to something called **the dark reactions** that take place in plants. They are called dark reactions because they are light-independent, but this does not mean that they only take place in darkness. As a matter of fact, the dark reactions occur regardless of the amount of light present as long as the proper substrate compounds are available. These compounds are created during photosynthesis which means that the dark reactions cannot function without light.

However, although cannabis plants are capable of photosynthesizing 24/7, they still need some darkness in order to maintain a proper hormonal balance. So apparently, by keeping your plants under a 24/0 light regime, you are actually inhibiting the circulation of growth hormones that the plant needs in order to stay healthy and eventually prepare for flowering among other things.

Everyone would not agree with me on this. I will not go further into this subject here, you can find more information regarding these mechanisms in the guide on topping, training and pruning, mentioned above. On to the different light schedules.

24/0 --> 12/12

After many grows I have noticed that running the lights 24/7 during the vegetative stage is of little use compared to 20/4 or 18/6. In nature the length of the day decreases gradually, not over night. I also think that constant light

without a rest period is not beneficial for the seedlings, might put your equipment under unnecessary stress and run up your electric bill for no more than a 5-10% increase in weight, at the most. Some state that the equipment is actually placed under most stress when the lights go on, so perhaps it is not a valid argument here. You can make your own conclusion regarding this point. It can be said that this photoperiod is unnatural but then again, periods of close to 24h sunlight during summer days is not unheard of in arctic regions. On the other hand, how would you cope with around the clock work and no sleep? The dark period is important for the plant to build up and move around essential biological components, ultimately it affects the plant on almost every level. Still, many use it because it is easy and gives good results. In my opinion however, the transition into flowering from this light schedule also makes the stretch unnecessarily long due to the 12 hour difference in the photoperiod.

Hey! Where did the sun go?

20/4 --> 12/12

This is a kinder option for the plants, your equipment and your electric bill. This gives the plants some time to rest and your equipment time to cool down once and a while. Still, the 8 hour jump in the photoperiod after the switch to 12/12 is a bit of a stretch.

18/6 --> 12/12

This is a valid option to the light schedule above. Not that big a difference in final stretch as the stretch caused by increased dark hours during the vegetative stage evens out with the lesser stretch in early flowering stage after the 12/12 switch. The plant might be a bit stronger under this light schedule compared to the one above as it has some time to rest. 18/6 is nowhere near the equatorial daylight length that sativas are used to but is suitable for both indicas and sativas during the vegetative stage.

20/4 --> 18/6 or 16/8 --> 12/12

This is a good option, at least when growing from seeds. This light schedule gives the plants a chance to prepare for flowering in good time with minimal stress. You could run the lights 20/4 for about two weeks, then switch to 18/6 or alternatively 16/8 for another two weeks and finally 12/12 for the duration of the flowering stage (I usually drop the daylight hours to 11/13 in late flowering, this benefits especially sativas but works well for indicas too, don't go much lower though).

20/4 --> 18/6 --> 16/8 --> 14/10 --> 12/12

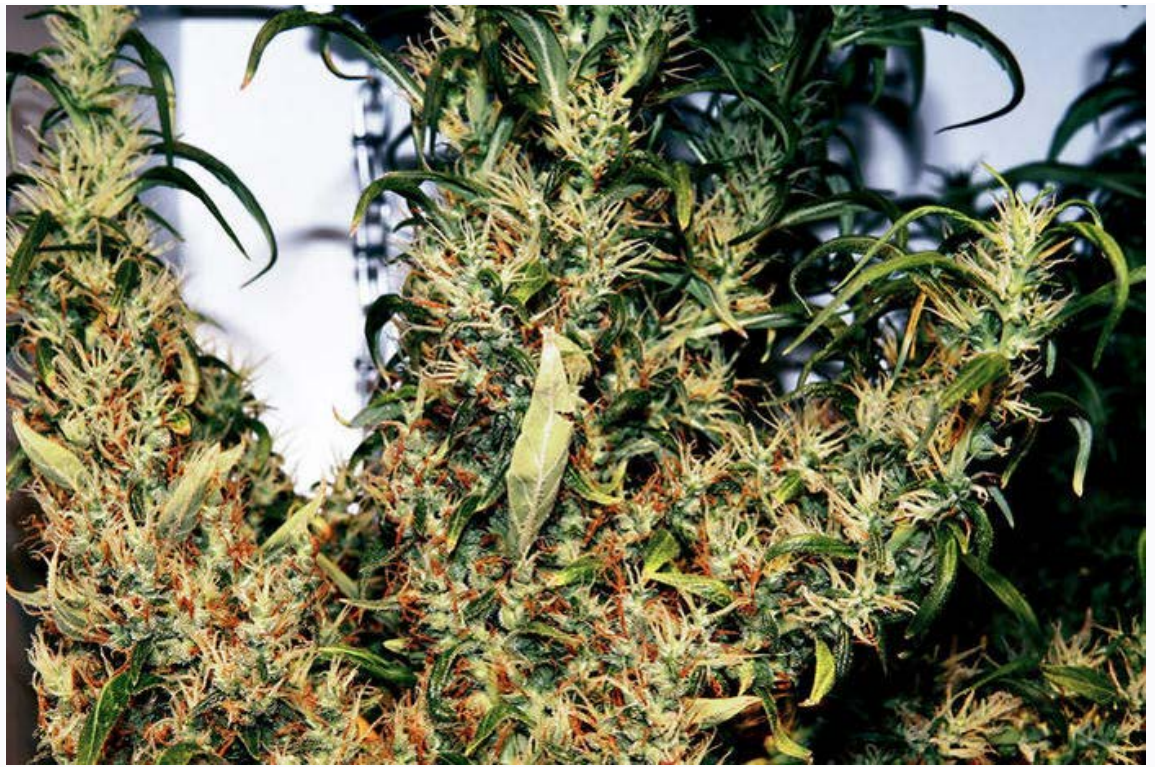
The best option. Same as above but a little more work. Depending on the length of desired vegetative growth, decrease daylight by 2 hours say every 7 days or so until you reach 12/12 on the timer.

If you are going to take the time to grow weed, why not take the time to reprogram your timer?

12/12 from start

This one is good when flowering clones but can also be used on mostly or pure sativas as an alternative to 13/11. I always clone the strongest females and keep them in a constant vegetative stage in a separate grow room. Once my harvest is done, I take a clone of the mother plant and move it into the flowering room. Usually the mother plants have several months of vegetative growth as well as rigorous training under their belts, so these heavy duty bonsai plants are well established, strong and produce monster crops. Their stems are usually as thick as my thumb when they go into flowering.

That's my take on it. I think that it's pretty close to the truth, considering natural environments and chemical processes that take place in the plant under different stages of their life cycle. Some people also swear by unorthodox light schedules outside the natural ones but I cannot expand on this subject because I have not tried them myself.



Flowering

What we are talking about when referring to bud, are unfertilized female flowers, or sensimilla. As long as the female plant remains unfertilized, she will continue to flower and thereby also produce Delta-9-Tetrahydrocannabinol or THC, the main psychoactive substance found in the Cannabis plant. THC is an oily, resinous substance that is formed inside fine outgrowths or appendages called trichomes. Trichomes are most abundant on the floral clusters of the female plant, but can also be found on other parts. There are also other substances that fall under the category of cannabinoids, which are by definition compounds that are structurally related to THC.

Once the plant enters the flowering stage, it will produce this substance in abundance. The quality and quantity of the finished product varies according to strain and growing conditions.

The most important thing to remember during this stage is that absolutely no light may reach the plants during the dark hours as this will interfere with flowering and might even stress the plant into sex reversal. You need complete darkness in the grow room. I am talking **pitch-black** here.

The flowering time stated for a certain strain by the breeder is a general guideline and will seldom correlate with the exact flowering time in your own garden. Usually these flowering times reflect the time it takes for plants to mature under optimal conditions, like in large greenhouses, where the environment is precisely controlled. Trust your feelings, harvest the plant when it looks ready and forget about counting weeks. Most plants will take a few weeks longer than stated to mature properly in my experience. The flowering time can also vary depending on the phenotype of that particular strain. Genotype is the genetic makeup of an individual and phenotype is the physical expression of those genes. There might for example be a range of phenotypes that can be found among the seeds of an indica/sativa hybrid. All the different phenotypes might also have different flowering times.

The flowering time can range anywhere from 6 weeks for fast indicas to 20+ weeks for pure sativas.

Once the plants have begun flowering, you should also stop foliar feeding them. **Never spray the flowers with water** and always try to keep the relative humidity in the grow room as low as possible during flowering to minimize the chance of mold. Mold can take hold quite easily on the buds and once that happens, it might be difficult to get rid of without removing entire buds or even branches.

Patience always pays off in the end. The decision to harvest too early will always result in a smaller harvest and immature buds. Cannabis plants usually go through two to three bloom explosions during flowering, when the bud mass essentially doubles each time. The first bloom explosion can be expected after about 4 weeks of flowering, the second at 8 weeks and so on depending on the strain and the individual plant. Trust your feelings. Harvest the plant when it is ready.

Sometimes you have to wait a long time. Patience is a virtue when it comes to growing weed. For a speedy harvest, I recommend that you grow mostly indica plants.

When To Harvest Cannabis



Clear Trichomes
-Immature with mostly precursor cannabinoids-



Cloudy Trichomes
-At their peak with fully realized THC-



Amber Trichomes
-Past their peak with degrading THC-


There are three types of trichomes that can be found on cannabis plants but the one that we want in abundance is the capitate-stalked glandular trichome that looks like a mushroom, because it also contains the highest levels of THC. The peak of THC production is when most of the oil inside the trichomes has turned from clear to cloudy, with a few amber ones here and there. Clear trichomes contain mostly precursor compounds and immature THC but cloudy ones are at their peak. Amber-colored trichomes have already passed the peak of THC production and contain mostly lesser and nonpsychoactive cannabinoids.

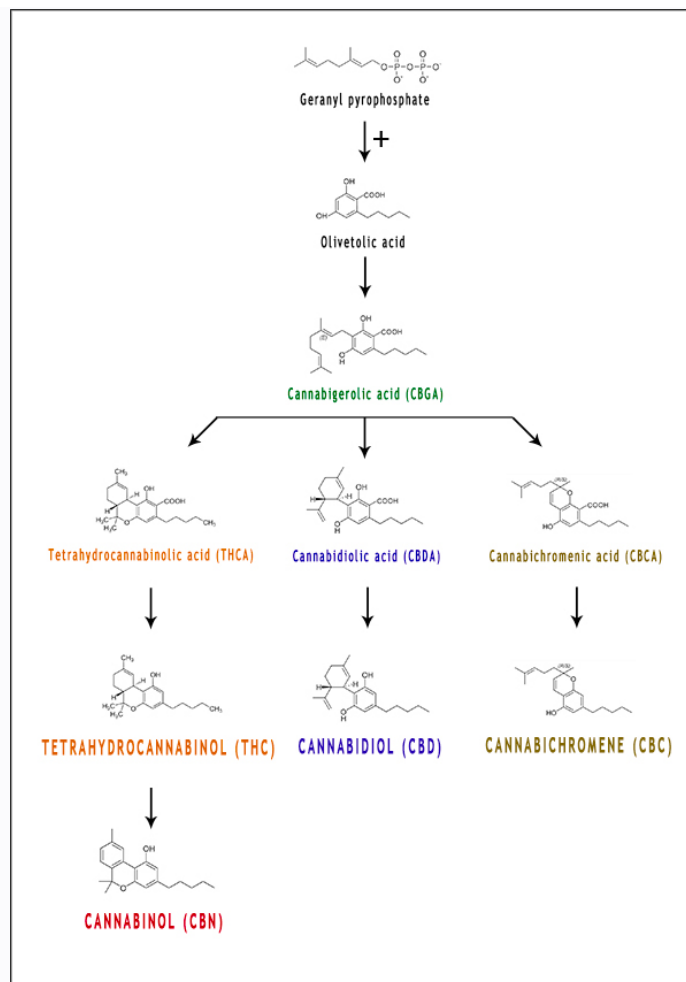
The amount and dominant type of trichomes on any given cannabis plant is partly genetic but the formation of resin glands and the process that takes place inside them, is also heavily dependent on the sum of all the environmental factors involved. Providing good growing conditions goes a long way, so I think it's always wise to give the plant the best possible start.

There are at least 80 known cannabinoids that can be found in the cannabis plant. Read more about trichomes and cannabinoids [here](#) and more in-depth [here](#)

All the cannabinoids start out as carboxylic acids (THCA, CBDA etc.)

The synthetization of Delta-9-Tetrahydrocannabinol inside the trichome goes as following:

 Click this bar to view the full image.



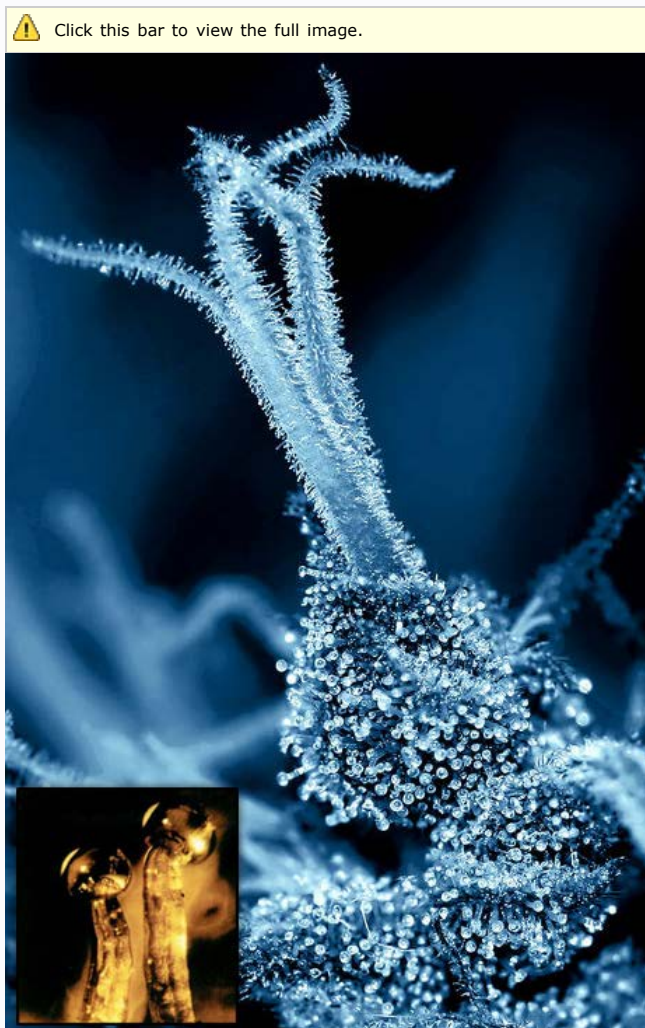
The final Cannabinoid production starts with formation of cannabigerolic acid (CBGA). From here it is independently processed into either:

- 1. CBC** (cannabichromene), nonpsychoactive compound.
- 2. CBD** (cannabidiol), although it is generally considered nonpsychoactive, it affects how the THC hits us. CBD also has some therapeutic properties, making a high CBD value good for medicinal strains.
- 3. THC** (delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol), brings on the narcotic stone and cerebral high that sometimes border on the psychedelic. A very high THC content can also increase your pulse and cause paranoia. Some of the THC will always be in acid form. THCA turn into THC over time when the bud is cured or when it's heated to certain temperatures.
- 4. CBN**, once the bud is harvested, THC starts degrading into CBN (cannabinol). This also means that the THC on buds sitting in a jar will eventually degrade into CBN and other lesser cannabinoids. It might taste great and smooth but it's probably less potent than at the time it was harvested. This is why we store the buds in air-tight jars and in darkness because we hope to reduce the rate of THC degradation. Unlike THC, CBN is nonpsychoactive and mainly causes disorientation and "fuzzy head", both of which can be quite unpleasant in nature.

There are also several other cannabinoids that can be found in the plant (including cannabigerol or CBG and tetrahydrocannabivarin or THCV). Some tone down the high, while others enhance it. The cannabinoid profile can vary greatly from strain to strain but for the most part we find either THC, CBD or both. Some of the non-psychoactive cannabinoids have therapeutic properties, which makes them suitable for medicinal use.

The rate and quality of the synthesized THC is naturally dependent on the availability of nutrients and environmental conditions. High intensity of light and aridity during flowering is generally considered two factors that promote resin production.

Note the trichomes in this picture. They look like crystal mushrooms but are actually spherical containers for the THC oil. Keep in mind that every time you touch a bud you are breaking these fragile structures and THC evaporates into the air, which is why I try not to touch the buds unnecessarily during flowering. On the other hand, there is enough to go around so don't worry about it too much. In order to know for certain at what stage of development the oil inside the trichomes is, you will have to buy some kind of magnification glass or loupe that enables you look at closely at these appendages.



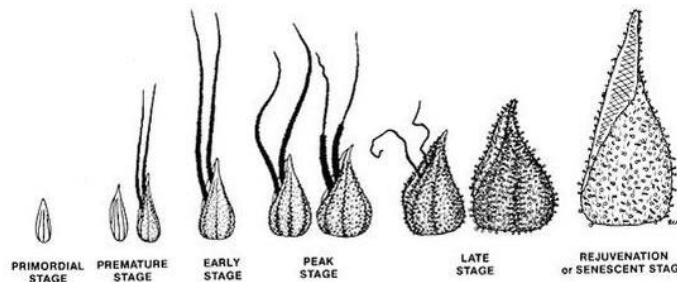
⚠ Click this bar to view the full image.

Besides looking at the trichomes through magnification there is another way to tell if the harvest is ready. **When 50% of the visible hairs on the bud have turned brown, it is generally considered ready although this is a very rough indicator.**

Here are some pictures describing the various stages of floral development, which might also help you decide when to harvest.

Observe how the calyx starts swelling up as the bud matures. This is the real indicator of mature bud. You can clearly see this happen in late flowering, it looks almost as if the calyx was bearing seed because it increases dramatically in size.

⚠ This image has been resized. Click this bar to view the full image. The original image is sized 687x775.



Female flowers maturation
(Typical Sativa/Indica hybrid with a 7-8 weeks flowering period)



Original artwork by Phix

The timing of the harvest can greatly affect the quality of the finished product. Although it is not this simple, it can be said that if you harvest too early the high will be disappointing, incomplete and mostly in the body while harvesting at the right time will give you a well rounded, potent and profound experience. You have to give the plant some time to develop fully realized THC. The best time for the harvest varies from strain to strain and from individual to individual. You will have to keep a close eye on the plant during flowering. It is not as difficult as it sounds, when you see thick and heavy buds packed with trichomes, you know that it is close to harvest time.

You will always have bud that is in different stages of maturity as the plant keeps flowering and forms new buds all the time. New flowers actually grow on top of old ones, so you get a layer of bud. This also means that you have trichomes all over the plant that are in different stages of development. Just make sure that the bulk of the crop is ready before harvesting. Or just harvest the top half of the plant and leave the bottom half flowering for another month or so. Those popcorn buds will eventually pack on weight, but personally I do not think that it's worth the wait.

Pure sativas can carry a racy, stratospheric and sometimes creative cerebral high, so strong that you'll be blown into next dimension. Indicas on the other hand can pack a strong narcotic stone so numbing that you lose the ability to speak, let alone think. That's why they are good pain killers. Indicas also contain slightly higher concentrations of the therapeutic cannabinoid CBD, especially landrace indicas. Cannabis Ruderalis contains almost no THC and has mainly been used to make industrial hemp and auto-flowering hybrids like the Lowryder. Lowryders are considered good medicinal strains since Ruderalis contains large amounts of CBD and it carries over to the new crosses, along with moderate levels of THC.

THC is quite a complex compound that binds to several cannabinoid receptors found in the brain and other parts of the body. The high varies depending on the presence and amount of the various cannabinoids, which all work in combination with each other to provide the experience. THC also accumulates in the fatty tissue of the body. This means that the more cannabis you smoke, the longer you have to wait in order for it to leave your system. This is important to remember if you are periodically subjected to drug testing.

THC has many uses for the plant, including fighting off pests, prevention of desiccation and to some degree keep the buds dry due to the fact that THC oils are hydrophobic and reject water. Cannabis plants can actually kill insects because they get stuck in the sticky resin. Once stuck they die and start to slowly dissolve. Death by THC. Several studies on marijuana optics have shown that the plant forms trichomes as a defensive strategy against ultra-violet

radiation. The glandular resin heads bind solar energy so that it will not harm the growing tissue or cause mutations in the plant.

I'm sure that many will agree that bud grown under the sun will most of the time blow indoor bud out of the water in terms of potency. No matter how you twist it, I bet that cannabis grown on the top of the Himalayas will always be more potent than indoor bud. The incredible power of the sun cannot be matched by man-made instruments. Sticky and Heavy Bud. Taste and smell however can be more refined in indoor bud as we can control what we feed them. Outdoor bud usually has a feral taste to it. Not that it's unpleasant, not at all, the wind and the rain all leave their mark on the buds and you can really taste the difference. Don't get me wrong though, indoor bud can still be extremely potent. The fact is that THC is a strong (although relatively harmless) substance that can have a profound effect on the casual smoker, even in small doses. On the other hand, THC also accumulates in the body, which means that you grow more resistant to the effect. That in turns means that the longer you smoke, the more you have to burn in order to get high.

Like I mentioned before, the buds might get so heavy that you will have to provide addition support for them, especially if you do not use fans to strengthen the stem. This can be done by either using string, gardening wire or a SCROG net. By Scrogging (Screen of Green) I am referring to the style of growing where you have your plants growing through a net that is suspended above the canopy. The goal is to fill the entire surface area of the net with budding flowers in order to maximize the crop. If you would like to know more, have a look at the guide on topping, training and pruning.

One thing that is of major concern when it comes to the flowering stage is the stretch that plants go through when the light regime is changed to 12/12. If the difference between the vegetative and flowering light regime is great, the plants will also stretch more. The natural response for the plant is to start reaching for the light. It is therefore more natural for the plant to be gradually introduced to the flowering light regime by shorting the length of the day in the manner explained in the section above.

Another thing that reduces the stretch is keeping the blue light present during the first week of 12/12. Personally I leave the metal halide bulb in for this period of time before switching to the high pressure sodium bulb. The same applies to compact fluoros of corresponding spectrum.

It can be debated whether or not plants increase resin production under stress. Personally I try not to stress them too much as there is a difference between stress and torture. I have found that keeping a dry environment in combination with high intensity of light will promote resin production. When you think about it, it makes sense. The loss of water is of great concern to most plants so the cannabis plant tries to protect itself against the strong light and heat by forming more trichomes.

I believe that providing the optimal environment for the plants will ensure that they express their true potential without the need to stress the plant beyond a certain point. Healthy plants will have greater potential than plants that are in a state of deficit.

Treat them well and they will reward you.

You might also want to keep records of the plants that you grow. Here is an example of how you could keep track of different strains.

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Drying, Curing and Storing

No big secret here, just dry the buds first slowly by air and then allow them to cure in mason jars or something similar. The remaining THC-acid (THCA) will turn into fully realized THC during this time. The taste and smell of the bud will also improve with time like fine wine, just make sure that the containers are air-tight and stored in a dark place as both light and air will speed up the THC degradation process. Over time the THC will degrade into CBN no matter what so you might get a smooth smoke but the bud will not be as potent as the day you harvested the plant.

It is not advisable to quick-dry and smoke freshly cut buds because they will not taste good or pack the potency that you expect. If you have made it this far, you must have a little bit more patience. You will be greatly awarded.

Start by cutting down the plants and hanging them upside down in a cool, dry and dark place. Do not allow the humidity to rise at this point or your entire harvest might be lost to mold. Fresh air must be allowed to pass around the buds so that they will dry properly. You can have a fan blowing over the buds for this reason. If you decide to remove the buds from the stems right after harvest, make sure that you turn them around every now and then so that all sides will have chance to dry properly. You will know when the buds are dry because the stems attached to them will snap like twigs and the bud will be brittle and easily crushed under your fingers. It will take upward of a week for the buds to become dry, after which you can move them to the jars for slow curing. The longer you keep the buds in the jar, the better they will taste and smell. THC will also mature during this time, turning your buds into the potent smoke that you were hoping for. A few months inside the jars will really work wonders on the smell and taste but the bud can be smoked at any time after it is dry.

When you have harvested the buds you will probably want to manicure them by removing excess leaf matter as this will give the buds more "bag appeal". It won't change the finished product but makes the buds more pleasing to the eye. Usually when you do this you end up with sticky resin on your fingers and the scissors you are using. Collect this black tar and roll it up in a ball, this is called charas or finger-hash. A very small amount of this stuff is enough to send you into orbit as it is almost pure THC.

Cannabis be turned into hashish by collecting the trichomes (kief) with a kiefing screen or sieve and then pressed together into a solid form. The holes in the screen have to be small enough to only let the trichomes pass through. The kief can also be smoked as it is but it is easier to handle and store when pressed into one solid brick or ball. There are several methods of collecting kief and turning it into hash, so look up a thread if you need more information on the subject.

One thing that many overlook is that if you store your buds in a plastic bag, a lot of the trichomes will fall off over time and accumulate in the bottom of the bag. If you place the bag in the freezer for a day, you can easily scrape off the kief with a knife and then smoke it. If you store your buds in a jar, add some water to it when it is empty and shake it for a few minutes. Finally sieve the solution through a coffee filter and you will also end up with some kief.

Cannabis can be used in cooking to make everything from "cannabutter" to "space cakes" or whatever one chooses. THC is hydrophobic but soluble in fat. There are detailed posts here on the forum on how to cook with cannabis. The easiest method however is to heat some bud in water on low heat with some real butter. After some time when you

feel that most of the THC has bounded with the fat, sieve the liquid into another container in order to remove the plant material. Then allow it to solidify in the fridge or freezer. Once solid, the "cannabutter" cake can be removed and used in cooking. There are other methods for extracting THC from plant material but turning it into butter is the easiest way.

Keep in mind though that enough heat will make the cannabinoids evaporate:

THC has a boiling point of 200°C (392°F). However before the THC boils, other parts of the oil evaporate and boil.

Here are some important temperatures:

At 21°C (70°F) - the most volatile terpenoids start to evaporate, lending a pungent odor to the air.

At 31°C (87°F) - the less volatile terpenoids start to evaporate, lending the air even more pungent odors.

At 39°C (102°F) - virtually all of the terpenoids undergo evaporation fairly rapidly.

At 122°C (252°F) - Most of the THC-Acid decarboxylates as the water molecule held in the carbonate form evaporates. This activates the THC.

At 185°C (365°F) - Cannabinol (CBN) boils.

At 190°C (374°F) - Cannabidiol (CBD) boils.

At 200°C (392°F) - THC boils. Clear vapor from a vaporizer.

Some of the THC will always be in acid form (THCA - Look at the THC synthetization chart). Here is a [chart](#) that shows the rate of decarboxylation of THC-Acid into fully realized THC at different temperatures. It might come in handy when you are cooking with cannabis.



The Overlooked Secret to a Bountiful Harvest

One of the easiest ways of improving on plant health and maximizing plant potential is in my opinion the use of the symbiotic root fungi or mycorrhiza in the soil. This fungus has had a mutualistic relationship with plants for over 400 million years, 92% of plant families and 80% of all known plant species form this relationship in the wild.

The fungus connects to the plant roots effectively increasing the root surface area and therefore nutrient uptake considerably. It also functions as a skilled mediator between plant and soil, buffering out nutrient problems and improving on plant resistance. You can buy spores of this stuff in more advanced grow or garden shops or order it online.

Here we have an example of a plant that has formed a symbiosis with the root fungus. You can see how the thin white microfilaments of the fungus radiates from all the roots. Mycorrhizal mycelia are much smaller in diameter than the smallest root and can explore a greater volume of soil, providing a larger surface area for absorption, thus improving the nutrient absorption capabilities of the plant roots.



Studies have shown that mycorrhizal root systems increase the absorptive area of roots 10 to 1000 times thereby greatly improving the ability of the plants to utilize the soil resources. In the great outdoors this relationship is always present in the plants that can form it in the first place. Usually the strain of mycorrhiza is restricted to a certain species of plant but the good news is that because cannabis is a weed, it can form this relationship with a wide range of mycorrhiza species. More proof of how this amazing plant is superior to many other.

Read more on symbiotic mycorrhizal fungi [here](#)

Cloning

Cloning a plant means that you take a cutting from a larger plant and persuade that cutting to form roots. This is possible because any part of the plant is capable of producing roots.

The most common method is to cut one of the smaller branches from the lower part of the plant and put in some sort of rooting medium. There are several methods for cloning plants, which include water cloning, straight to soil or using rock wool cubes. Personally I use a cloning bubbler which is essentially a small hydroponic setup with a container, an aquarium air pump, a hose and an air-stone. I then suspend the cuttings in the water while the pump provides oxygen for the newly cut clones as that is the most important component for the formation of new roots.

This method is so successful that I pull clone after healthy clone out of this contraption. I cannot think of a better way to do it, most clones root within a week or two. This is good because until the plant roots it will have to survive on the energy stored in its leaves.



Click the link if you want to know how to build the [Propagation Bubbler](#)

It is a good idea to dip the cuttings in a rooting hormone like clonex before planting them in soil or rock wool cubes. Adding general plant hormones like auxin found in seaweed extract will also speed up the process.

The reason why cannabis plants can be cloned is because they are capable of forming so called "*adventitious roots*" on any tissue. This is also why we see new roots growing on the stem in humid environments. If you intend to repot you plants at some stage, always plant them a bit deeper than before because new roots will form on the sections of the stem that become covered by soil.

It is also possible to clone plants in flowering but I have found that it is very rarely that it succeeds, so always make sure that you have clones of each plant that you are going to flower if you intend to keep mother plants. Once the plant has switched to flowering mode, it is very reluctant to revert to the vegetative stage. Take your clones as soon as you can and take lots of them as you never know how the cuttings will behave, some root faster and others take a long time.

Clones and mother plants do not need very strong light as the purpose is merely to keep them alive and not have them grow to monstrous proportions. A low wattage CFL will do the job. Trimming both the green matter and roots might become necessary at one point or another.

If you need more information on cloning, have a look at [the official cloning thread](#) by JJScorpio.

Most cannabis mother plants can be kept alive for a very long time. Once the mother plant loses vigor you take a new clone and start over. Cloning is the reason why there are so many commercial crosses out there made with the legendary G-13 mother. Here I would like to point out that no G-13 father was ever obtained so there cannot be any pure G-13 seeds out there unless the plant was selfed into feminized form. Most of the time we are looking at G-13 crosses.

Finally a very important note. Be very careful if you accept clones from friends. Although the gesture is noble, sometimes they can carry pests and often you will have to completely disinfect your grow room to get rid of them. And by disinfection I'm talking laboratory procedures here like boiling the loose equipment like pots in water, heating the soil in the oven in order to kill harmful insects and so on.

Plant hormones

There are three main types of plant growth hormones; auxin, cytokinin and gibberellic acid. These regulate the way that plants grow by affecting the rate of cell division, cell elongation etc. Kelp or seaweed extract is an outstanding source of plant hormones. Seaweed and algae have no roots and are either free-floating or merely anchored to the sea floor. Sea creatures constantly nibble on them which means that they need to rapidly grow more mass all the time so they never cease to produce these hormones. Cannabis plants can easily extract these plant hormones from water. The hormones make them stronger and improve on everything from root development in clones to vegetative and flower growth in mature individuals.

Basically it's like putting your plants on steroids.

Please note however that plant hormones can also interfere with sexual development to some degree. Using too much of it might trigger hermaphroditism more easily in plants that are genetically prone to the condition. Heavy use of gibberellic acid has been known to trigger hermaphroditism in cannabis plants, so use the stuff wisely.

Hermaphroditism and Feminized Seeds

The term "hermaphrodite" derives from Hermaphroditus, the son of Hermes and Aphrodite in Greek mythology, who was fused with a nymph, Salmacis, resulting in one individual possessing physical traits of both sexes.

Hermaphroditism is a natural trait that occurs spontaneously in cannabis plants in the wild as an emergency response to the absence of either sex in a colony. As a matter of fact most dioecious plants have apparently evolved from hermaphroditic ancestors, so the trait remains partly active in many species of plants. Many tropical sativas are known to pop a few bananas late in flowering. It is more common that female plants produce staminate parts than vice versa, although both have been reported by growers. Male plants that are flowered for an unnaturally long period of time indoors have been known to produce female flowers.

Although hermaphroditism is a naturally occurring phenomenon that sometimes favors cannabis in the wild, normal dioecious individuals can also display this trait in unfavorable environmental conditions. Some even say that there are no true females because most female cannabis plants can be persuaded into sex-reversal by various degrees of stress. The most stable female plants will however not turn hermaphrodite no matter how much stress you subject them to.

Some examples of things that might affect the sex of your female plants are high temperatures, pH fluctuations, light leaks, water related stress and over fertilization. Female plants will most likely turn if they are genetically prone to this condition. The pollen from these hermaphroditic females can either be fertile or sterile. Once turned, the females will form modified or incomplete pollen sacks that look like bananas which are sometimes quite hard to notice. If the pollen is fertile it usually ends up pollinating all the plants in the grow room, effectively ruining the entire sensimilla crop.

Generally speaking, hermaphroditism is considered an unwanted trait in drug strain cannabis plants. The trait is dominant, which means that any parent carrying this trait will pass it on to its offspring. Normal and stable individuals are preferable to these plants that revert to a dual-sex state under stress. The females that are prone to this dual-sex condition are usually removed from the grow room as their offspring will also become hermaphrodites as easily as the mother did due to the fact that the trait is dominant. There are however some uses for this trait, which include making feminized seeds which contain only female genes and therefore result in only female offspring. It is good to keep this in mind when deciding whether or not to grow out your own seeds from a female pollinated by another female. If the hermaphroditic female turned easily from stress, you will also have trouble with hermies when growing out the offspring.

The reason why these seeds exist in the first place is that they remove the need to sex plants before flowering which saves growers a lot of time and trouble. The problem when it comes to feminized seed is that in order to create them, one hermaphroditic female has to pollinate another female or itself in order for the offspring to carry only female genes. The former would probably give better results because there would be recombination of the genes from both the female parents, while self-pollination is basically inbreeding, which gives rise to genetic depression and all sorts of physical disorders. Naturally the normal female would have to be stress-tested as well and proven stable for good results.

So in order to make good feminized seeds we have to stress out a lot of plants by manipulating the environment in order to find the plant that is most resistant to this condition, while still prone to it. Like I mentioned before, what can be considered stable females will most likely not take on this dual-sex state, even when they are subjected to extreme stress. It is therefore always a good idea to stress-test your plants in order to find out if they are easily prone to the hermaphroditic condition or not, so that the easily stressed hermaphrodites can be removed from the grow.

Only the most stable and tolerant plants will be suitable for making feminized seeds and these can only be found by putting the plants under a great deal of stress. In both cases the offspring will carry 100% female genes but the

seeds from the easily stressed female will not be viable for growing, let alone cloning or breeding, as most of the offspring will have a tendency to revert to a dual-sex condition even under minimal stress. Once we have found a strong female candidate, we can start making feminized seeds. Usually silver water is administered to the stable females, which causes them to produce male flowers. I guess you could say that the stress from the colloidal silver is just too much for the female to handle and it reverts to a dual-sex condition as a natural response.

There is also another method called Rhodelization, which was developed by Soma. Rhodelization means that you allow a female plant to flower for an unusually long period of time, after which it develops a few male flowers as a last attempt to pass on its genes. This method is substantially slower but provides a natural way of producing feminized seeds without subjecting the plants to the extreme levels of stress that comes with the silver water.

High quality commercial seeds from feminized plants should therefore give rise to mostly normal females which are resistant to the hermaphroditic condition. This is at least what we can hope for but since nothing is 100% certain and different breeders have different standards, we might end up with hermies nonetheless. In any case, it certain that regular seeds will always have a genetic advantage over the feminized ones.

This is what the "bananas" look like. This female turned hermaphrodite from stress.



Pests

There are several different pests that attack cannabis. They range from the most harmful spider mites (**The Borg**) to the relatively harmless fungus gnats. Some of these pests are really nasty and can wipe out your entire grow. The fungus gnats are so common and harmless that I rarely bother to wipe them out unless their numbers grow high. If you encounter something more threatening, the only way to go is to disinfect your grow room. The most secure way is to scratch the grow and replace the soil as well as every pot you used. If you chose to disinfect the plants you need to use neem oil or pyrethroids (synthetic neuro-toxins) in order to get rid of the pest or some sort of homemade pesticide.

This recipe works great on most pests:

Soak a pack of strong cigarettes in water over night. Then boil some water with strong chili peppers in it (I'm talking high on the scoville scale here). Once it cools down, add the nicotine water to it, then some cooking oil and soap. The idea behind this is that the nicotine will poison the bugs and the capsicum from the peppers will burn them. Insects breathe through holes in their bodies called tracheae, so the soap and the oil will clog these holes and the insect will also choke to death on top of everything else. I used chili strong enough to burn my hands and the gnats were killed instantly dropping down in mid-air. It also worked on aphids and seems to deter spider mites as well. You can add alcohol and cinnamon to boost the effect, as most insects will not like it. Be careful when spraying this homemade pesticide directly on the plants as it is very strong and can possibly harm the plants as well. Dilute the solution if needed. I used it on the topsoil and the pesticide was strong enough to deter the insects from emerging, which lead to their death as they could not feed on the plant. Also, keep in mind that some of the ingredients of the homemade pesticide, like nicotine, are highly toxic to us humans as well. Use it with caution.

There are a couple of more things that you can do in order to free your plants from the burden of pests. You can sterilize the soil in the oven before you use it, in order to make sure that you kill everything. It is important not to let the temperature get too high when doing this because that causes toxicity in the soil, which might harm your plants. Look it up on the web if you need instructions.

If the infestation has spread to the plant itself, use several different pesticides at once for best results. The home made remedy works quite well but there are other alternatives, like pyrethroids (synthetic neurotoxins) and neem oil. If the plants are in veg, you can wash them repeatedly with water in the shower, which actually works pretty well if you are thorough. Even on spider mites and eggs, they just wash away and disappear down the drain.

One last solution is to submerge the infected pots under water. After some time you start to see critters abandoning ship and heading to the surface for air. Plant roots can survive for some time without oxygen, at least longer than the pest you are trying to get rid of, so this method is both easy and safe.



Breeding

From every seed the promise of new life.

No plant is the same, they all have a different genetic makeup. The only exception are clones. Since they are in every way the same plant as the mother, their genetic makeup is also identical. That is why you need to clone plants that prove to be superior or if they have qualities or traits that you like. This way you can preserve and grow the same crop over and over. Cannabis is not the easiest plant to clone but not the most difficult either. The chance of successfully cloning a plant depends on the strain, the methods used and so on.

Genotype is the genetic makeup of an individual and phenotype is the physical expression of those genes.

When it comes to breeding we get genetic *recombination* of the genes, 50% from the father and 50% from the mother. Since the genetic makeup of plants is so complex there really is no way to predict which of the original traits will be preserved in the offspring and how new ones will form. The only thing that can be said is that the offspring will show similar traits to the parental strain but this is heavily dependent on whether or not a particular trait is *dominant* or *recessive*.

Some traits are dormant or inactive and will only be activated if the alleles for that particular trait correspond in the genes of both parents. This means that the offspring will display some/none/all of the traits of the parents but new ones will also form depending on the genetic *recombination*.

The F1 or first generation of plants will be quite uniform in appearance but once you reach the F2-generation, you will get individuals with a wide range of traits inherited from the parents. In order to get uniform plants that resemble the parent, you need to isolate traits by backcrossing the offspring to one of the parental plants. This is effectively inbreeding which is naturally unfavorable as genetic anomalies may occur because the same genes perform the *recombination* and the *gene pool* is restricted. This method, referred to as "cubing", is sometimes used to preserve a particular trait and will result in uniform or *true breeding* IBL (inbred) seed lines. *Crossing* the plant to a new one will however produce very healthy offspring because the *gene pool* is expanding and the genetic *recombination* gives rise to *hybrid vigor*. Plants will also become uniform over time through selective breeding. This is the case with Skunk#1 for example. Large populations are used to interbreed the individuals and because they resemble each other so much, the offspring is also quite similar to the parents.

In other cases, careful selection is required. I'll take the example of how the Lowryder#2 strain was created to prove my point here.

The goal is to preserve the recessive auto-flowering trait:

a = *recessive* auto-flowering trait
A = *dominant* normal flowering

Lowryder was bred to Santa Maria/Planck in order to create LR#2. So;

Santa Maria x Lowryder = AA x aa = **100% Aa F1** --> The auto-flowering trait is masked by the *gene* for normal flowering but all the offspring carry the *recessive trait*.

(Santa Maria x Lowryder) x Lowryder = Aa F1 x aa = **50% Aa F2 + 50% aa F2** --> 50% auto-flowering in the second generation. This is where the selection for AF plants begins. We pick one of the AF F2's and cross it once more to a *true breeding* Lowryder,

[(Santa Maria x Lowryder) x Lowryder] x Lowryder = aa F2 x aa = **100% aa F3** = Lowryder#2

As you can see, if we take one of the auto-flowering F2-individuals and cross it to a *true breeding* Lowryder we get the same result as when we cross two *true breeding* Lowryders to each other (LR x LR), 100% auto-flowering individuals.

So, if you want to make a new auto-flowering Lowryder *hybrid*, you have to backcross it twice to *true breeding* Lowryders in order to preserve the auto-flowering trait in the new *hybrid*. Remember though that this F3-offspring only carries 12,5% of the genes from the non-auto-flowering parent. In order to increase this percentage you have to start the process all over again.

Some traits might be controlled by several genes which means that the odds are even smaller that this particular trait will be expressed, especially if it is *recessive*.

The same goes for every trait of the plant, everything from potency to color so my recommendation is to only use the strongest plants you can find for breeding purposes.

If you are planning on making your own hybrids, it's not a bad idea to read up a bit on [Mendelian Genetics](#)

The actual act of *fertilization* is no big mystery. I will not go into it in great detail here but one male carries enough pollen to pollinate a whole bunch of females. Once mature, the pollen sacks spring open, dispersing the pollen. It looks like fine yellow powder. The pollen can be collected, dehydrated and stored for up to six months in the freezer, after

which it is usually no longer viable. Seeds on the other hand can be stored for decades as long as they remain in a cool, dark and dry environment. Seeds as old as 30 years have reportedly germinated.

The best way go is to allow one male to pollinate all the females chosen for the breeding project. If you have several males of different strains, you will have no idea which male pollinated which female. You can have several males of the same strain pollinating the females, but I usually chose the strongest male for the job. There are two schools of reasoning here. On one hand you could say that the strongest male will always be the best candidate but on the other hand you might also reason that using several males will in fact increase the *gene pool* and possibly give rise to a wider array of traits in the offspring. This might be beneficial if you need to find good outdoor plants, some will adapt better than others to harsh conditions.

What we really want is to preserve the traits of the mother plant, but we also need the father in order to make seeds. The father contributes to an assortment of traits in the female offspring, including physical appearance, flower formation and structure as well as scent and taste. You need to decide what to look for when choosing the parents, what traits you consider desirable. You should also look for males that form tightly packed clusters of male flowers as this directly affects the structure of the bud in female offspring.

The criteria for selection naturally varies with the purpose of the plant. When you are breeding outdoor strains you might look for different things than when you breeding indoor strains. It is not a bad idea to make a list of the traits that you looking for, as this will help you decide which males and females to keep. Smoking both parents is also essential since you need to get an idea of their potency. Some males and females carry more *THC* than others and smoking them is the only way to find out what you have.

In order for the pollen to be spread around you can have a fan blowing over the plants or you could just blow on the male plant now and then, this is enough for the pollen to reach the females if they are in close proximity. Another good way to pollinate the female is to use a brush. Gather the pollen onto the brush and then transfer it to the females. Once the females have been pollinated, it takes about 6 weeks for the seeds to be ready. You will know when they are ready because the *calyx* opens up and the seed falls to the ground. Once you see that a few seeds are ready you can harvest the whole plant shortly after. It's a lot easier to separate the seeds from the bud if you allow them to completely dry up first.

One way of telling if the seeds are ready is to look at the color and texture of the seeds. If they have a nice dark brown color with stripes on them, they are ready. Not all seeds are striped however but most are. Seeds can range in size from very small to quite large. Seed size is both genetically determined but also by the degree of *pollination*. A slightly pollinated female will generally produce a smaller amount of large seeds while a heavy pollinated one will produce lots of smaller seeds. The rule of quality vs. quantity applies here.

You will get hundreds if not thousands of seeds from one female plant.

That concludes the guide. Just one more thing.

The most important advice of all; remember to have fun growing your plants

The guide is also now available for [download](#) in pdf format



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101 members found this post helpful. **Did you find this post helpful?** [Yes](#)

02-21-2009, 10:12 PM

2

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008

EDIT: PLEASE NOTE:

I cannot edit the guide anymore because that would mean losing most of the pics. The forum accepted 25 images in one post when I wrote it but now I'm limited to 5. That would mean that I would have to break up the guide into smaller sections in order to make changes to it and it will end up less coherent. I will therefore add notes to this post when needed. For now, you'll have to look for updates to the guide here.

UPDATES:

Location: The Lab
Posts: 456
●●●●●●●●

Seed Germination

I said that the incubator box can be placed on a radiator or heating element but make sure that the heat is turned down low. Too much heat will dry out the paper towels pretty fast and that's bad for the seeds. Worst case scenario, the paper towels will dry out so fast that you won't notice until it's too late. The seedlings are quite fragile at this point and need to be looked after. It's also a good idea to replace the paper towels after 2 days. That will keep the roots healthy. Ventilate the box and spray with water every now and then in order maintain the proper level of moisture and oxygen.

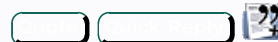
Also, you don't necessarily need to plant the seed as soon as the tap root emerges. You can also wait for the seedling to actually break free from the seed coat before you plant it. It's a whole lot easier because then you just plant it deep enough to cover the roots and the embryonic leaves can start photosynthesizing straight away, instead of spending energy fighting their way through the soil. The seedlings start out completely white but they turn green pretty fast. It's a good sign if you get "fuzz" on the roots before you plant it. By "fuzz" I mean tiny lateral roots growing out from tap root. The seedlings sometime stick to the paper towel at this point, so be careful.

That's all for now folks



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2 members found this post helpful. **Did you find this post helpful?** [Yes](#)

02-21-2009, 11:04 PM

3

Che

Senior Member



Join Date: Dec 2008
Location: Underground
Posts: 1,491
●●●●●●●●

Quote:

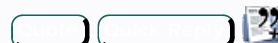
Male plants that are flowered for an unnaturally long period of time indoors have been known to produce female flowers and the distinctively familiar **glandular stalked *thc*-trichomes that function as pollen receptors.**

You sure about that? I always thought it was the Pistils that were the pollen receptors..👍

"Live your life not celebrating victories, but overcoming defeats."



[Black Ra1n 2010 - Dog the Bud Hunter - O.G.A. Photography - O.G.A. Test Grows Liberation! - Current Grow](#) [The Buddy System Saves Lives!!](#) [International Cannagrophic Market Quotations](#)



1 members found this post helpful. **Did you find this post helpful?** [Yes](#)

02-22-2009, 06:15 AM

4

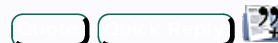
bongoie
Guest

Posts: n/a



spot on

same here thanks = another rep an back to reading . i'm thinking sturersonic will serve me well for an irish climate , outdoor grow .



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-22-2009, 06:20 AM

5

I'm new to IC and cultivation in general and I would just like to say thanks for this very informative

JG Wentworth

New Member

Join Date: Feb 2009

Posts: 3



thread. It seemed like so much to consume at first but this helped fill in alot of the gaps for me



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-22-2009, 11:25 AM

#6

TryComb

Member



Join Date: Dec 2008

Posts: 124



I agree with JG this was very informative to the new grower, which I am.

Thanks for the info it was a great read!!

TC



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-22-2009, 11:54 AM

#7

purpleDOMgoddess

Guest

Posts: n/a



nice info+research+notes. solid contribution. thx!



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-22-2009,
12:08 PM

#8

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008

Location: The Lab

Posts: 456



Thanks, I am glad that you found the text helpful. It's a lot of information but I tried to write in a way that makes sense. You do not need to know everything straight away. The main thing before you start is designing a functional grow room and preparing the soil. I usually start twice as many seeds as I need plants since you will always end up with some males and sometimes some weaker female individuals that are far from ideal. I still flower every one though but it is good to spread out your chances a bit.

You are right Che, naturally the pistils are the pollen receptors but the resin on them aid in catching the pollen. Or so I believe. I should have been more precise. I'll go back and rephrase that sentence.

Bongoie, for the Irsish climate I can also recommend the lowryder and all lowryder hybrids that are around. I consider them a great addition to the strain multitude as they are just about the only plants that will flower and finish in time in northern climates.



Stuporsonic is nice plant, being one of the few autoflowering sativas, but it grows very large so if you are concerned about someone finding your grow, stick to the lowryders. They do not grow taller than surrounding plants like grass and so on, so they will go unnoticed. Just plant them in a sporadic pattern so that they blend into the surroundings. It's hard to notice a plant growing outdoors unless there is a path leading straight to it, so make sure chose a different path each time. If you visit your plants after it has rained, make sure to shake them out as mold is a real threat when growing cannabis in the *wild*.

I just crossed a Diesel Ryder male to Lowryder #2 female, making my own *hybrid* that I call Quick Diesel. I crossed the new strain to Blue Ryder for my next seed run and called it Rocket Fuel. I keep on *crossing* the new hybrids to different lowryder strains until I get something really exotic. If you intend to grow outdoors it's not a bad idea to make your own seeds as that will save you a lot of money in the end and it is also a lot of fun. You can get hundreds of seeds from a very small plant. I started out with ten of each strain and then kept the strongest ones. Then I subjected the parent plants to a battery of stress tests, like low temperatures, high humidity in flowering, mold and so on. They proved resistant to all of the stress tests so I know that they will perform well outdoors.

Lowryder is actually a very exotic strain since it is made up of Mexican *Ruderalis*, Oldschool Williams Wonder from The Super Sativa Seed Club and NL#2 (now known as Oasis).

Lowryder#2 is a cross of Santa Maria/Planck x LR, another exotic strain from the Brazilian Amazon. I have grown quite fond of this plant over the years.

In case you wondered, Diesel Ryder is New York City Diesel from Soma x LR#2 and Blue Ryder is Dj Shorts Blueberry x Master Low. Then there is of course Master Low (DP Master Kush x LR) and Mini Gun (AK-47 x LR) and many more. Not all of the hybrids are *true breeding* autoflowering strains but most are at least to the 50% mark.

If there is something that I forgot to put in the guide but you would like to know, feel free to ask. The purpose of this forum is to share information and I will be glad to help.

Take good care of the plants.



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5 members found this post helpful. **Did you find this post helpful?** [Yes](#)

02-22-2009, 12:20 PM

9

sip
Member



Join Date: Jul 2007
Location: TEXAS
Posts: 99



great post!



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-22-2009, 12:38 PM

10

BesideHimself
with Laughter



Join Date: May 2008
Posts: 194



Kodiak thanks for posting this. (Also, that grow-report on the SSH was awesome).

Keep it real,
BH



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-22-2009, 01:28 PM

11

Kodiak
Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



Thanks, that SSH sure was a real beauty, a very Neville's Haze *dominant* pheno. I cloned and flowered that plant three times. The first time she got slightly pollinated by a DP Strawberry Cough hermie. Got some Super Strawberry Haze feminized seeds though so I guess I will give them a go sooner or later. Not too fond of feminized hybrids but since they are of my own make I'll have to see what they look like.

I plan to make crosses of everything that I have in the freezer first and then move on to my own hybrids.

I have a Kali Mist female growing right now and a Destroyer male stashed away so I can make my own Mist of Destruction seeds. Sweet.



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-22-2009, 03:50 PM

#12

Dödsknark
O.D.F

Join Date: Feb 2009
Posts: 851



Join Date: Feb 2009
Posts: 851



Really thorough work! Very helpful. Rep+

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-22-2009, 05:50 PM

#13

Kodiak
Mad Scientist

Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



Thanks.

I realized that some important information was missing from the guide so I updated it with pictures of preflowers, a grow room design and so on.

I think that I have now covered most of the things one would need to know when starting a grow.



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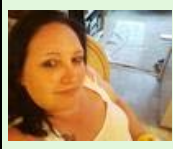
Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-22-2009, 06:14 PM

#14

jalajaslet

Fully compliant registered Michigan Medical Marihuana Program Patient/Caregiver



Join Date: Dec 2008
Location: Frost Bitten, Michigan
Posts: 219



bump bump, passin on some rep...great post

Jayla,

1 members found this post helpful. Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-22-2009, 07:08 PM

#15

Sleepy

Senior Member

great post!

[Sleepy Test Chemmy Jones](#)

[Sleepy Tests Jolly Bud from Mountain High Seeds](#)



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02-22-2009, 11:41 PM # 16

KUSHEATER1
I Need Kush,Kush



Join Date: Mar 2007
Location: I need Kush Kush
Posts: 811

helpful i'll say

Bubba Kush and The Real Fire Og

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-22-2009, 11:45 PM # 17

guineapig

Fantastic grow guide!!!!

Moderator

ICMag Chatmod

ICMag Moderator



Join Date: Aug 2005
 Location: In spite of my rage I am still just a rodent in a cage
 Posts: 4,570



Thanks for the valuable information.....all of ICMag will benefit from this glorious guide....

☺ kind regards from guineapig ☺

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-23-2009, 12:21 AM

18

HerbGlaze

Sierra Foothills



Join Date: Jul 2007
 Posts: 1,591



For a member with 6 posts you sure have enlightened me!

Check out my latest video of **Inhale Intellect** below!



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JoR0LrK11js>

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-23-2009, 02:34 AM

19

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
 Location: The Lab
 Posts: 456



Thanks. The whole thing got started when I was going over some of my notes. I had some fifty points written down on various topics in no particular order and I wanted to sort them out. Once I did that I thought that I might as well post them here on the board as they could probably be of some use to other growers as well.

Those notes then evolved into this growing guide. One thing made me think of another and I just had to expand on it.

I do a lot of research and there is much to learn yet, also from other fields of horticulture. I apply anything that I stumble upon if I think that it will improve on the quality of the finished product or increase the harvest. Since the plant has been demonised in the public eye and the general consensus of the public is that it is nothing more than a drug,

most research on cannabis is done by growers like you and me.

I also grow a bunch of other plants like chili, tobacco, food plants and herbs just for fun.

Nothing is as fun as growing cannabis though but growing chili comes pretty close.



[Got Some Seeds And Wanna Grow Weed?](#)

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1 members found this post helpful. **Did you find this post helpful?** [Yes](#)

02-23-2009, 06:37 AM

#20

[drow](#)

Banned

Join Date: Feb 2009
Posts: 129



great post

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-23-2009, 10:59 AM

#21

[moonymonkey](#)

Registered User



Join Date: Feb 2004
Posts: 865



great post,an thanks for spending ur time to do it...this should help alot of peeps ot there...peace mm/

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-23-2009, 03:15 PM

#22

[Hermit43](#)


Member

Now thats what i'm talking about.
Great info for rookies like me.
Thanks a bunch Kodiak I printed it out and will use it as a guide line for

Join Date: Jul 2008
 Posts: 69




future grows.
 Very gracious of you to share all that experience. Not to mention great pics.
 KUDOS
 H43




Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-23-2009, 08:09 PM # 23

Kodiak
 Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
 Location: The Lab
 Posts: 456



Good to hear that you like it, I basically compiled the information that I would have liked to know when I started to grow.

I didn't go too deep into any subject as there are great post here on the forum on everything from nutrients to light schedules, so surf around.


It's good to keep in mind that often less is more, I used to over water and over feed my plants a lot in the beginning, just because I worried too much about how they were doing.

Now I just make a good soil mix and watch the plants grow. If they have a nice green colour and the leafs are happily pointing upwards, they are doing fine.

Once they go into flowering I start messing around with the dutch organic fertilizers to maximize bud production and to make sure that the plant are getting enough of everything. I can really recommend BioBizz or other similar organic fertz if you want buds that taste and smell great. Naturally this is mostly genetic in the first place.


Sometimes you will run into plants that smell so great they are almost addictive (you just keep going back to smell them every 5 minutes) and sometimes you get plants that smell, shall we say, not so good. It all depends. Personally I favor the ones that smell like fruit or berries. Sometimes you even run into flowers with an unique smell, something unlike anything you ever smelled before. Usually these are complex aromas with several levels of scents with different onsets.


Growing cannabis is a real adventure.



[Got Some Seeds And Wanna Grow Weed?](#)

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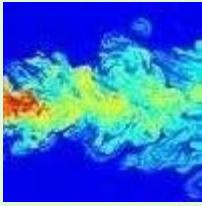
Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-23-2009, 11:27 PM # 24

Did I hear somebody say...**STICKY!?**

messn'n'gommin'

ember



Join Date: Jan 2008
Location: Home, where they should be.
Posts: 1,755



Namaste, mess



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-24-2009, 02:42 AM

#25

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



I updated the guide.

Now it also includes a short introduction and a chapter on germinating seeds. I also expanded on the information on breeding, added some photos and more.



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[Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning](#)



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-24-2009, 10:35 AM

#26

andy12

Member

Join Date: Feb 2009
Posts: 36



This is a very helpfull guide, very well written, please update soon 😊



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-24-2009, 11:21 AM

#27

andy12

kodiak, do you have a grow journal?
i'm curious about your grow and lighting setup.

Member
 Join Date: Feb 2009
 Posts: 36

do you use liquid fertilizer?

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-24-2009,
 12:09 PM

#28

Kodiak
 Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
 Location: The Lab
 Posts: 456

Yes, I always make detailed notes on every grow. After the grow is finished I compile the information into specific grow sheets for each strain. Here is an example:

This image has been resized. Click this bar to view the full image. The original image is sized 600x636.


Name	Super Silver Haze		
Seed or Clone	Seed		
Breeder	Mr. Nice Seeds / Shantibaba / Nevil		
Lineage	(Skunk #1 x Neville's Haze C) x (NL #5 x Neville's Haze C)		
	Indica: ~ 35%	Sativa: ~ 65%	

Parent Strains	Mother:		Father:	
	NL #5 x Neville's Haze C		Skunk #1 x Neville's Haze C	
	Lineage:		Lineage:	
	(NL#2 female x NL#1 male) x Cross of two Pure Haze Parents from 1980		[(Afghani Indica x Mexican Acapulco Gold] x 50% Colombian Gold] x Cross of two Pure Haze Parents from 1980	
	Indica: ~ 45%	Sativa: ~ 55%	Indica: ~ 15%	Sativa: ~ 85%
	Seed Germ.: Unknown	Veg. Growth: Unknown	Seed Germ.: Unknown	Veg. Growth: Unknown
	Flowering: Unknown	Flower Growth: Unknown	Flowering: Unknown	Flower Growth: Unknown
	Final Plant Height: Unknown	12/12 Stretch: Unknown	Final Plant Height: Unknown	12/12 Stretch: Unknown
	Bud Color: Unknown	Bud Density: Unknown	Bud Color: Unknown	Bud Density: Unknown
	Scent: Unknown	Taste: Unknown	Scent: Unknown	Taste: Unknown
	Resin Form.: Unknown	Potency: Unknown	Resin Form.: Unknown	Potency: Unknown
	Hit: Unknown	Yield: Unknown	Hit: Unknown	Yield: Unknown
	Cloning: Unknown	General notes: None	Cloning: Unknown	General notes: None

Seed	Size	Small to Large	Color	Brown & Some Striped
Germination	Method	Paper Towel	Time	3-7 Days

This image has been resized. Click this bar to view the full image. The original image is sized 600x612.

Environment	Light	Distance from canopy	~ 5-10 cm 2-4 inches	Vegetative			
			~ 50-70 cm 20-28 inches	2 x 125w Daylight CFL 6400K			
	Indoor	Growroom Dimension		0.4 m2 / 4.3 sq ft			
		Medium		BioNova Soilmix A-quality + Mycorrhiza + Kalong Guano			
		Vegetative Nutrients		BioBizz RootJuice + Grow + Alg-A-Mic + BioHeaven			
		Veg Foliar Feeding		BioBizz Alg-A-Mic + Humidifyer			
	Water and Air	Flowering Nutrients		BioBizz Complete Line + BioNova Supplemental Line			
		Ventilation		350m3/h ufo-fan + active carbon filtering			
		Temp		Veg	22°C/72F	Flower	28°C/82F
		RH		Veg	> 80%	Flower	< 30%
ph		6.0 - 7.0					
Water used		Medium-hard tapwater allowed to stand for 24h					
General Information	Phenotype 1			Phenotype 2			
	Nick Name			Nick Name			
	SSH1 (removed)			SSH2 / Ikaros			
	Dominance			Dominance			
Seedling Growth	Strange and slow growth. Sensitive to nutrients and ph fluxuations.			Grows very slowly. Sensitive to nutrients and ph fluxuations.			

 This image has been resized. Click this bar to view the full image. The original image is sized 600x612.

Vegetative Growth	Time	5½ weeks
	<p>Tall and lanky.</p> <p>Sensitive to nutrients and ph.</p> <p>Strange and slow growth.</p>	
		<p>Tall and lanky with few branches.</p> <p>Grows very slowly.</p> <p>Sensitive to nutrients and ph changes in the vegetative stage.</p> <p>Somewhat sensitive to heat during vegetative growth.</p> <p>Does not like to be topped in the vegetative stage.</p>
Flowering Growth	Time	12-18 weeks
	<p>Sensitive to heat.</p> <p>Really difficult to sex. No preflowers after extensive time under 12/12.</p> <p>Plant removed, one clone saved for sexing and potential breeding.</p> <p><u>Clone scratched due to slow and strange growth.</u></p>	
		<p>Tall and lanky with a thick stem.</p> <p>Showed preflowers early.</p> <p>Begins flowering at 2+ weeks of 12/12.</p> <p>Handles heat & drought quite well.</p> <p>Dislikes overwatering and strong nutrients in early flowering but grows more hungry with size.</p> <p>Proved to be a very strong plant, it handles environmental stress better than any plant I have seen.</p> <p>Shows primarily sativa haze dominance.</p> <p>Explosive flower growth a few weeks into flowering. Forms somewhat fluffy buds with some foxtailing and white hairs. Very high calyx to leaf ratio.</p> <p>Could do well with lots of training and does not dislike to be topped during flowering.</p>

 This image has been resized. Click this bar to view the full image. The original image is sized 600x612.

**Flowering
Growth**

When left untopped it grows one insanely huge main cola.

About 50% milky and 50% cloudy trichomes observed during week 11 of flowering.

Second bloom explosion during week 11 of flowering. New calyx formations with white hairs on top of old ones.

Older calyxes are swelling up during week 12 of flowering.

About 50% milky, 50% cloudy and some amber trichomes observed after 12 weeks of flowering.

Plant Harvested after 12 weeks of flowering.

Mother plant saved for cloning.

Second Grow of the same plant

Neville's Haze Sativa pheno.

Put under 12/12 after several months of vegetative growth.

Thick stemmed bonsai mom, topped and trained several times over.

Left to grow as it chooses. Formed one huge main cola and about 5 medium ones, as well as several smaller ones.

Once main cola reached a height of 70cm/28 inches after 12 weeks of flowering, it had to be bent over and tied vertically to the SCROG net. Also tied several of the other larger colas in the same manner.

Flowering Growth		<p>Lightschedule was changed to 11/13 after 12 weeks of 12/12 as the plant kept growing.</p> <p>Cut down the huge main cola because it drew too much energy from the rest of the buds. The remaining buds will be allowed to mature properly and the overall quality will probably improve.</p> <p>Buds turning slightly purple after 17 weeks of flowering.</p> <p>Plant harvested after 17½ weeks when trichomes 50% clear and 50% cloudy.</p> <p>Although I was not able to save a clone from this plant, her genetics lives on in the feminized cross; Super Strawberry Haze</p>
Grow Style	Twice topped bush (removed)	Several times topped bush in SCROG
Plant Shape	Bush	Bush – 10 Main Colas / 1 Huge Main Cola
Branching	Low	Low
Final Plant Height	---	130cm / 51 inches
Height before 12/12	55cm / 22 inches	55cm / 22 inches
12/12 Stretch	---	~ 2.5-3x
Bud Density	---	Medium-Dense
Bud Color	---	White
Resin formation	---	Very Heavy (capitate-stalked glandular trichomes)
Scent	---	Bitter Pine / Sweet Ripe Citrus Fruit
Taste	---	Sweet / Spicy / Smooth
Potency	---	Very Strong
Hit	---	Stratospheric Cerebral High
Yield	---	Big
Cloning time	Medium	Medium

I use liquid fertilizers. The complete BioBizz line and the supplemental BioNova line. Also liquid silicon root stimulator, seaweed extract and liquid humus. There is a detailed description of everything relating to my grow in the document above.

I have three different grow rooms; one for mother plants, one for flowering and one for breeding projects.

I used to have a cooltube but upgraded to a Sputnik Coolstar aircooled hood, which runs a lot cooler and does a better job than the cooltube. The hood is connected to a duct fan with a carbon scrubber, so there is no smell at all from the grow. I use a 600w Phillips LuxGear ballast that can handle both MH and HPS bulbs.

The picture in the guide pretty much explains how to rig a setup similar to mine. It took some fine tuning but now I have it dialed in perfectly.



[Got Some Seeds And Wanna Grow Weed?](#)

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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-24-2009, 04:32 PM #29

Hydro-Soil
Banned

Join Date: Aug 2008
Location: 10K feet above sea level... awesome!
Posts: 7,263

Quote:

Originally Posted by **Kodiak**

You are right Che, naturally the pistils are the pollen receptors but the resin on them aid in catching the pollen.

Pistils don't produce resin. At least I've never seen any trichomes on them. They're definitely hairy for catching pollen though.

Basically you can consider any piece of pollen stuck to resin to be dead and out of the game. It's not going to move (resin is too sticky) so it won't be able to come in contact with the *pistil*.

I don't know who first stated that resin production was supposedly part of "Trying to get pollinated" but it's a bit of myth that should die. 😊

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-24-2009, 06:11 PM #30

Pompey_Monkey
Member

Join Date: Nov 2007
Posts: 421

Absolutely fantastic post Kodiak!



I wanna see some graphs now. Surely you've got a huge stash of analyses somewhere on your PC...?

I also particularly enjoyed your explanation of why you have to go to F2 to ensure a *recessive trait* is promulgated throughout the *gene pool* - I'd never bothered getting my head round that one before until it came up in your post. Thankyou!

PM me if you'd like detailed feedback and some constructive criticism on your post. Or not! 😊

Last edited by Pompey_Monkey; 02-24-2009 at 06:28 PM.. Reason: adding compliment!

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

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All times are GMT -4. The time now is 01:16 PM.

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02-24-2009, 08:13 PM #31

Gronk
New Member
Join Date: Feb 2009
Posts: 2

Wow. Very well written guide! And great pictures too!

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-25-2009, 02:06 AM #32

IndianHay
Member

Very useful guide!! It was pleasure reading it! Worship!!



Join Date: Jan 2009
Posts: 158



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-25-2009, 10:26 AM

33

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



Thanks everyone! I will update it now and then with more information when something springs to mind.

I will add some more information today on the cannabinoids, like breakdown temps etc. for those who intend to cook with cannabis as well as some brief information on collecting kief and making hash.

Pompey_Monkey, it is actually in the F3 generation that you have 100% autoflowering individuals. In the *F2 generation* you will have some autoflowering and some normal plants, fifty-fifty. You will have to watch the plants as they grow in order to know which are true autoflowering and which are not. Then you take one of the autoflowering F2's and cross it once more to a true autoflowering lowryder in order for all of the F3's to possess this *recessive trait*. The idea here is to increase the potency of the lowryder *hybrid* by *crossing* it to something more potent. Say if you used AK-47 for example, the F3's will only have 12,5% of the genes from that AK-47. The only way to increase this percentage is to repeat the whole process over again. Sure, you could cross the autoflowering F2's to each other or the parent but since that's inbreeding you will not get *hybrid* vigour. Inbreeding in this manner is called "cubing" which is used to create IBL or truebreeding strains.

You might be right Hydro-Soil but if you take a look at the closeup of the pistils in my guide you will see that there infact are trichomes on them, or at least something that looks like them. I always thought that the *trichome*-sticks without a head were there to catch the pollen which then travels down into the "pod" and fertilizes the ovum, where the seed later on develops. They could however also be some sort of hairs or microfilaments and not trichomes at all. I'm not sure.

I might be wrong so I will remove the sentence from my guide as it is really not that important.



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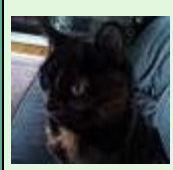




Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-25-2009, 10:41 AM #34

ZEROorDIE
Do Not Piss Off the Tots



Join Date: Nov 2008
Location: East Coast;
U.S.S.A
Posts: 350



great guide. the part about beneficial fungi keeps reinforcing what ive heard. what micorrhizal enhancers would you reccomend to a less experienced but KISS grower.

i use AN micro/grow/bloom and my plants love it but ive been heavily considering adding a fungi booster to my feeding regimen. my soil is just plain potting soil(no additives) mixed with perlite so its basically just something to hold the plant up and hold water /nute mix for it.

i have no desire to go to more complicated soil mixes as i dont really have space or time to mix and deal with it



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-25-2009, 11:28 AM #35

Kodiak
Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456

The soil that you buy in the store usually contain some of the beneficial microbes from the composting process but you can also buy certified soil that should contain most if not all.

One of these microbes is the streptomyces actinobacteria that grows in compost. It kills mold and other harmful organisms and promotes health in plants by reinforcing other microbial processes in the roots, including the mycorrhiza fungi. Mycorrhizal fungi on the other hand is a mutualistic root fungus that exchanges nutrients with the plant.

You can buy dormant spores of these organisms from advanced grow and gardening shops. Usually you have to order them separately because it's not that common that people ask for them. The easiest way to get ahold of it is to order online. Do a search on it and try something like "plant supplement + mycorrhiza + order".

[Here](#) is one place that you can order it if you live in the U.S. They will also ship overseas but you can most likely find some closer to where you live. The product is called MycoMaxx and should cover your needs. The spores will have to be stored in the fridge (not the freezer, that will probably kill them) in order to remain alive and dormant until you add them to the soil. You can either plant them at the same time as you pot the plants or just add the spores to some water and pour it in. I recommend that you plant them in the middle of the pot or all over so that they will quickly find the plant roots. These microbes will also feed on the nutrients in the soil, so make sure that you supply enough for them and the plants as well.

If you know where to get fresh compost, even better. Fresh compost will most likely contain all of these microbes as it is usually allowed to mature in an outside environments but sometimes also in large containers.

Outdoor soil also contain mycorrhiza and other microbes, most probably it's already growing in your garden if you have one. The risc of bringing in pests is big however so I recommend you order the stuff instead.



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-25-2009, 01:00 PM #36

iGro4Me

The Hopeful Protagonist



Join Date: Feb 2009
Location: In the dark, with a heightened sense of touch
Posts: 2,861



Noob question sorry

Kodiak, awesome read and THANK YOU for taking the time to impart knowledge.

I'm am in the planning stages of my first indoor soil grow with a 400w HPS (although I have enjoyed some of nature's finest since the early 80's :wink 😊)

I have been reading all I can and "think" I have a novice's tentative grasp on the basics.

My question would be, what would one recommend to a first-timer in terms of strain choice ? There seems to be mixed responses on this question.

I have adequate room to take care of at least two(2) plants , 3x3x8+, and if I had my choice, I would lean towards a SAT/IND mix of at least a 60/40 split in terms of what I'm looking to get out of it.

With that being said, any suggestions ? I'm open to one and all and will defer to those with much more experience than I.

Thank you much in advance,

iGro

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-25-2009, 01:03 PM #37

Kodiak

Mad Scientist

No worries iGro4Me, all questions are welcomed.

Which strain to pick really all depends on what you are looking for. Something quick, potent, easy to grow, colourful, sweet smelling and so on. It really boils down to what you like. Although a pure sativa might be somewhat of a challenge for someone getting started indoors, I would



Join Date: Oct 2008
 Location: The Lab
 Posts: 456



never say that it cannot be done since sativas are really nice and potent plants and a great way to learn how to grow indoors, although it's the more difficult road. Once you know how to grow pure sativas you can grow anything. Indicas might however give you less problems, so maybe you should look into pure indicas or a good 50/50 *hybrid* as these are more easily controlled. The closer you get to a pure sativa the more trouble you are looking at, they stretch a lot and getting tight internodes and thick buds is a challenge. Since you have grown outdoors before you probably know what to expect.

You could grow some of Sensi's Hindu Kush or perhaps the Master Kush from Dutch passion as these are both nice and potent pure afghani Indicas. A good close to 50/50 mix could be the White Russian (AK-47 x White Widow) or Chronic from Serious Seeds. Try the White Rhino from Nirvana or Greenhouse Seeds or the original Medicine Man from Mr.Nice, they are all nice mostly indica hybrids that are generally really potent. You probably can't go wrong with the Black Widow either for that matter, although that one is a bit on the sativa side being a 60/40 mix. If you want less expensive seeds you can always order some of the Nirvana strains. Most of them are actually Skunk #1 hybrids although this is not stated in the description. I have grown a lot of them and every now and then Nirvana strains throw out something really good but expect a lot of variance even within a particular strain. Stay away from the Top44. Look to the Flying Dutchmen and Sensi Seeds for more inexpensive but good indica/sativa hybrids.

Some of the other classic indicas would be Dj Short's Blueberry, S.O.L Sweeth Tooth, Mikado from Federation Seeds as well as Sensi's Black Domina, Northern Lights and Hash Plant. I have not grown these out but they are all waiting in the freezer. People also speak warmly of Dr.Atomics NL and Legends Seeds Ultimate Indica.

Your safest bet would be to stick to one of the pure indicas at first, like Hindu Kush, Master Kush, Black Domina, Northern Lights, Maple Leaf Indica, Hash Plant or the widely overlooked Durga Mata (Super Shiva).

On another note. I cannot add more text to the guide as the forum starts cutting it in half if I do, so it is now concluded. Considering how long the text is and how many pictures I included, it's still pretty cool that a post can be that long.

If there is something that I forgot to mention in the guide, feel free to ask me and I will help you the best I can.



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-25-2009, 01:59 PM # 38

sketchy
R Growers Corps



Join Date: Feb 2009
Posts: 275



I'll give u a 10 for the guide...
RESPECT!


FC= FANCULO RN= RINCOGLIONITI

MORALE= FanCulo RiNcoglioniti 🤔

(riferito a certi miei coetanei romagnoli) 🤔

Zombo ti amo


VOLUTAMENTE IGNORANTE IN HIDROCOLTURA
TERRA RULEZ
COCO RULEZ




Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)


02-25-2009, 02:21 PM # 39

jtk707
California Love



Join Date: Jun 2008
Location: Norcal
Posts: 428






this is gonna be a classic thread fo sho . Use no pwst strips for spider mites 🤔

Originally posted by Magiccannibus


"Inside each seed is a delicate little plantling. That tiny plant can become damaged easily. Most mutants you see are not genetic mutants, but mutated because of damage when still embryonic, or during germination."



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)


02-25-2009, 03:25 PM # 40

iGro4Me
The Hopeful Protagonist



Join Date: Feb 2009
Location: In the dark, with a heightened sense of touch
Posts: 2,861

Quote:

Originally Posted by **Kodiak** 

No worries iGro4Me, all questions are welcomed.

Which strain to pick really all depends on what you are looking for. Something quick, potent, easy to grow, colourful, sweet smelling and so on. It really boils down to what you like. Although a pure sativa might be somewhat of a challenge for someone getting started indoors, I would never say that it cannot be done since sativas are really nice and potent plants and a great way to learn how to grow indoors, although it's the more difficult road. Once you know how to grow pure sativas you can grow anything. Indicas might however give you less problems, so maybe you



should look into pure indicas or a good 50/50 hybrid as these are more easily controlled. The closer you get to a pure sativa the more trouble you are looking at, they stretch a lot and getting tight internodes and thick buds is a challenge. Since you have grown outdoors before you probably know what to expect.

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*Your safest bet would be to stick to one of the pure indicas at first, like **Hindu Kush, Master Kush, Black Domina, Northern Lights, Maple Leaf Indica, Hash Plant or the widely overlooked Durga Mata** (Super Shiva).*

On another note. I cannot add more text to the guide as the forum starts cutting it in half if I do, so it is now concluded. Considering how long the text is and how many pictures I included, it's still pretty cool that a post can be that long.

If there is something that I forgot to mention in the guide, feel free to ask me and I will help you the best I can.

Thank you much, I'll be looking at the menu for a lunch special next week.

Can't say thanks enough----good vibes your way---->Kodiak 🍌

Peace,

iGro



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-25-2009, 04:01 PM #41

Kodiak
Mad Scientist




Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456

●●●●●●●●


Thanks for the good vibes 😊


I am sure that you will find a real winner among the strains that I mentioned.



[Got Some Seeds And Wanna Grow Weed?](#)

[Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning](#)





Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-25-2009, 06:02 PM #42

Stevius
Seeking

Join Date: Dec 2008
Location: Constantly Moving
Posts: 814

●●●●●●●●



Very nice my mate! Very nice!!!

KEEP ON!






Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-26-2009, 09:20 AM #43

early4surely
Member


Join Date: Sep 2007
Posts: 80

■

Great info man, nuff props although I'm not allowed to boost your karma due to lack of posts. Haven't yet had time to go through the whole thread, will have to circle back.

Bless you for sharing




Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-26-2009, 10:43 AM #44

Kodiak
Mad Scientist



It's all good. Information is only useful when it is shared with others 😊



[Got Some Seeds And Wanna Grow Weed?](#)

[Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning](#)

Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-26-2009, 10:59 AM

#45

ChaosCatalunya

Costa del Cheese :)



Join Date: Nov 2007
Location: Nr Barcelona
Posts: 3,218



this great guide truly deserves stickiness.... you managed to cover all bases with well written & balanced instructions, cant say I have ever read a better one.

.....

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

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The advertisement features a woman's face in a red headscarf on the left. The text reads: "Worldwide Shipping Premium Feminized Cannabis Seeds". On the right, there is a logo for "ROYAL QUEEN SEEDS" with a crown and a lion, and a button that says "Click here".

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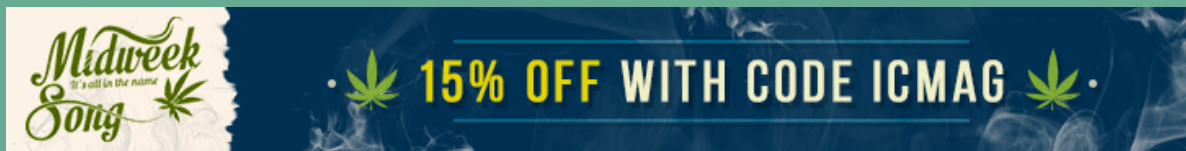
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A Cannabis Growing Guide - All that you need to know to get started

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02-27-2009, 02:06 PM

#46

Kodiak
Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456

Thanks :smile:

Here are some more pictures that I had to leave out of the guide due to limited space:

The foot-candle is equal to one lumen per square foot. Lumen is a measure of the perceived power of light. Full, unobstructed sunlight has an intensity of approximately 10,000 foot-candles.

Light Distance Chart HPS

This image has been resized. Click this bar to view the full image. The original image is sized 543x700.

High Pressure Sodium						
Foot-Candles Received from varying distances.						
This chart is in reference to the amount of light, not heat.						
	Lumen Output Of Bulb.		Wattage Of Bulb.		Inches From Bulb.	
	16,000	27,500	50,000	53,000	92,000	140,000
	150	250	400	430	600	1,000
4	45,837	78,782	143,239	151,834	263,561	401,070
5	29,335	50,420	91,673	97,174	168,679	256,685
6	20,372	35,014	63,662	67,482	117,138	178,254
7	14,967	25,725	46,772	49,578	86,061	130,962
8	11,459	19,695	35,810	37,958	65,890	100,268
9	9,054	15,562	28,294	29,992	52,061	79,224
10	7,334	12,605	22,918	24,293	42,170	64,171
11	6,061	10,417	18,941	20,077	34,851	53,034
12	5,093	8,754	15,915	16,870	29,285	44,563
13	4,340	7,459	13,561	14,375	24,952	37,971
14	3,742	6,431	11,693	12,395	21,515	32,740
15	3,259	5,602	10,186	10,797	18,742	28,521
16	2,865	4,924	8,952	9,490	16,473	25,067
17	2,538	4,362	7,930	8,406	14,592	22,205
18	2,264	3,890	7,074	7,498	13,015	19,806
19	2,032	3,492	6,349	6,729	11,681	17,776
20	1,833	3,151	5,730	6,073	10,542	16,043
21	1,663	2,858	5,197	5,509	9,562	14,551
22	1,515	2,604	4,735	5,019	8,713	13,259
23	1,386	2,383	4,332	4,592	7,972	12,131
24	1,273	2,188	3,979	4,218	7,321	11,141
25	1,173	2,017	3,667	3,887	6,747	10,267
26	1,085	1,865	3,390	3,594	6,238	9,493
27	1,006	1,729	3,144	3,332	5,785	8,803
28	935	1,608	2,923	3,099	5,379	8,185
29	872	1,499	2,725	2,889	5,014	7,630
30	815	1,401	2,546	2,699	4,686	7,130
31	763	1,312	2,385	2,528	4,388	6,678
32	716	1,231	2,238	2,372	4,118	6,267
33	673	1,157	2,105	2,231	3,872	5,893
34	634	1,090	1,983	2,102	3,648	5,551
35	599	1,029	1,871	1,983	3,442	5,238
36	566	973	1,768	1,874	3,254	4,951

Too Close To Bulb.
Optimal Distance Range.
Too Far From Bulb.



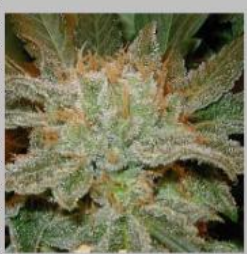
Created by: CaliGrower

Light Distance Chart MH

 This image has been resized. Click this bar to view the full image. The original image is sized 559x721.

Metal Halide						
Foot-Candles Received from varying distances.						
This chart is in reference to the amount of light, not heat.						
	Lumen Output Of Bulb.		Wattage Of Bulb.		Inches From Bulb.	
	5,500	6,500	14,000	20,000	36,000	110,000
	70	100	175	250	400	1,000
3	28,011	33,104	71,301	101,859	183,346	560,225
4	15,756	18,621	40,107	57,296	103,132	315,127
5	10,084	11,918	25,669	36,669	66,005	201,681
6	7,003	8,276	17,825	25,465	45,837	140,056
7	5,145	6,080	13,096	18,709	33,676	102,899
8	3,939	4,655	10,027	14,324	25,783	78,782
9	3,112	3,678	7,922	11,318	20,372	62,247
10	2,521	2,979	6,417	9,167	16,501	50,420
11	2,083	2,462	5,303	7,576	13,637	41,670
12	1,751	2,069	4,456	6,366	11,459	35,014
13	1,492	1,763	3,797	5,424	9,764	29,834
14	1,286	1,520	3,274	4,677	8,419	25,725
15	1,120	1,324	2,852	4,074	7,334	22,409
16	985	1,164	2,507	3,581	6,446	19,695
17	872	1,031	2,220	3,172	5,710	17,446
18	778	920	1,981	2,829	5,093	15,562
19	698	825	1,778	2,539	4,571	13,967
20	630	745	1,604	2,292	4,125	12,605
21	572	676	1,455	2,079	3,742	11,433
22	521	616	1,326	1,894	3,409	10,417
23	477	563	1,213	1,733	3,119	9,531
24	438	517	1,114	1,592	2,865	8,754
25	403	477	1,027	1,467	2,640	8,067
26	373	441	949	1,356	2,441	7,459
27	346	409	880	1,258	2,264	6,916
28	322	380	819	1,169	2,105	6,431
29	300	354	763	1,090	1,962	5,995
30	280	331	713	1,019	1,833	5,602
31	262	310	668	954	1,717	5,247
32	246	291	627	895	1,611	4,924
33	231	274	589	842	1,515	4,630
34	218	258	555	793	1,427	4,362
35	206	243	524	748	1,347	4,116

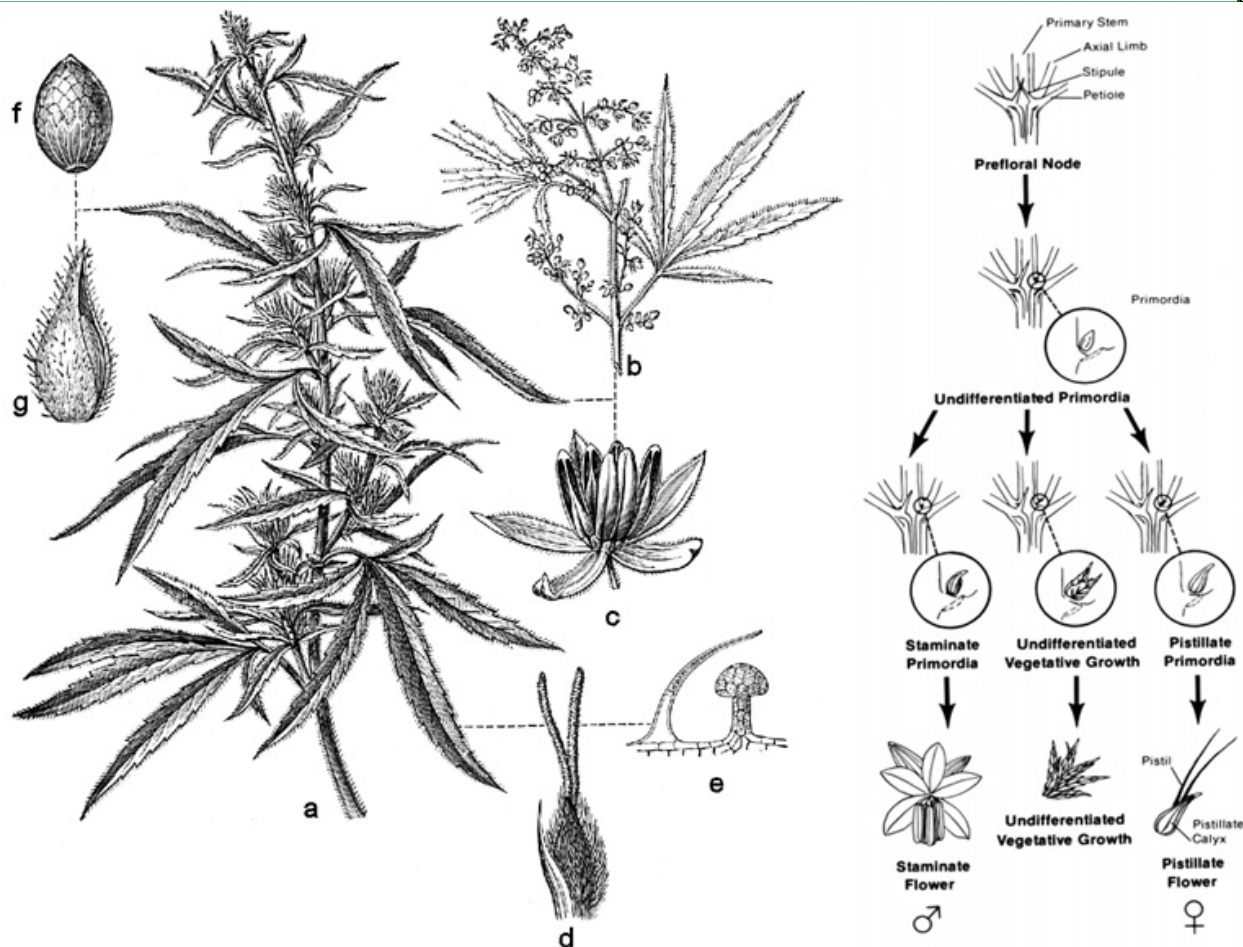
Too Close To Bulb.
Optimal Distance Range.
Too Far From Bulb.



Created by: CaliGrower

The credit goes to CaliGrower who created these charts in the first place. The charts are in imperial units so those more familiar with the metric system will have to use an online converter.

Also, here is a more detailed picture on the male and female flowers, as well as how they develop:



Note here that sometimes there is undifferentiated vegetative growth at the nodes that can be mistaken for male flowers, so when you are sexing your plants, make sure that you wait long enough to be sure before removing any plant from the grow. The undifferentiated and *staminate primordia* can resemble each other in the early stages of development.

One thing that is good to keep in mind is that if you see more than one distinct "pod" forming at the node, you are most likely looking at a male plant because females produce only one elongated *calyx* at each node. If the preflower starts splitting up into several "pods" you are looking at a male flower.



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

03-02-2009, 02:00 AM

47

Graffiti

Humble Member



Join Date: Dec 2008
Location: Suspect at large




phenomenal thread kodiak, more like a book lol. This one is getting bookmarked for probably many years of future reference. Shit I might even copy the whole thing and save it directly to my computer. Bravo, truly a great collection of knowledgeable information. Thank you and keep up the good work!



Graffiti, the Urban Guerrilla
Midwest for life!!!

Posts: 136

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

03-03-2009, 12:15 AM #48

Danknuggz
Member

Join Date: Feb 2009
Posts: 33




i have a question about your bubbler if u dont mind letting me know, i built one just like it .do u keep the bubbler on all the time or just when the lights are on or is it on a timer for a certain number of minutes on then off for a certain number of minutes?. thanks in advance for any help


Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

03-03-2009, 02:40 AM #49

Kodiak
Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



Thanks Graffiti and welcome to the thread Danknuggz. All questions are welcomed.

I keep the bubbler on 24/7 because the lights are also on all the time. The light that I use for the clones is just a 11w cfl kitchen light so I cannot put it on a timer even if I wanted. It's mostly a matter of convenience but it also seems like clones do well under 24h light. Just make sure that the plant you are cloning is well fed before you take the cuttings, that way the clones will last longer, which increases their chance of survival. Temperature also plays a key role in successful cloning, keep the water temp slightly higher than room temperature and the clones will do fine. I use a heating mat for that purpose.

I would keep the air flowing all the time even if you give them some darkness because oxygen is the most important component when it comes to the formation of new roots. There really is no reason to turn it off in my opinion. But if you do, I guess that 5 minute intervals four times an hour would be enough for the water to be properly oxygenated, maybe less.

Still, it's easier to just plug it in the bubbler and let it run all the time. Saves you the time to program two timers and gives your plants oxygen in abundance. When I was watching the clones I noticed that the rate at which the roots grow is directly related to the amount of oxygen available.

I have pulled some thirty healthy clones out of this thing and some clones rooted properly in just 6-7 days, with a total survival rate of about 90%. No more KIA's.

I cannot think of a better way to clone.


[Got Some Seeds And Wanna Grow Weed?](#)
[Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning](#)



 

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

03-14-2009, 09:01 AM #50

banjobrain
Guest


Posts: n/a



I agree with everyone else. I too, am a new grower and this is extremely helpful.

Perfect timing with my first grow about to get underway within a few weeks!

Thanks much for the information. You have gone above and beyond the norm in beginning a thread. Well done!

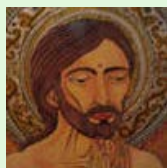
Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

03-14-2009, 01:59 PM

51

Kaneh

Pot Head Pixie



Join Date: Feb 2009
Location: In my Teapot-taxi
Posts: 387



Kodiak, that's great summary of growing MJ!

Back in the days before internet, I have read hundreds of pages and studied many hours about this subject. 🍌

You pretty much covered all I know (and much more) in your first post! 🍌

Starting growing is very easy nowadays.
When I started, just to get some books about the subject (or get seeds) we had to flight to Amsterdam!!! LOL.

Gotta love internet!

My autoflowering greenhouse nl 60:
<https://www.icmag.com/ic/showthread....38#post3781338>



Did you find this post helpful? Yes

03-14-2009,
10:41 PM

52

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



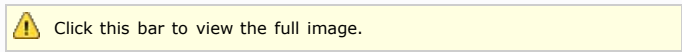
Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456

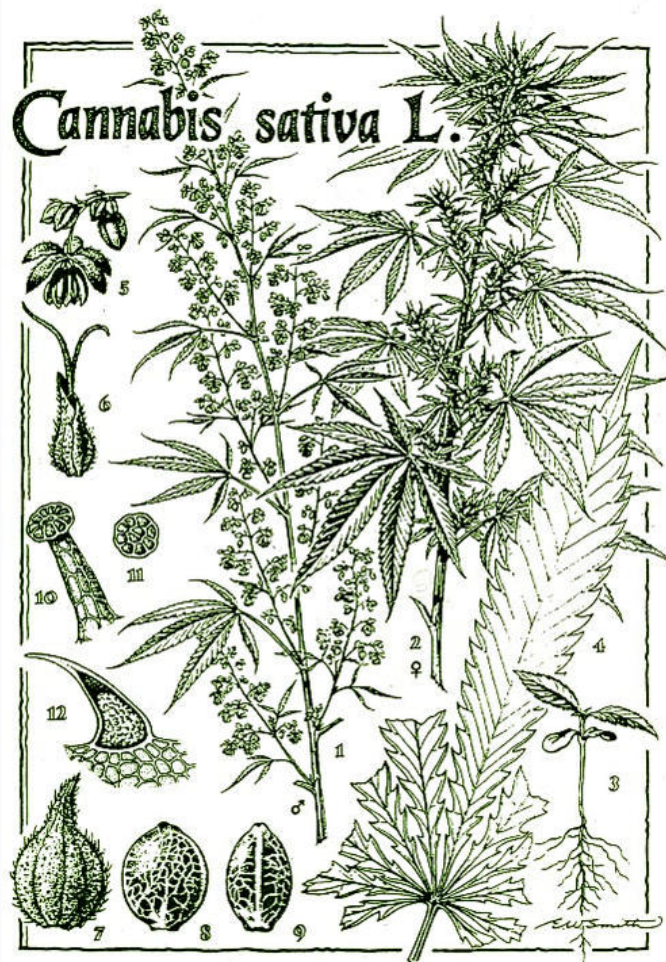


Thanks, I'm glad that you found the guide helpful 🍌


You are right Kaneh, finding information on how to grow is quite easy nowadays, but the good old books on marijuana growing should not be forgotten as they are also a great source of information.

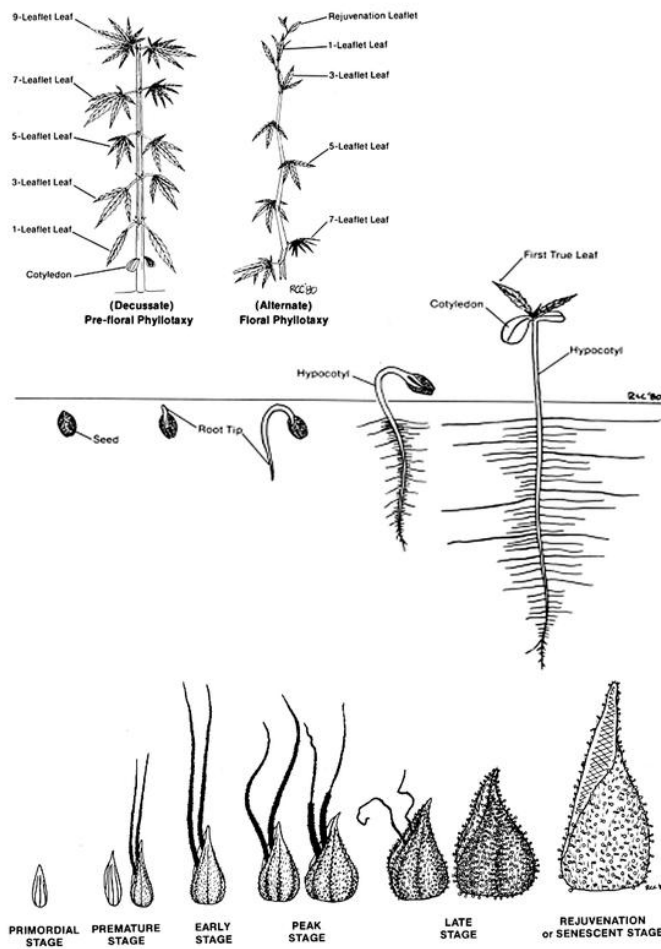
Here are some pictures that I left out as they were not essential to the guide.





Note the stages of development that the calyx goes through in this picture.

 Click this bar to view the full image.



Here is a picture by Phix that shows how the female calyx develops and when to harvest. This is however a rough guideline. The best way to know when to harvest is to look at the trichome development, like I stated in my guide.

Female flowers maturation
 (Typical Sativa/Indica hybrid with a 7-8 weeks flowering period)

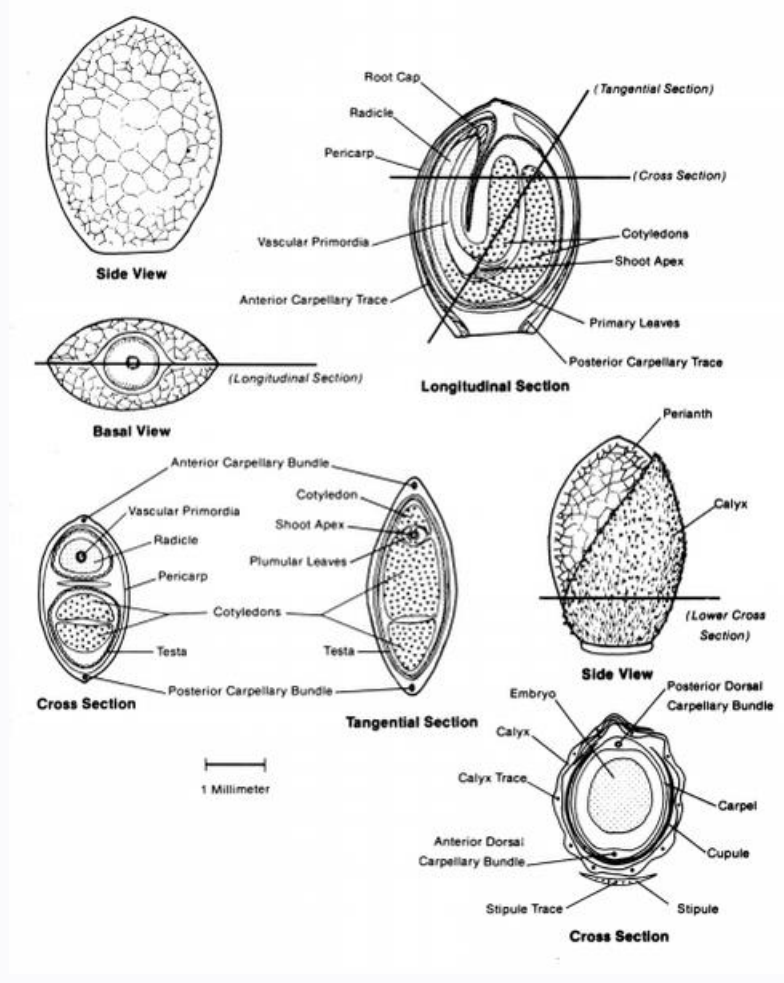


New flower 4-5 weeks 6-7 weeks Too late !

Original artwork by Phix

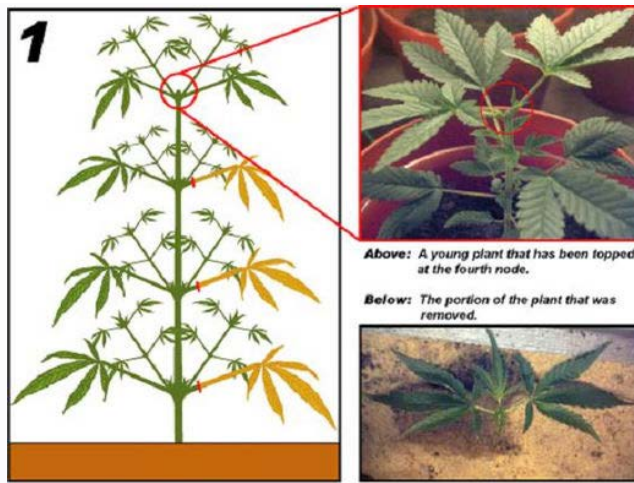
Seed information

⚠ This image has been resized. Click this bar to view the full image. The original image is sized 486x612.



Here are some detailed diagrams on how to LST train your plants, the credit goes to big_buddha for these excellent pics.

⚠ This image has been resized. Click this bar to view the full image. The original image is sized 790x800.



tutorial by big_buddha


Hello Everyone

A friend needed to know how to LST, so I drew some diagrams (maybe he was too stoned, but just explaining it to him didn't work!)

Here's the first diagram.

I generally start training my plants after they have grown to four or five nodes. Before training, I top the plant, you could also FIM technique. The whole point is to promote branching.

I also remove the fan leaves from one side of the plant, this is so they don't get in the way when we train the plant.

 This image has been resized. Click this bar to view the full image. The original image is sized 790x800.

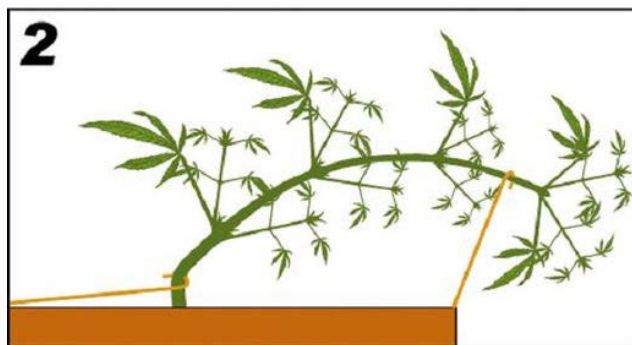


Diagram two. Here we have trained the plant. The first step is to secure one tie to the base of the stem, this stops the plant being pulled over and out of the soil. The second tie is used to pull the stem down. It is always better to train your plants when they are in need of water, this means they will be softer and more pliable. If you train the plant when it is freshly watered, the stems are much more rigid and can snap easily.

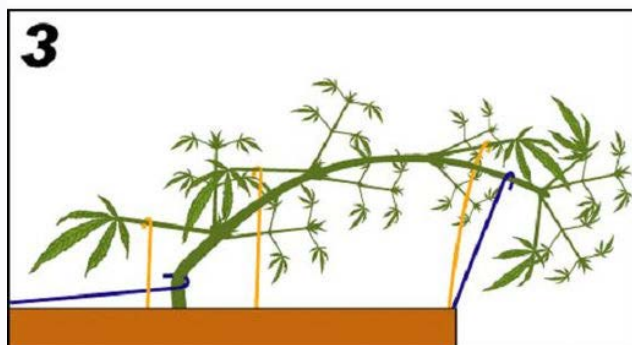


Diagram three. This illustrates how I tie down the fan leaves to allow more light to get to the side branches.

 This image has been resized. Click this bar to view the full image. The original image is sized 790x800.

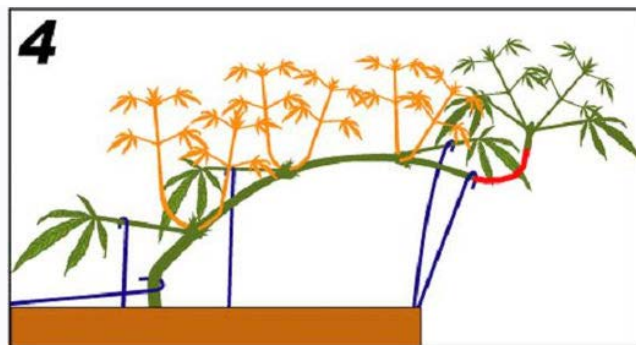


Diagram four illustrates how the side branches will begin to grow taller and the plant will adjust its growth.

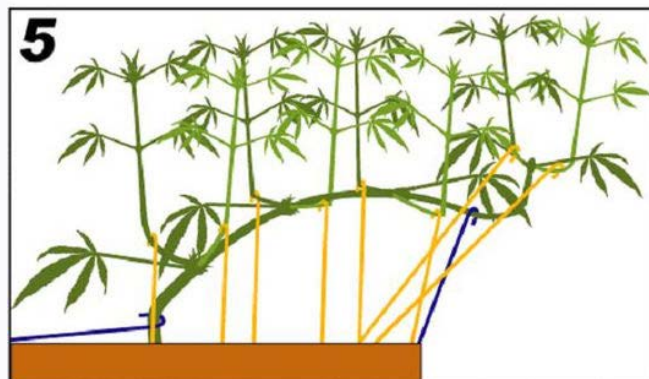


Diagram 5 illustrates how I use more ties to pull down the side branches to form an even canopy. I grow under fluoro tubes so my aim is to create a flat, level canopy.

In case you are interested in cannabis grafting, [here](#) is a link to the thread that I started on that topic. Grafting is mostly a novelty of the plant world but basically it is possible to create a multi-strain mother plant by grafting scions of different strains onto one plant. Anything is possible when it comes to grafting and arbor-crafting.



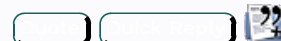
If you have any questions, feel free to ask. I will help you the best I can.

Keep it green :smile:



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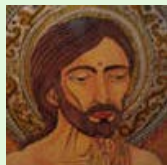
Did you find this post helpful? Yes No

03-15-2009, 05:06 AM

53

Kaneh

Pot Head Pixie



Join Date: Feb 2009

Location: In my Teapot-taxi
Posts: 387



Quote:

Originally Posted by **Kodiak**

You are right Kaneh, finding information on how to grow is quite easy with forums like this one, however, a big chunk of the information that I included in this post I learned by reading the good old books on marijuana growing. I have read them so many times that I almost know them by heart.

-Kodiak -

When I said that growing nowadays is easy, I ment that stuff like this thread makes it easy. (not that you got all this info easily)

But the information doesn't come to internet by itself. Somebody has to read the books, do experimenting and learn it the hard way. AND post it to some great forum like IC, which is more work.

People really should be gratefull to all experienced growers and kind folk that has chosed to give that information for free, for anybody to use.

My autoflowering greenhouse nl 60:

<https://www.icmag.com/ic/showthread....38#post3781338>



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

03-15-2009, 10:30 AM

#54

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008

Location: The Lab

Posts: 456



Sure, I see what you mean. It took me many years of research to get to the point where I could write a guide like this one from scratch. All the information was already there, I only had to type it out.

I made notes during every grow and when I put them in order it sort fell into place. I enjoy talking about weed and botany in general as I think that plants are marvelous. They were here long before us and pioneered this planet into the habitable gaia that we have today.

Plants made life on this planet possible and although they are seemingly simple in appearance and function, they are vastly more complex than mammals in many ways. I have always found it funny how plants have managed to fool animals into dispersing their seeds by making fruit that look delicious and taste good, it's all a scam 🌿

Actually it's more of a mutualistic relationship but quite clever nonetheless.

The simple fact that plants are autotrophic, meaning that they are capable of producing the energy they need themselves directly from sunlight, is nothing short of magic in a very real way.

Last but not least, they also provide the air that we breathe.

Happy Growing 😊



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

03-15-2009, 11:03 AM

#55

Equilibrium

Member



Join Date: Feb 2009

Location: Spain

Posts: 229



Kodiak, let me say your guide is awesome.

And I think the training pics you have in this page could be very useful in the main post.



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

03-15-2009, 11:15 AM

#56

Kodiak

Mad Scientist

Thanks Equilibrium. I agree that the training pics by big_buddha are great but the guide already contains the maximum amount of 25 pictures. I would probably have included more in the text as well but it is as long as the forum allows to the last dot.

I do things a bit differently than big_buddha. I usually top the plant first several times over, actually



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456
●●●●●●

above each new node. Once the plant starts to get bushier I tie down all the branches, which makes the plant fill the pot entirely and eventually grow into a bigger bush. Sometimes I have to tie the branches in a circular fashion along the edge of the pot. During all this time I rearrange the branches by tying them to each other and top and prune them as well, until I get a really wide and bushy plant with lots of nodes from top to bottom.

Different methods of *pruning* and training could make for a whole new guide in itself as it is an art form that takes some time to learn. I had to learn how to maximize the crop in a small space so that's where the LST training comes in, combined with topping and *pruning*. I usually train the plants for several months before flowering them as I am never in a hurry when it comes to growing. The stems are usually as thick as my thumb even before I flip the switch, so by end end of flowering the plants look more like small trees. The whole process takes a bit longer but I think that it's worth the wait.

Also the "investment planning" I mentioned in the guide is an important part of the training as the plant will distribute it's energy evenly to every part, removing the smaller branches makes the bigger ones stronger and so forth. I eventually remove almost all of the flowering nodes beneath the *scrog* net but I leave all the leafs and let the plant decide when to drop them. It draws the energy from them and when they turn yellow they drop by themselves.

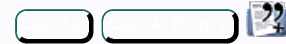
People who find this thread will probably end up on the page where the LST training pics can be found so it probably evens out in the end.

I could have expanded on every chapter of the guide but keeping the text shorter and untangled seemed like the right choice.



[Got Some Seeds And Wanna Grow Weed?](#)

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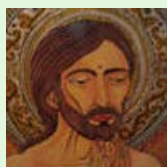


Did you find this post helpful? Yes

03-15-2009, 02:28 PM

#57

Kaneh
Pot Head Pixie



Join Date: Feb 2009
Location: In my Teapot-taxi
Posts: 387
■

Quote:

Originally Posted by **Kodiak**

I think that plants are marvelous. They were here long before us and pioneered this planet into the habitable gaia that we have today.

Plants made life on this planet possible and although they are seemingly simple in appearance and function, they are vastly more complex than mammals in many ways. I have always found it funny how plants have managed to fool animals into dispersing their seeds by making fruit that look delicious and taste good, it's all a scam

Actually it's more of a mutualistic relationship but quite clever nonetheless.

The simple fact that plants are autotrophic, meaning that they are capable of producing the energy they need themselves directly from sunlight, is nothing short of magic in a very real way.

Last but not least, they also provide the air that we breathe.

Happy Growing :smile:



Dude, Your my hero!



My autoflowering greenhouse nl 60:
<https://www.icmag.com/ic/showthread....38#post3781338>



Did you find this post helpful? Yes

03-15-2009, 03:16 PM

#58

Equilibrium

Member



Join Date: Feb 2009
Location: Spain
Posts: 229

Quote:

Originally Posted by **Kodiak**

Thanks Equilibrium. I agree that the training pics by big_buddha are great but the guide already contains the maximum amount of 25 pictures. I would probably have included more in the text as well but it is as long as the forum allows to the last dot.

I do things a bit differently than big_buddha. I usually top the plant first several times over, actually above each new node. Once the plant starts to get bushier I tie down all the branches, which makes the plant fill the pot entirely and eventually grow into a bigger bush. Sometimes I have to tie the branches in a circular fashion along the edge of the pot. During all this time I rearrange the branches by tying them to each other and top and prune them as well, until I get a really wide and bushy plant with lots of nodes from top to bottom.

Different methods of pruning and training could make for a whole new guide in itself as it is an art form that takes some time to learn. I had to learn how to maximize the crop in a small space so that's where the LST training comes in, combined with topping and pruning. I usually train the plants for several months before flowering them as I am never in a hurry when it comes to growing. The stems are usually as thick as my thumb even before I flip the switch, so by the end of flowering the plants look more like small trees. The whole process takes a bit longer but I think that it's worth the wait.

Also the "investment planning" I mentioned in the guide is an important part of the training as the plant will distribute its energy evenly to every part, removing the smaller branches makes the bigger ones stronger and so forth. I eventually remove almost all of the flowering nodes beneath the scrog net but I leave all the leaves and let the plant decide when to drop them. It draws the energy from them and when they turn yellow they drop by themselves.

People who find this thread will probably end up on the page where the LST training pics can be found so it probably evens out in the end.

I could have expanded on every chapter of the guide but keeping the text shorter and untangled seemed like the right choice.

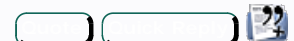
You're more than right about keeping the text short.

Your training technique seems so awesome... You really need to do another thread about *pruning* and training. I like how you explain things and your philosophy about plants is just great.

Can I bother you a bit later with my plants to see what do you think it's best for them? I'm not sure what to do and I don't want to screw up... If you have some time only.

I am not an English native. Please forgive my grammatical/spelling mistakes. Don't hesitate to correct me.

Last edited by Equilibrium; 03-15-2009 at 03:25 PM.. Reason: Grammar



Did you find this post helpful? Yes

03-15-2009, 09:01 PM

#59

Kodiak

Mad Scientist

Thanks 😊

I could write up another guide where I would focus only on the training & *pruning* aspect of growing, starting from when the plants are young until they go into flowering. I have a whole bunch



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456
●●●●●●

of pics that I have taken over the year so maybe I have enough material for a separate guide on that topic. I could include the LST training pics in that thread as they give a very good general picture of the technique.

When it comes to training and *pruning* I always go by what the plant tells me, every plant gets a slightly different treatment. Even the same plant can take on many different forms when grown from clones.

Sure thing Equilibrium, I'll have a look at your plants later on. They looked good so far in my book, just keep up what you are doing and they will be fine. I don't think that you have to worry too much about screwing up, it is a weed after all so it will make the most out of any situation.

Your setup looks good and the plants also look good at this stage with quite tight internodes 🙌 You could top them a couple of times soon if you like bushier plants, but they will most likely grow into huge christmas trees with the 1000w blasting them with light so it's a matter of preference. The yellowing of the leafs you mentioned in the infirmary is nothing to worry about. It's really minor and the plants look healthy all and all. Once you have found the nutrient limit for your plants adjust your feeding schedule. Don't feed them too much or they will get nutrient burn or nutrient lock-out problems. Water them and feed them enough but not too much or too often, go by the colour of the leafs. If the leafs have a dark green colour the plant has all the nutrients it can take for the time being. Give them pure *ph* adjusted water every now and then, that should ensure that they don't get too much. Feed more if the leafs turn a lighter colour.

Also, there will always be some yellowing of the leafs in a mature plant as it relocates energy all the time so no need to worry.

It is good to let the pots dry out completely now and then as cannabis plants don't like wet feet, but I understand you have that covered. Some plants are nutrient hungry and others prefer less, this is individual and even plants of the same strain can react differently when it comes to nutes.

Once they are a week or two into flowering it's good to give them a boost of phosphorus (P) as that will also help them trigger full bloom. You still have to keep feeding them nitrogen (N) and potassium (K) in smaller doses as well as *trace* metals and other micro nutrients that are important for the development of the flowers. Nowadays I know how to feed them just by looking at the plants.

On top of the beneficial micro-organisms that I plant in the soil, I also use growth hormones, root stimulators, nutrient uptake boosters, and soil enhancers throughout the entire grow. That's a lot of different nutes but the sum of all these things keep the plants healthy and I have one less thing to worry about. I'm sure that plant will grow on less (it's weed 🌿) but I believe that if you provide the optimal growing condition for the plants they will have the chance to show their full potential.



[Got Some Seeds And Wanna Grow Weed?](#)

[Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning](#)



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)



03-16-2009, 07:39 PM

60

Equilibrium

Member



Join Date: Feb 2009
Location: Spain
Posts: 229
■

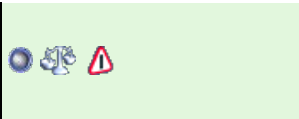
Thanks for the answer Kodiak!

I've taken note of all your precious advices. Growing seems so simple with you. 😊

Precisely I don't really now if I'm going to top them or no... but that's another story and I don't mean to hijack this great thread.

Honestly I hope you will take the time to do a training guide, it would be awesome. Nice job again.

I am not an English native. Please forgive my grammatical/spelling mistakes. Don't hesitate to correct me.



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A Cannabis Growing Guide - All that you need to know to get started

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03-17-2009, 12:33 PM #61

Kodiak
Mad Scientist

Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456

⬢⬢⬢⬢⬢

⚙️ 🗑️ ⚠️

I wrote up a guide on topping, training and *pruning* called:
[A complete guide to topping, training and pruning](#)

I will also include a link to this text in the main guide.

I hope that you will find it helpful 😊

🌿😊

Got Some Seeds And Wanna Grow Weed?

Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning

🌿😊

🗨️

Did you find this post helpful? **Yes**

03-18-2009, 05:01 PM

#62

JQP

Comfortably numb



Join Date: Feb 2009
 Location: Rural New York State
 Posts: 279



I finally read through this whole thing today Kodiak, and it is excellent. I just built a grow closet within the last month, and was so excited about growing pot again after being out of it for a couple decades. The amount of info on the net is amazing to me, as an old fart that went to college back in the slide rule days.

Probably this weekend I will swap out my 150W HPS for a 175W MH, and at the same time get a timer in there and take it off 24 hour and go to 20/4. I've got two 175W MH and 4 150W HPS, just not all ready to go in. I've been "adapting" them from some used parking garage lights I found on craigslist for 10 bucks apiece. My idea was originally going to do CFL, but then this deal came up on craigslist, so I figured what the heck.

I have some problems with my first seedlings, which resulted from the few bag seeds I had around. I have since got some more bag seed from an outdoor grow of a buddy's from last year that I will try and start some this weekend and see if I can get something better going. I jsut posted some pics over on the 150HPS forum if you had a bit of time to look. They're the last post right now...

<https://www.icmag.com/ic/showthread.php?t=20729&page=323>

Your little ditty here got me thinking about a lot of things, and I truly appreciate the advice. One of these days I'll save up some cash and head up to Ontario and get some "real" store bought seed!

JQ



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

03-18-2009, 05:42 PM

#63

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
 Location: The Lab
 Posts: 456



Thanks for the input JQP and welcome back to ganja farming :smile:

I had a look at your plants and they don't look as bad as you probably think. It's hard to tell as I can't see the colour of the leafs because the light from the HPS turns everything yellow. If you feel that they are stunted or start to look dwarfed, I have a few suggestions.

Repot them into larger pots and add some larger pebbles to the soil so that the roots can spread more easily. The reason why I am suggesting repotting is because I have found that jiffy pots are bad for several reasons, one being that they invite mold. Secondly, once you have repotted them, flush them really well once by showering them for a minute or two. Then give them a weak/medium strong nutrient solution later that day or the next and wait. I'm betting that they will start to pick up after that, especially when you bring in the metal halides.

In my experience those soil *ph* meters are not that good, I stuck mine in a lemon and it still read 7, go figure. Yours look a bit more advanced so it might be a better one. I recommend that you get a *ph* drop test kit or litmus paper so that you can measure the *ph* of you tapwater just so you know. Then when you add the nutrients you'll need some *ph+* and *ph-* in order to adjust the solution closer to 6 or 7. The easier alternative is that you place some fertilizer in the soil while you are repotting, then all you have to add is water for up to 4 to 6 weeks.

I also use 20/4 for seedling as I like to give the plants but especially my equipment time to rest now and then. Then I gradually drop the daylight hours to 12/12, usually stopping at 18/6 and 15/9 as this reduces the stretch somewhat. I also keep the MH going for about 10 days into flowering as it also helps to reduce the stretch.

When it comes to seeds I can recommend getting some from a reputable seed bank. The seeds are easy enough to order online and you can get a pack of good seeds for 15 bucks so they are not necessarily that expensive. Take all the Nirvana strains for example, I have grown a whole bunch of them and I liked every single plant that spouted from those seeds. White Label also have some good and inexpensive seeds like Double Gum and White Skunk/Bud Bunnie (White Widow x Super Skunk), now how could you go wrong with that mix 🌿

These are only a few but you will find that Dutch Passion, Sensi Seeds, Nirvana, Mandala, The Flying Dutchmen and many more seeds banks carry inexpensive but extremely nice strains. It's worth the effort to invest in some proven genetics unless you are sure that the seeds you get from friends are something special. Personally I also like to know what I am growing so that is why I do not grow mixed seeds at all.

I hope that was of some help 😊



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[Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning](#)



Did you find this post helpful? Yes



03-18-2009, 07:34 PM

#64

JQP

Comfortably numb



Join Date: Feb 2009
Location: Rural New York State
Posts: 279



That's a big help Kodiak, thanks. Just getting this grow room built was a major accomplishment. Years ago there was no internet, and we just sort of figured stuff out. That was always with 4' tubes though.

I know I'm impatient, but I'll get this sorted out, in great measure due to assistance I have gotten from folks like you. I'm a fast learner. And I have a dedicated space now. Never had anything like this before!

I am a bit hesitant to order seeds over the net. Or should I say paranoid? I figured if I could get some of this bag weed to grow, that would do till I could get up to Canada and bring some seed back. I can probably get to Canada this summer. I'm real broke till after 4/15.

Thanks again. Enjoy yer evening.

JQ

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

03-19-2009, 05:52 AM

65

JQP

Comfortably numb



Join Date: Feb 2009
 Location: Rural New York State
 Posts: 279



Kodiak - white light pics

Top of the morning to you Kodiak!

I pulled my little aluminum baking tray out this a.m. (didn't even crumple it!) and took some pics of the plants under a white cfl. This is Day 18 from germination.

Any further thoughts would be greatly appreciated.

I know you are not a fan of bag seed, but I separated about 50 seeds from a bag of pot this a.m. This grow I have now started with only 9 seeds of which these pics here are the 4 that germinated. Until I can get up to Canada and get some store bought stuff, this is the best I can do.

I am somewhat philosophic about it, as I am really not a connoisseur. I figure if I could just get one good female and clone it, at least I wouldn't have to hassle buying pot all the time. That is my goal, just having a personal stash.

Sometime between now and Saturday I need to find some 10 liter or 3 gallon pots, and follow your previous pointers.

Thanks again,

JQ

Attached Thumbnails



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

03-19-2009, 09:06 AM

66

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008

Try to get the metal halides over the plants as soon as possible as they look like they need it. You should give those plants plenty of fresh water as soon as possible in order to flush out any problems in the soil and then start from scratch by adding a weakish nutrient solution. They seem to be suffering from several different problems. What have you been feeding them?

Don't get me wrong, the holy grail of plants can also be found in a stash of bag seeds. I just prefer to know the complete lineage of each plant and I have spent countless hours researching strains. Sort of a hobby that comes with the trade.

Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



I always send in cash when I'm ordering seeds, that way I don't leave any paper trail. It has worked well for me so far.

It's highly possible that you will find a good plant among the seeds that you have since you have so many to chose from. If you can fit more plants into your grow room, you could consider starting 20 or even 30 seeds. Assume that half of the plants will be male and that 50% of the females will be superior to the other half. That would leave you with 7-8 good females to chose from.

When it comes to pots, plastic buckets are fairly inexpensive and serve well as plant containers. For now, shower the plants with lots of water and then give them the weakish nutrient solution. I think that your best bet would be to mix nutrients into the soil when repotting. I always do that because then the plants will have something to fall back on. Chemical fertilizers are a bit strong and I prefer to keep my grow organic but both methods will work just fine.

Hopefully your plants will start to pick up soon :smile:



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

03-19-2009, 03:55 PM

#67

JQP

Comfortably numb



Join Date: Feb 2009
Location: Rural New York State
Posts: 279



Thanks Kodiak,

I've got two MH's but can only find one right now. ;>} I'll find it.

In the meantime, I have only one reflector, but I'll try swapping it out tonight for the one MH I know where it is. It is really all set up, just the bulb mounts different in the reflector, so I need to drill a few new holes. No biggie, I'm good at that!

Soon as I find the other one, I'll get it set up. I scavenged these lights out of a parking garage, so they need a bit of work to get ready. Plus when I get paid Friday I have to get another cheap mailbox, convert it to a reflector for my other MH.

I've been giving them fresh water, but am concerned about over-watering. I water by weight, and they seem to have plenty of water, but maybe not where the roots are?

We live in the country and have well water. The water I use for the plants comes from our HERO system, a sophisticated filtering system under out kitchen sink that we use only for drinking and cooking. It's highly filtered stuff, but I do not know the *ph*. I need to get some strips somewhere if I can find them. I was a science major back in the early 70's and know

how to use them!

I was feeding the plants liquid Miracle Grow, first watering 25%, second watering 50%, third watering 75%, then 100% according to the directions on the fertilizer squeezer bottle. Then I dropped back to water for two waterings, then 15%, then back to plain water.

If I start all over again, how about a tip as to what sort of soil you use and what kind of fertilizer do you mix in, and at what ratios? That would be very helpful.

My grow room is about 32" X 50" X 85" (81 cm X 127 cm X 216 cm), so I have plenty of room for a bunch of seedlings. If I start the 45 I picked out this a.m., space shouldn't be a problem for a while. I have a couple dual bulb 4' flores with daylight bulbs (6500 lumens) and could use those of the MH (long as I find the other one). I was thinking maybe to do 2 MH and 1 HPS for veg, then 2 HPS and 1 MH for flowering. We'll see. That means I need two mailboxes.

I haven't looked at them since I got home. figured I'd see what you had to say first, then go down, see how they're doing.

Thanks again for the help Kodiak, we're getting there. I'll keep you posted on my progress.

Have a great evening!

JQ





Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

03-19-2009, 05:21 PM

#68

charlesweedmore

life is beautiful



Join Date: Jan 2009
Location: the " ISLAND "
Posts: 404



dude that topic is great !



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

03-19-2009, 06:24 PM

#69

JQP

Comfortably numb

Kodiak: New 175W MH, mounted and functional

Got a 175W MH light up just now. We'll see how it goes. If nothing else, pics will come out better! ;>}



Join Date: Feb 2009
Location: Rural New York State
Posts: 279



More to come.

JQ

Attached Thumbnails



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

03-20-2009, 07:35 AM #70

Kodiak
Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456

Thanks charlesweedmore, I'm glad that people are finding the guide useful.

JPQ, let the soil dry out completely for now and then repot. what I can tell from that last picture is that they are probably suffering from over watering and possibly *ph* fluctuations from the saturated soil as well as nutrient deficiencies or lock-outs.

The 2 MH and 1 HPS for veg, then 2 HPS and 1 MH for flowering seems like a winning formula to me 👍 Plants actually prefer a little bit of light from the other spectrum when they are in vegetative growth and flowering respectively.

When I make my soil mix, I mix guano, blood meal, ash of birch, mineral sand and naturally the vulcaponic and clay pebbles so that the soil does not pack into mud when I'm watering. It's important that the roots can spread easily throughout the pot. This mix lasts them for as long as I veg them, which is usually 2-3 months, then I start adding liquid nutrients from BioBizz and BioNova when they go into flowering. I can't give you an exact ratio for the mix as I just measure by hand and add what I think is good. Strong but not too strong.

Since you live in the country I bet that you could get your hands on some compost, just about the best thing that you can give to your plants. Compost usually contain beneficial micro-organism as well as mycorrhiza and all the nutrients that plants need. That would make for an excellent organic grow.

Get them into bigger pots and start over from scratch. All of this will even out when you repot them and add the nutrient mix. Keep in mind though that smaller plants burn more easily so add nutrients wisely.

Let's hope that they pick up 😊

If you have any more problems with your plants I suggest that you start a thread in the infirmary as there you will get a definite solution to your

problem.



Got Some Seeds And Wanna Grow Weed?

Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

03-20-2009, 03:56 PM

#71

JQP

Comfortably numb



Join Date: Feb 2009
Location: Rural New York State
Posts: 279



Thanks again Kodiak,

I definitely believe they are over-watered, and the *ph* is a too high. Tomorrow the little woman and I are gonna go out and do some shopping for better "stuff."

Your soil mix is a bit beyond me, but I'll take a copy along and see what's up. I'm thinking a bunch of vermiculite, some better soil (whatever that might be!) and some pea gravel. I'll have to figure out some way to deal with the *ph* too.

I'll replant these babies, but don't have high hopes (no pun intended) for them. I'm going to start some new seeds anyways in vermiculite and get ready to put whatever I got into a mix like I used many moons ago, essentially lots of vermiculite and soil, maybe peat moss? I don't know, I got to do some studying tonight and tomorrow morning before we go out. I need some litmus paper and a timer too, and another mailbox.

My wife has been talking about doing a compost thing, we just haven't done it yet. We grow lots of veges.

I started a thread in the infirmary a while ago, didn't get much response.

Enjoy your weekend.

JQ

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

03-21-2009, 11:53 AM

#72

Kodiak

Mad Scientist

Since you grow vegetables, you probably know how to grow tomatoes. It's the same thing, whatever tomatoes like, cannabis will also like.

I also grow a lot of vegetables, chili, herbs and tobacco during the summer time. The sweet taste from organically grown vegetables is the best, you can't get vegetables that taste that good from the store as the sugars in the vegs starts converting into starch as soon as they are picked from the plant.



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



If anybody has any more questions, I'll be happy to answer them, especially if you are wondering about something that I forgot to include in the guide.

Keep it Green 🌿😊



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

03-24-2009, 12:55 AM

#73

Kodiak
Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



I made some changes and updated the guide with a diagram that illustrates how *thc* is biosynthesized inside the *trichome*. Now the whole thing makes more sense as you can look at the picture while reading the text.



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03-24-2009, 07:28 PM

#74

JQP
Comfortably numb



Make this thread a sticky!

Please...

JQ

Join Date: Feb 2009
Location: Rural New York
State
Posts: 279



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

03-24-2009,
08:32 PM

#75

gladysvjobb

Member



Join Date: Apr 2007
Posts: 458



PLEASE make this thread a sticky

Nice job. Certainly not written by a Charles Manson look alike that "The Old Guard" makes the unknowing believe.

UP THE REVOLUTION! Die in revolution!



This certainly deserves STICKY status.

And remember kids, *always* use Grandma's Molasses at 1 teaspoon per gallon for your last few waterings, you'll be glad you did.....check on ebay for Grandma's, I found a couple there.

<https://www.icmag.com/ic/showthread.p...light=molasses>

Home distilled water: Check on ebay for countertop distillers.

Insects got you down? Try **HOTSHOT** No Pest Strips (NPS). Say goodbye to spider mites, etc.

\$20 Hash Press

<https://www.icmag.com/ic/showthread.php?t=47524>

Fully contained self watering planters:

<http://www.naturalspring.com/natsprinplan.html>

How to transplant stress free:

<https://www.icmag.com/ic/showthread.p...94#post1500194>

Need durable Plant Markers? Cut an old venetian blind to your size and label with a **Sharpie!**

Overgrow the world

*******ANYBODY** for President *****

The only WOODSTOCK I saw was the WOODSTOCK of my M-14 rifle.



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03-25-2009, 01:17 AM

#76

Kodiak
Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



No Charlie Mansons here. I am glad that you found the guide useful.



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

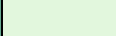
04-03-2009, 12:26 PM

#77

Kodiak
Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



I added a link to an indepth study of cannabinoids and the *THC* bio-synthesis.

It really is a good read so here is the link if you do not want to search through the guide for it:

[THC \(TETRAHYDROCANNABINOL\) ACCUMULATION IN GLANDS OF CANNABIS \(CANNABACEAE\)](#)

One does not need to know all this information in order to grow good bud, but it clarifies the reason why we have to look at the trichomes in order to know when to harvest. The amount of *capitate*-stalked glandular trichomes and the quality of the *cannabinoid* oil within them is of crucial importance when it comes to the potency of the final product.



[Got Some Seeds And Wanna Grow Weed?](#)

[Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning](#)



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

04-23-2009, 05:44 PM

#78

Persistence

Persistence



Join Date: Mar 2009
Location: EastCoast
Posts: 93



Thank you Kodiak, for taking the time and writing up this usefull thread! Good thread to look back at when things get out of hand at times..



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

04-25-2009, 08:14 PM

#79

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



Thanks Persistence, I am glad that you liked the guide.



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

06-04-2009, 11:08 PM

#80

NateDizz

ICMag Guitar Shredder



Join Date: May 2009
Location: Canada
Posts: 439



Hey Kodiak, just wanted to congratulate you on a great thread!

I've read this thread about 100 times now and I'll be starting my first grow this weekend with most of my plans based directly on your information and instruction. It's the easiest to follow and most complete instruction I've ever found in one spot and the pictures make it that much better. I know most of this stuff inside and out now (atleast in mind, hopefully I'll be able to apply it) and I'm very confident that my results will out-do all original expectations.

I'll be growing in a closet with a 400w MH lamp for vegging and a 400w HPS lamp for flowering. I've received ten B-52 Bomber seeds from Almighty Seeds and I'm very excited to get started. Any input on these seeds or my setup? Here's a link.....

<http://www.canadianseedexchange.com/....aspx?itemid=5>

Anyways, thanks again and I'll be sure to let you know how it goes!

P4P - Mauricio Rua

- Heavyweight** - Cain Velasquez
- Light Heavyweight** - Rafael Cavalcante
- Middleweight** - Brian Stann
- Welterweight** - Anthony Johnson
- Lightweight** - Melvin Guillard
- Featherweight** - Jose Aldo
- Bantamweight** - Michael McDonald
- Flyweight** - Alexandre Pantoja



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

06-05-2009, 01:30 AM

#81

Kodiak
Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456
●●●●●●

Sounds good Nate, Best of luck with your grow man.

The MH/HPS combination is a perfect mix. Plants love the MH in veg. Remember to foliar feed. You can leave the MH bulb in for the first week or so of 12/12 in order to reduce the stretch, that's what I do. I'm glad that you found the information useful, there are a few pointers in there that I had to learn the hard way. Harvest the plant when she's ready, it might take a few weeks longer than what's promised on the pack so be patient.

I'm sure that your grow will be good one.

Keep it green



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

06-11-2009, 12:57 PM

#82

basscadet
Member



Join Date: Dec 2008
Location: Grow it!> Growers Forum> Micro Grows
Posts: 222
●●●●

Great guide Kodiak. I'm always heading back here when things go wrong in the garden.

This really should be a sticky, even if it's just so I don't have to cycle through pages lol

Rep'd ya!

110100100

[The ICMag Writers Group/Circle](#)

[First grow, Gigabud and White Skunk in a PC](#) (completed)

[3 plants in a pc PSU](#) (perpetual)



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

06-12-2009, 11:49 AM

#83

Kodiak
Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456
●●●●●●

Thanks basscadet. I really appreciate all the positive feedback and I'm glad that so many are finding the guide useful.

Growing weed is a neverending learning experience. Just when you think that you have seen it all, something new pops up. However, the more you know, the easier it gets.

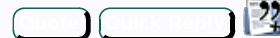
It truly is an amazing plant.

Keep growing that golden herb



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

06-18-2009, 03:44 AM

#84

dtremayne
STONED



Join Date: Apr 2009
Location: Incognito
Posts: 162

This is my only one that the tips are yellowing... i just transplanted out of seedling mix, been using only distilled water. new soil is 1pt. mushroom compost, 1pt. peat moss, 1 pt. foxfarm chunky perlite. with 1 and a half tbs of cottonseed meal, bone and blood meal, *kelp* meal, and dolomite lime. Any ideas? the others are all healthy and green as hell!

This image has been resized. Click this bar to view the full image. The original image is sized 942x384.



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

06-21-2009, 08:23 AM

#85

Kodiak
Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456

Hi dtremayne. That soil mix sounds really good. The topmost leaves seem healthy so it might just be a minor problem. You could remove the two yellowing lower leaves so that the plant does not spend any more energy on them. Try removing the leaves and see if the rest of the plant stays healthy. Once it grows larger and has more roots it will be able to take up more nutrients and problems like this will buffer themselves out. The problem could be overwatering.

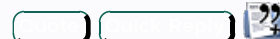
It is not unusual for the lower leaves to go yellow at some point or another. In this case I suspect that the plant simply does not have enough energy to support them since it's roots are still small. You could also foliar feed the healthy leaves just to make sure that the plant gets enough nutes at this early stage. Make a weak nutrient solution and spray it underneath and on top of the leaves, your other plants will benefit from this as well. The added nutes will make them grow faster and the high humidity will keep them nice and healthy. I always use a humidifier in veg in order to bump up the RH or alternatively foliar feed them several times a day for the same effect. Plants love this.

If the problem persists and moves up along the stem you should probably post some pics in the infirmary in order to get help.



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

08-22-2009, 02:11 AM

#86

Brodie
Guest

Yeah definitely gave ya some rep for this one. Just started growing after reading on this forum for a year. I still learned many things I didn't know from your guide. Thanks for all the great info.

Posts: n/a



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

08-22-2009, 09:29 AM

#87

Kodiak
Mad Scientist

Thanks Brodie, I'm glad that you found it useful.



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

08-29-2009, 09:30 AM

#88

CaptainStoner
Gettin' baked since 1998

cheers man, answered a question i'd been fuming over, great thread

Join Date: Jun 2008
Posts: 394



I'd smoke weed in my sleep if i could figure out how to skin up by feel..
Does being on fire count as fixed?
iLike Me.

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

08-29-2009, 10:45 AM

#89

Kodiak
Mad Scientist

No worries m8, I'm glad that you found the answer to your question.



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



Keep it green and enjoy



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[Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning](#)



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

09-08-2009, 02:31 PM

#90

Rooster449

Thanks Kodiak, This Is A Great Way To Learn. Am Im So New It Takes All My Time Reading This

Guest

Posts: n/a



Stuff To Get In My Thick Head. Thanks Again

Rooster449

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Did you find this post helpful? Yes

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A Cannabis Growing Guide - All that you need to know to get started

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09-10-2009, 03:06 PM #91

Rooster449 Guest Posts: n/a

Kodiak- Thanks for all the help with your Posts On Here This is my firt grow of any kind and its in Coco. I started from seeds i dont no what strain But Im having fun growing them. Im using a 150 HPS as of now and going to a 400 HPS in a week for my 12-12 I have got some clones started of my little girls. But im still reading and learning so let me no what you all thing so far. Have a great day and a better one tomarrow Rooster449

Did you find this post helpful? Yes

09-12-2009, 12:47 PM #92

Kodiak Mad Scientist

Everything is looking good there Rooster 🍌 Looks like you have most of it dialed in already.



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



Your plants look like an indica/sativa mix, somewhat delicate stems but quite frequent nodes though, also thanks to the training. You will definitely have to provide some kind of support during flowering or the stems will break under the weight of the buds. You can use string or a *scrog* net for that purpose.

Your plants could probably also use a bit more light, that 400w HPS will do them good. Since this is your first grow don't worry too much about anything, just relax and watch the plants grow. You'll learn a whole lot during the first grow and as they say; practise makes perfect.

Seems like you have a green thumb and a knack for growing. Your plants are off to a good start so all I can say is good luck and have fun.



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

09-25-2009, 10:43 PM

#93

[dewroc6](#)

Member

Join Date: Sep 2009
Location: Earth
Posts: 53



awesome thread



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

09-27-2009, 06:39 PM

#94

[chef](#)

Gene Mangler



Join Date: Sep 2008
Location: N of 45N
Posts: 1,133



Nice guide, just have some issues with your *photoperiod* info.

After 30+yrs, I'm convinced that plants do absolutely nothing in the dark, except wait impatiently for the phukin light to come back on lol 🍄

The MAJOR wear on bulbs & ballasts is from firing the bulb, not heat or lack of cooling down periods.

The electric savings is negligible & you lose out on all the benefits of 24/0 I'm running 20on/4off on my *HIDs* only for summer midday heat issues, my T5's keep'em lit 24/0 still.

The upside to a 24/0 veg is...

It gives you an extra days growth for every 4 @18/6 or 6 @ 20/4. It adds up!

They flip in 1/2 the time when they hit 12/12 also. Its a blackout bitchslap, the hormones are raging overnight!

I bud at 13/11 & pick up 2-3 days extra growth in a 60 day flower cycle too.
 Again, it all adds up. There ain't no silver bullets, although big pots are close.

The other thing was the 4 dark periods in your 20/4 method?
 That is really asking for it IMHO, especially for a noob guide.
 Just curious? Where'd you get the pic of the hemie female in your guide?

Like you said... there are arctic regions where 24hr light periods are normal, NOWHERE in the history of our planet has plantlife ever been subjected to a 5on/1off *photoperiod*.
 5on/1off is something I'd do if I wanted to try & stress herm some on purpose. Add a little heat stress & voila! Fem seeds lol

Hope ya don't take this the wrong way, its an age old debate that took me literally ages to get to the bottom of & I tend to come off a bit pissy sometimes. Not my intention ...

Thats a really nice guide otherwise! 😊 Hats off for all your hard work!

Keepin' Oregon Green ~ Since 1978



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)



09-27-2009, 08:57 PM #95

habeeb
 follow your heart
 ICMag Donor



Join Date: Feb 2008
 Posts: 4,083



The most important advice of all; remember to have fun growing your plants

nicely said man



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

09-27-2009, 09:15 PM #96

THE GENERAL
 Member

nice job on the post, i like ur style..



Join Date: Sep 2009
Posts: 63



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

09-28-2009, 09:17 PM

#97

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



Quote:

Originally Posted by [chef](#)

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Thats a really nice guide otherwise! 🇺🇸 Hats off for all your hard work!

No problem chef, there can be no progress without debate 😊

The hermie in the picture was one of my own plants. I've seen a few hermies under stress. This particular plant came from a regular Nirvana Ice seed, the others that hermied on me were feminized strains from Dutch Passion.

About the four dark periods during 20/4, I chose to run the light on a 20/4 light schedule with four dark hours during one day (5on/1off) because I was worried about the heat inside the cab. I never noticed any adverse reactions to this time schedule, both mother plants and clones were quite happy. The cab was not entirely light proof though, so perhaps the *photoperiod* was 24/0 after all. I removed that part from the guide in order to avoid confusion.

Regarding the photoperiods, you are right. Cannabis is classified as a C-3 plant, which means that it will continue to photosynthesize as long as there is light present.

In the words of Ed Rosenthal:

"Cannabis under continuous light will grow 33% faster than the same plants on an 18-6 light regime."

It is easy to get confused when it comes to the dark reactions that take place in plants. They are called dark reactions because they are light-independent, but this does not mean that they only take place in darkness. As a matter of fact, the dark reactions occur regardless of the amount of light present as long as the proper substrate compounds are available. These compounds are created during *photosynthesis* which means that the dark reactions cannot function without light.

Although C-3 plants are capable of photosynthesizing 24/7, they still need some darkness in order to maintain a proper hormonal balance. At least according to the research.

There is something called the circadian rhythm or circadian clock, which can be found in animals, plants and fungi. This internal clock is an evolutionary response to light and darkness and is tightly linked with hormonal functions in the plant. The Time Keeping *Protein* or TOC is regulated by certain repressor proteins which are activated in response to information from shade detectors or phytochromes in plant cells, that measure light.

The repressor proteins are activated when light hits the plant and effectively suppress the formation of the TOC *protein*. At night when the repressor proteins are inactive, TOC levels rise and the *protein* is circulated throughout the plant, especially near meristematic tissue (undifferentiated cells) where all plant growth occurs. The plant then goes through rhythmical growth spurts just prior to dawn in response to the oscillation of the TOC *protein*.

"The scientists also discovered that most of the genes involved in

this rhythmic predawn growth have a DNA sequence in common, a master controller that they dubbed the HUD element—for "Hormone Up at Dawn." This HUD element, they noted, must have a protein that attaches to it that regulates its function."

(From [This Article](#))

The genes that control *hormone* biosynthesis, *hormone* signaling and *hormone* metabolism are all tightly correlated with the circadian clock and rhythmic plant growth.

So apparently, by keeping your plants under a 24/0 light regime, you are actually inhibiting the circulation of growth hormones that the plant needs in order to stay healthy and eventually prepare for flowering among other things.

It then stands to reason that if you veg your plants under a 24/0 light regime, you must also provide them with the appropriate growth hormones externally.

Keeping them on "steroids" will make up for the absence of internally produced growth hormones. Seaweed extract is rich in plant hormones so adding that to their diet might compensate for the lack of rest.

I think that plants grow stronger if they are allowed some darkness during veg. Components that are essential to health and growth are transported around the plant when it is not photosynthesizing. It would make sense as we already know that muscle tissue in humans actually grow when the person rests, not while he is exercising. So the real question is whether or not plants grow stronger when they are allowed to rest and thereby manage the energy that is created during the day.

I do not think that plants are idle in darkness. All living beings are opportunists and everything in nature is always pushed to the max, so it would make sense that plants have other important things to do when they are not photosynthesizing, namely harmonizing their energy.

Photosynthesis is the primary activity and energy management is the secondary. One occurs in light and the other in darkness.

Every mechanism in plants is an evolutionary response. I think that plants will grow stronger if they are allowed to rest. I also believe that some darkness is required for the plant to function properly. In the end this also translates into better bud further down the line.

Getting to the truth about these things is not always an easy task since there are many different mechanisms behind plant behavior. Some of them work together while others work independently.

Needless to say, there is more happening under the surface that what meets the eye.

That's my take on it.

If you stumble upon something in my guide that doesn't make sense, feel free to ask me questions, all topics are up for debate.

-Kodiak-



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

09-30-2009, 01:55 AM

#98

chef

Gene Mangler



Join Date: Sep 2008

Location: N of 45N

Posts: 1,133



Cool, looks like you'll be fun to talk shop with 😊

I'm right with ya on the majority of that. I was just studying up on the plant photoreceptors last week. Cool how they sense shade & adjust their growth etc. Survival of the fittest.

Surprised on Nirvana, heard similar about DP. That's a spooky lookin one too 😊

On the *photoperiod*: I've seen some cycle timers with *wild* presets & similar settings. Some equatorial, some had me scratchin my head? The thought makes me cringe tho & I'm pretty friggin adventurous lol For noobs, I'd say Ignorance of such subjects is bliss 🍄

My thoughts on the 24/0 simply come from my results, it goes against common sense & some studies I've seen similar to your info. I got there simply from years of nothing mattering but speed n yield. The exceledated growth & quik flip really are huge jump toward that finish line.

You're on the money with the *Kelp*, I use it start to flush, have since the 80's.

Keepin' Oregon Green ~ Since 1978

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

10-01-2009, 05:58 AM

#99

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Yeah, plants have some pretty cool ways of making the most out of their environment.

That Ice plant was the only *hermaphrodite* that I got from Nirvana seeds, and I have grown out many of their strains. It was a spooky looking freak alright but easy to spot. The smoke was actually quite good though as the plant was very resinous, despite its dual sexuality. Nirvana plants are usually quite good, considering the price, but naturally not as good as some of the top shelf gear. I've also seen a lot of twin plants in Nirvana seeds. The feminized seeds from DP are garbage, very unstable, I would

Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456

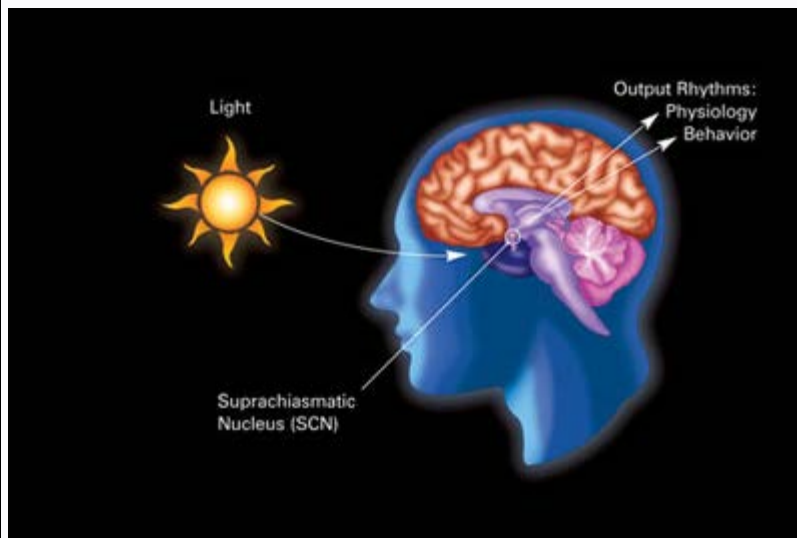


not recommend them to anyone.

I have also seen people run their timers on fairly odd schedules but I think it's best to stick to the proven and safe photoperiods.

Plants really like the *kelp*, it's very good for foliar feeding as well. Just don't use too much of it as some plant hormones are known to interfere with sexual development. Personally I think that high temps is the main reason why plants that are prone to hermaphroditism turn hermie on ya.

The biological clock is pretty cool when you think about it. The mechanism is the same for both animals and plants. In humans it's located in the hypothalamus and receives information from the specific photoreceptors in the retina.



It seems that we are supposed to do certain things during the day and certain things during the night, like sleep. When we stray too far away from the programmed schedule, the body goes haywire.

When it comes to cannabis plants, auto flowering *ruderalis* plants spring to mind. They must have some sort of modified version of this rhythm in response to the extreme photoperiods in the arctic. Norwegian researchers studying animals in the arctic have found that the circadian rhythms are only active during the parts of the year when there are daily sunrises and sunsets.

This mechanism must somehow affect the flowering properties of the cannabis *ruderalis* plant. I have not figured out yet exactly how it works, but it's certainly interesting.



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

10-01-2009, 09:23 AM

#100

vatosummon

New Member

Join Date: Jul 2009

Posts: 1



Bump great post, lots of good info



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

10-01-2009, 11:24 PM

#101

PiCkyPiccAlo

New Member

Join Date: Sep 2009

Location: West Namek

Posts: 2



Awesome post, love the attention in the details you provided.

THumBs uP!

MJ U complete Me...



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

10-02-2009, 05:31 PM

#102

grow_green

New Member



Join Date: Oct 2009

Location: SD

Posts: 8



Great guide for anyone beginning to grow. very nice!



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

10-03-2009, 11:27 AM

#103

Kodiak

Mad Scientist

Thanks 😊 I tried to cover as much as possible while still keeping it relatively short and to the point. A lighter version of the guide might have been easier to digest but it just kept growing as I was typing out my notes.

I hope that the guide will help you to reach your goals.



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456
[Progress bar]



Keep it green

-Kodiak-



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

10-03-2009, 01:17 PM

#104

FrankRizzo

Listen to me jerky



Join Date: Jul 2007
Posts: 936
[Progress bar]



Wow, I mean really wow. Every new member should be forced to read

this when they sign up. Would save everyone lots of time. Concise and to the point. Very well written. I will be directing many people over here. Congratulations on a incredible thread.



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

10-03-2009, 04:18 PM

#105

Rooster449

Guest

Posts: n/a

I do agree with you Frank

Quote:

Originally Posted by **FrankRizzo**



Wow, I mean really wow. Every new member should be forced

to read this when they sign up. Would save everyone lots of time. Concise and to the point. Very well written. I will be directing many people over here. Congratulations on a incredible thread.

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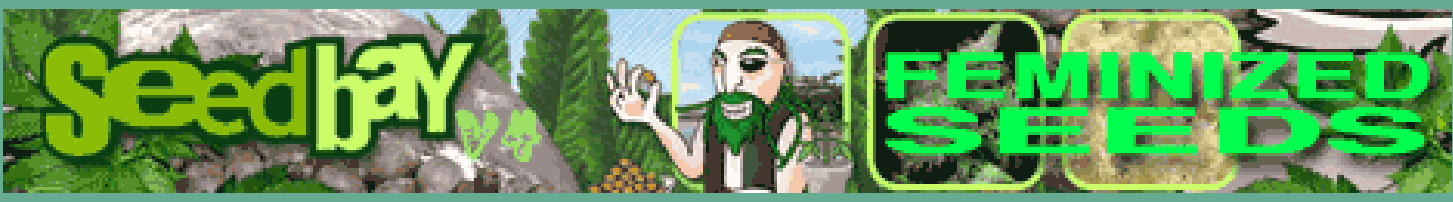
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A Cannabis Growing Guide - All that you need to know to get started

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10-04-2009, 03:03 PM #106

User profile for Kodiak (Mad Scientist) with a bear avatar and join date/location info.

Thanks! I'm glad that you liked it. Got Some Seeds And Wanna Grow Weed? Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning

10-04-2009, 08:23 PM #107

I have one more question regarding the spider mites. I am having a weak

mthyde

New Member



Join Date: Aug 2009
Location: Big Sky Country
Posts: 1



infestation in my flowering room. Is it advisable to spray with the neem when plants are in bud?



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

10-04-2009, 10:28 PM

#108

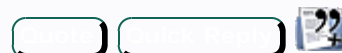
cappeeler09

Member

Join Date: Aug 2009
Posts: 50



good thread man,i like it when people give good information thanks alot



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

10-12-2009, 12:00 PM

#109

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



Thanks guys 😊

mthyde, I would not spray the buds with anything during full flowering, you might get mold. You will find that most of the mites actually hang out under the leafs so that's where you should spray. Also lay out some of those yellow, no-pest strips of sticky fly paper around the plant. Insects are drawn to the bright yellow color.

If it's still very early in flowering, you could wash the plants in the shower, especially under the leafs. This will actually remove most of the mites and eggs. It's the easiest way to get rid of them, they just wash away and down the drain they go. This method is great if the plants are still in veg but I would not recommend it if the plants are already well into flowering. Also, insects must breathe air so submerging the pots under water for say 10 minutes, will cause the buggers in the soil to abandon ship. It is actually interesting to watch all the mites swim for the surface. Then all you have to do is pull the plug and down they go. This will not hurt your plants as their roots can survive without oxygen for this short period of time. At least longer than the bugs.

Man, I'm sorry. Spider mites are really a pest, they just keep coming back, like roaches. They are by far the most irritating thing about growing. Although I have battled it out with spider mites many times, I'm no expert.

All I can say is that you will have to approach this problem from every direction, applying an assortment of remedies at the same time. These

pesky critters grow resistant to almost anything over a few generations. They thrive in hot and dry environments, neem oil and pyrethroids/pyrethrin are probably the most effective chemical remedies out there, along with nicotine.

But there are many more, like adding natural predators to the grow room.

You will find more information in this thread:

[Spider mites AKA The Borg](#)

Good luck!

-Kodiak-



[Got Some Seeds And Wanna Grow Weed?](#)

[Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning](#)



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

10-12-2009, 08:07 PM #110

AKDrifter
Member



Join Date: Sep 2009
Posts: 232



Kodiak,
Thank you for taking the time to post this guide!! I am starting up again soon and this is one hell of a great guide to review before starting up. I had quite a few questions on my mind before reading this one, especially loved the topping guide.

I was wondering on the *kelp* additives. Have you ever made you're own *kelp* teas or soil additives or just purchased commercially?

Thanks again.

P.S. Kodiak is one beautiful place to visit.

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

10-13-2009, 04:09 AM #111

Kodiak
Mad Scientist

Thanks AKDrifter
I'm glad that you liked the guides.

Regarding the *kelp* additives, I use a commerical extract on my indoor grow but for the plants that I grow outdoors I use real *kelp* and sea weed



Join Date: Oct 2008
 Location: The Lab
 Posts: 456



that I collect. I cut it into little pieces and add it to some compost. I usually make my own organic fertilizer for outdoor grows. I start with the compost and then add a number of things to boost it up a bit. Stuff like sea shells, charcoal and sawdust for example, works great.

I guess that you could make your own *kelp* teas but the commerical stuff is not that expensive and outdoors it's easier to just add the organic material to the soil.

If you are looking for the commerical stuff, I can highly recommend the Alg-A-Mic from BioBizz, it's a very nice product.



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[Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning](#)



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

10-13-2009, 10:50 AM

#112

chef

Gene Mangler



Join Date: Sep 2008
 Location: N of 45N
 Posts: 1,133



Whats up? 😊

I'm a big *kelp* advocate & that Alg a Mic looks like some really good stuff. Mine is almost gone, time to try it out.

Keepin' Oregon Green ~ Since 1978



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

10-15-2009, 05:12 AM

#113

Kodiak

Mad Scientist

Hey Chef 😊

Yeah, Alg-A-Mic is good stuff alright. It does go bad after a few months so you might as well use a lot of it while it's still fresh. I burn through a bottle of it pretty fast. Plants love it and it's great for foliar feeding as well.



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

10-21-2009, 08:05 PM

#114

[tokerofdakill](#)

Member



Join Date: Apr 2009
Posts: 375



Kodiak just now found this wow great detail.. its just intime for my next move..thanks Alot

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

10-22-2009, 09:35 AM

#115

[Kodiak](#)

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



I'm glad that you found it useful 😊

Keep it Green 🍀



[Got Some Seeds And Wanna Grow Weed?](#)

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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

10-23-2009, 12:46 PM

#116

Casual
Guest

Posts: n/a



+++ REP!! GREAT guide, thanks for taking the time and putting in the effort to put this all together!!! Awesome!

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

11-12-2009, 04:33 PM

#117

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008

Location: The Lab

Posts: 456



Thanks!

I updated the guide with lots of new pictures and information.



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

11-13-2009, 01:13 AM

#118

Sirus
Guest

Posts: n/a



Excellent thread. Thanks for taking the time to put together and update this information. 😊

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

12-03-2009, 10:58 AM

#119

flfunk

Member

Join Date: Sep 2009

Posts: 47



Excellent thread, thanks for taking the time to put this all together!!

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

12-04-2009, 01:19 PM

#120

Kodiak

Mad Scientist

Thanks, I'm glad that you liked it.

It should help you get started. There is more to learn but you will pick



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



that up along the way.

Even if you are not new to growing, you might still find some of the information interesting.

Good luck and have fun

-Kodiak-



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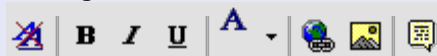


1 members found this post helpful. **Did you find this post helpful?** [Yes](#)

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ONLINE HEADSHOP



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12-26-2009, 09:54 AM #121

detoneSmoker
Guest
Posts: n/a

great post

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

12-30-2009, 10:15 PM #122



OU812
Member
OU812's Avatar

Join Date: Dec 2009
Posts: 142

Absolutely the best I've ever read. THANK YOU!!!



OU812 is California Prop 215 Compliant
The opinions expressed here are not those of my employer, my friends, my dogs, or myself...But they are the opinions of Elvis as revealed to me through the medium of my pet hamster, Lee Harvey Oswald...



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

01-05-2010, 05:08 PM #123




big_b
New Member
Join Date: Dec 2009
Posts: 5



this should be stickied. great post!



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

01-05-2010, 06:23 PM #124




daves4usc
condiscipulus

Join Date: Dec 2009
Posts: 255



Thankyou for taking the time to write out all this information. This is def. a great guide for an indoor begginer like me!! Nice work!!!



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

01-05-2010, 07:46 PM #125

HansHanf
rebmeM

Join Date: Nov 2009
Location: right behind you
always a step ahead
Posts: 1,609



Quote:
Originally Posted by **big_b** 
this should be stickied. great post!
2`nd big_b on that ...
Kodiak you`ve made a sticky !!

greetz hans



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

01-06-2010, 02:05 PM #126

Kodiak

Thanks guys, I'm glad that you liked it.

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



The guide started out quite rough but has since gone through several revisions and now it's getting to close to what it should be. I gave the entire guide a complete overhaul so now you will find more information on many topics.

Whatever I had to leave out of this guide in order to save space, is pretty much covered in the other one on Topping, Training and *Pruning*.

Keep it green



[Got Some Seeds And Wanna Grow Weed?](#)

[Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning](#)



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-08-2010, 05:19 PM

#127

[ZoeFresssh666](#)

Member



Join Date: Feb 2010
Location: M.O.N.
Posts: 320



nice thread, Kodiak. I will definitely be back here in the future!



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-08-2010, 05:50 PM

#128

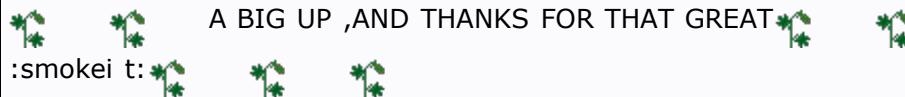
[DANGER NHB](#)

Member



Join Date: Dec 2009
Location: GREENLAND/?
Posts: 75

:smokei t: A BIG UP ,AND THANKS FOR THAT GREAT



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-09-2010, 04:29 AM #129

isthislegal
Member

Join Date: Jan 2010
Posts: 33

Wow, this was wonderful. I really appreciate you taking the time to write/gather/copy/paste or whatever the hell you did, lol. Seems to me like you are a Ganja Guru!!! Damn Hippies!!!!!!!!!!!!!! thanks alot brotha. Your work is not in vain.

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-09-2010, 10:53 AM #130

Kodiak
Mad Scientist

Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456

Thanks, I appreciate it.

Glad if I can help.

I actually wrote the whole guide from memory but it took some time.

I already had all the information I needed, it was just a matter of putting it all together.



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-11-2010, 02:39 AM #131

nate dogg
New Member

Join Date: Feb 2010
Posts: 2

Kodiak, big thanks for the time and effort you put into this as well as the topping/training guide. I've been doing quite a bit of research lately and your threads were extremely helpful in getting my head around things.

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-11-2010, 05:48 PM #132

Kodiak
Mad Scientist




Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456

●●●●●●●●




Hi Nate, I'm glad that they were of some help to you.


Keep up the good work



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
Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-11-2010, 09:34 PM #133

LUDACRIS
Banned

Join Date: Oct 2009
Location: SCOTLAND
Posts: 1,993

●●●●●●●●



Nice job.

LUDA.




Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-14-2010, 07:38 PM #134

toddy
Member

Join Date: Jul 2009
Location: HIGH Desert
Posts: 76

■




Great read. Reading your post is like talking to an old friend. No bullshit, just facts and experience about what worked and why.

Your attitude about helping others will continue to bring you the best: in life, in garden, in future.

Thanks again, may 2010 bring you your dream pheno.

GROW MORE




Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-15-2010, 02:53 AM #135

Kodiak
Mad Scientist

Thanks for the good vibes!



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Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



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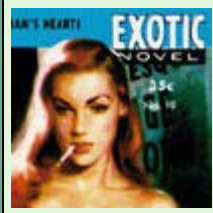
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04-16-2011, 01:27 PM #196

northernkush
Member



Join Date: Apr 2011
Posts: 329



Wow lots of good information here. Do you have any info on watering of the plants specifically keeping a reservoir of water around so your not constantly filling bottles every time?

Feedback buttons: thumbs up, thumbs down, and a question mark icon.

Did you find this post helpful? Yes

04-17-2011, 05:08 PM #197

Kodiak

Stagnant water is not so good for the roots because they need oxygen to flourish. I'm sure that it wouldn't kill them but fresh oxygenated water is

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



preferable. I would say that it all depends on how long the water will sit there before it's used.



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

05-19-2011, 01:29 PM

#198

cody2white

ghost in training



Join Date: Jan 2010
Posts: 1,887



Tagg

"There's right and wrong, and life in between. " family guy.

Many of life's failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

05-19-2011, 01:59 PM

#199

vonforne
Guest

Posts: n/a



Very good thread Kodiak. Well thought out and written. I think this would make a great sticky.

Keep up the great work.

v

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

05-19-2011, 05:34 PM

#200

Kodiak

Mad Scientist

Thanks V

The guide has slowly evolved into what it is today.

I think that I have covered most things that new growers might want to know.



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



I'm sure that the guide would be easier to find if it was stickied.



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

05-19-2011, 05:36 PM

#201

[exploziv](#)

pure dynamite

ICMag Supporter

ICMag Chatmod

ICMag Supermod



Join Date: Sep 2006
Posts: 16,379



I'm sure someone will take care of this soon! Great guide!

"We ought never do wrong when people are looking." - Mark Twain

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

05-19-2011, 05:50 PM

#202

[Kodiak](#)

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008



Awesome

Thanks



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[Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning](#)

Location: The Lab
 Posts: 456



 Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

05-21-2011, 07:46 AM #203

J Budman
 Member


 Join Date: Jan 2010
 Location: On the computer at ICMag.com always....
 Posts: 162


Amazingly informative!!!! Great thread!!! That's why I love ICMag!!! Thanks so much. Hopefully I'll be here in five years sharing all my knowledge.

Come check out my 600+ Watt Grow Room First Attempt All Help Highly Appreciated

<https://www.icmag.com/ic/showthread.php?t=212991>

DISCLAIMER: everything I post and say are lies. I am simply roleplaying. All photos were found on the internet and/or fake!! I do not grow or use anything illegal. I swear.



 Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

05-22-2011, 03:08 PM #204


Kodiak
 Mad Scientist



 Join Date: Oct 2008
 Location: The Lab
 Posts: 456



Thanks. I'm glad you liked it.
 Good luck with your plants and drop in any time if you have any questions.

I updated the guide with new information, including a chart that shows the rate of *THC* acid --> *THC* conversion at different temperatures. It might come in handy when you are cooking with cannabis.


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 Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

05-22-2011, 06:40 PM #205

cezani
 New Member

Thanks man for taking the time to share your knowledge

Join Date: Jan 2011
Posts: 9



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

05-22-2011, 06:53 PM

#206

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



No problem, that's why we are here.

The guide is also now available for download in pdf format.

Enjoy



[Got Some Seeds And Wanna Grow Weed?](#)

[Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning](#)



1 members found this post helpful. Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

05-24-2011, 11:35 AM

#207

blinkisback

Banned

Join Date: Nov 2009
Posts: 219



Hey man, I need some help. A buddies blue dreams are all messed up and I'm not sure whether it's nitrogen def or mg def. The plants do have pink and purpling stems which according to your guide indicate nitrogen def. However, I had been referring to Mynameisstich's guide and had determined based on that it might be mg def due to *ph* lockout. When I tested the run off for him it came out super low, like in the 5's so that lead me to believe the blood or *bone meal* he added to the soil mix (the other seed plants and larger clones were put into a different mix and didn't develop this problem) affected *PH* so I flushed with high *ph* water and the run off was 7.0, that was two days ago and they're showing no signs of improvement.

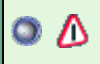
So I stumbled upon your guide here and looked at your nit and mg charts attached to the first page and am starting to think they are nit def due to the purpling stems. That said, I now have to have him wait until the soil dries out from the flush before feeding, if the case turns out to be nit def. The entire plants have turned yellow with some of the larger fans starting to drop off and die. I'm concerned they won't come back for him. The BD's are most of his legal limit and had gone into the flower room (not flipped yet) looking absolutely amazing with lush green, vigorous growth. Growth has basically stopped and the plants are yellow from top to bottom under hps while the other plants in the different mix are looking great.

He had been feeding pretty minimally while they were in the veg room in the cups, and just before transfer had increased feedings until the tips

barely burned which is what lead me to think it was mg def and not nit def in the first place, how could there be a little tip burn showing but be a nit def? That's what's confusing me. I'm going to go over there ina bit to get some shots hopefully but anything you can say in the mean time would be a great help! Thanks - B



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)



05-24-2011, 12:50 PM #208

blinkisback
Banned
Join Date: Nov 2009
Posts: 219

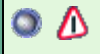
Pictures

here's some pictures... The fucker finally dropped some off for me on an SD card! Anyhow, you can see the BD are the only unhealthy plants in the lot, unfortunately for him it's also the one clone he has the most of! Help me help him, PLEASE! Thanks - B

Attached Thumbnails



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)



05-24-2011, 09:16 PM #209

Stress test
I'm always here when I'm not someplace else

Hey my friend **blinkisback** I beat you up in your other thread man. You better go check it out.

"I would.

I'd really like to meet an honest man.
But I'd have to lie to him cause I smoke pot."



Join Date: Oct 2010
Posts: 2,527



[First Outdoor Guerrilla Grow 2011](#)
[Understanding Ph.](#)
[Ingenious \\$4 Walmart Cloner.](#)
[SOG's DIY micro-cloning factory tutorial.](#) (Very well illustrated and explained).
[Handy site for the Gardener](#) (A wealth of information for any gardener).



Sometimes when I'm really medicated, I



can really crack me up.

Last edited by Stress_test; 05-24-2011 at 11:30 PM..



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

05-25-2011, 10:37 AM

#210

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



Hey blinkisback

Nutrient deficiencies are really not my speciality but I would have to agree with Stress_test on this one, the plants look hungry to me. The colour has faded from the leaves but there seems to be no other symptoms, which suggests that they are just in need of more food.

Purple colouring on the stems in not necessarily an indicator of nutrient deficiencies. I've had plants with purple stems that were doing great. Some plants just express more colours than others.

Flushing probably won't help because you are just washing out the last of the nutrients that were in the soil. *pH* 5 is a bit low but you can correct the problem by feeding them a nutrient solution with a *pH* of 7-8. That will tip the scale closer to 6.5-7.0.

Plants require more nutrients when they enter the flowering stage. They build up energy reserves during the vegetative stage and store them in the leaves (like fat). If your friend fed them minimal amounts of nutes during veg, they might not have enough to support all the growth as the energy is now being directed to the budding nodes. The buds have higher priority at this stage. That causes yellowing of the leaves, which then fall off as the energy has been relocated to other areas. Some yellowing of the leaves is common but if the whole plant is suffering from the same problem, you need to address it.

I would feed them some complete NPK fertilizer. Looks to me like they

could use some extra nitrogen. Also make sure that you include Zinc, Manganese and Iron because they are important during the flowering stage. It's fairly common that people forget about the *trace* metals and micronutrients and then have a hard time figuring out what's wrong.

I would give them a healthy dose of nutes and then allow the soil to dry out before the next watering. It's difficult to figure out what is wrong as long as the soil is wet. Allowing the soil to dry out between waterings will also help to fix the *pH* problem. Continue to give them nutes until the deep green colour returns to leaves. Then you can back off for a while and see how it goes.

Blue Dream is a Bluberry cross and it is known to be picky when it comes to nutes. Your friend was perhaps aware of this and that's why he didn't give them enough. He might however have been too cautious in this case.

I also suggest that you start a thread in the infirmary.



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06-27-2010, 06:04 PM # [181](#)

evrchaning
Guest
Posts: n/a

What a great read! Thank you so much for the time spent on that. Great information.

1 members found this post helpful. **Did you find this post helpful?** [Yes](#)

08-24-2010, 03:38 AM # [182](#)

audacity
New Member
Join Date: Jul 2010
Posts: 10

thank you so much for this, i am a brand new grower and have been looking for something like this for quite a while
could you give me some tips on actually applying the nutes and water?
how often do i water?
how do i actually feed the plant?
what do I do if i feed too much?
Is it a good idea to flush the soil a week before harvest?



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

08-24-2010, 05:52 AM

#183

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008

Location: The Lab

Posts: 456



Hi audacity, I'm glad that you liked the guide.

You could water the plants about once a week, depending on how fast the soil dries out. You can actually tell by the weight of the pot if the plant needs watering. When the soil is dry, the pot will be much lighter so you could go by that. Watering the plants too often can lead to problems, so allow the soil to dry out a bit inbetween.

When it comes to feeding the plant you have two options. One is to mix nutrients into the soil while you are planting the seeds. This food will last for a while but probably not throughout the entire grow. The other way of feeding them is to add liquid nutrients to the water that you are giving them. If you are still planning your grow, you could consider using both. The nutrients in the soil will ensure that they have something to fall back on in case they need to. Just make sure that you get two kinds of nutes, one that is rich in N and another that is rich in P. Mix the two and your plants will have what they need.

You can also foliar feed the plants by spraying the leaves (especially underneath) with a weak nutrient solution. They will be absorbed along with the water. Plants love this.

If you feed the plant too much, you can cause damage to it. What you usually see in that case is leaf burn. It turns the tip of the leaves white. Other symptoms might include stunted growth due to stress, salt buildup or conditions that resemble nutrient deficiencies (spots, discoloring, you name it). The most important thing to remember then is to keep your head cool and not feed them anymore nutes before you have figured out what is going on. You can flush out the excess nutes by showering the plants (and pots) with water. You can also dilute the concentration in the soil by submerging the pots in water and allowing it drain off several times. You'll be fine as long as you follow the instructions on the bottle.

Some like to flush while others don't. It's a good idea to stop feeding the plants when they are approaching harvest time. The nutes might give the bud a chemical taste and they can in large concentrations actually burn your lips when you smoke the bud. I find that flushing becomes less crucial if you are growing organically because the nutrients are more easily broken down and they don't accumulate in the plant. If you stop feeding the plants say 2+ weeks before harvest, you can also ensure that all the stored up nutrients are used. This usually means that the energy stored in the leaves is drained and relocated to the buds. The leaves turn yellow and orange as a result of this. If you would like to see some colors in late flowering, you should also flush.



[Got Some Seeds And Wanna Grow Weed?](#)

[Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning](#)





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08-24-2010, 06:19 AM #184

rastaidd
Member yeahyeah!



Join Date: Mar 2010
Location: center of the world
Posts: 1,866
Progress bar: 10 green squares, 1 yellow square



wow, ehi man,
great job!!!
FANTASTIC guide!
thanks 🍷



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

08-24-2010, 09:49 AM #185

SCROG McDuck
Guest
Posts: n/a



You did alot of work putting that guide together...
Great job, wish I had found it sooner but
it will still suppy good info for me, and many others, in the future.



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

08-24-2010, 12:06 PM #186

Kodiak
Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456
Progress bar: 8 green squares, 2 yellow squares



Thanks guys, I'm glad you liked it.
Happy Growing



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

10-15-2010, 07:11 PM #187

St3ve

Member

Join Date: Oct 2010

Posts: 921



Bump for your great info

While I'm here, I do have a question for you. In regards to your transition lighting, is this something that you practice every grow? Meaning 20/4 to 18/6 and on every seven days until you get down to 12/12? This is new to me, but interesting. If this does indeed make it more natural, and decrease the overall stretch, it seems like a good idea. Do you start it in the veg room until you get down to 12/12 then move it into the flowering room? Does it add time to veg? Add time to flower?

Thanks again for the great info! 😊



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

10-16-2010, 09:48 AM

#188

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008

Location: The Lab

Posts: 456



Hi Steve

Yeah, I usually introduce the darkness gradually. It seems to reduce the stretch somewhat because the plant grows accustomed to the light changing. It is what you see in nature. If you go from 24/0 to 12/12 directly, the plant will always stretch more because the nights are so long from the start. I also keep the blue light (MH or CFL) in place until I start to see real flowers, after which I switch to the HPS. Keeping the blue light in place during the transitional stage will also help to reduce the stretch to some degree because it promotes vegetative growth, which will keep the nodes closer together.

In my experience it does not affect veg or flowering time all that much because it all evens out in the end. The real difference can be seen in the structure of the plant. More buds will take slightly longer to fatten up than fewer buds, but that's not a bad thing. Harvest when the plant is ready even if it goes a week longer or more.

Keep in mind though that things can be relative to your style of growing, your setup and the plants that you have. Sativas will stretch more than indicas and they often thrive under slightly different light schedules. Some plants also have longer harvesting windows than others. If you veg the plant until it shows preflowers, it will also move into flowering more quickly. This is something that is sometimes overlooked.

Reprogramming your timer is not that much work so I don't see a reason why you shouldn't do it. If you don't know which schedule to use, try 24/0 (or 20/4) --> 18/6 --> 12/12 first.

In the end, this translates into shorter internodes, which means more bud sites. The plant will always reach for the light and stem is of little use to us. Generally speaking, the bigger the gap in the light schedule between veg and flower, the bigger the stretch. The plants also seem to grow healthier under a gradually decreasing light schedule because they have better time to prepare for flowering.

The bottom line is that every plant requires a slightly different treatment in order for it to produce as much bud as possible. Sometimes you need to try a combination of things. The more time you can dedicate to each grow, the better.

Good Luck



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)



10-21-2010, 05:10 PM

#189

junkyarddog

New Member

Join Date: Nov 2009

Location: Oregon

Posts: 23



Great guide, Kodiak. Thanks for all the time and energy you took to write it. I read your TTP guide first and got a lot from it also. My plants are now probably about half the size but much bushier than before. I got rid of siper mites and gnats by going to bottom feeding and covering the top of the soil with perlite. The perlite chews them up. I also use a hanging product called Hotshots available in garden stores. Haven't had a mite or gnat since and it's been about four years now.

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

10-21-2010, 11:24 PM

#190

Rabbi Reefer

Guest

Posts: n/a



LOADED with great info, thanks!

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

12-17-2010, 07:42 AM

#191

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008

Location: The Lab

Posts: 456



Thanks guys, I'm glad that you found the guide useful.

Yeah, spider mites can drive you crazy because they can bounce back after a while, just when you thought that you've exterminated them for good. There are a lot of ways to fight them but the only fool proof way to get rid of them that I have found is to stop growing for a few months and remove every plant in the house. That includes regular potted plants as the spider mites will migrate everywhere. If they have no plants to feed on, they die out because they are unable to breed. Their life cycle depends on the environment (temps, humidty etc.), so it's best to play it safe and wait a couple of months before starting a new grow.

Keep growing that glorious weed.



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Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)



01-18-2011, 10:16 AM

#192

shotalick

Member



Join Date: Jan 2008
Posts: 37



superb topic. Thanks for tips. I will contact you or asking in topic if something goes wrong.

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

04-06-2011, 09:24 AM

#193

m0ff99

Member



Join Date: Aug 2009
Location: 420 Berry Street,Planet Earth,3rd Rock From The Sun
Posts: 254



subbed

I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it. And so it is with you... we are in charge of our attitudes.So please lets try to change the attitudes of those have an attitude towards this wonderous herb!!

Whiteberry,icecream,la confidential and the much debated alaskan ice indoor

<https://www.icmag.com/ic/showthread.php?t=132272>

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

04-08-2011, 11:59 AM

#194

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008

Location: The Lab

Posts: 456



Thanks

I'll be happy to answer any questions, so don't hesitate to ask.

Good Luck



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

04-16-2011, 10:16 AM

#195

microbrewer9

Member



Join Date: Apr 2011

Posts: 26



Wow, informative! Thanks for posting!



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

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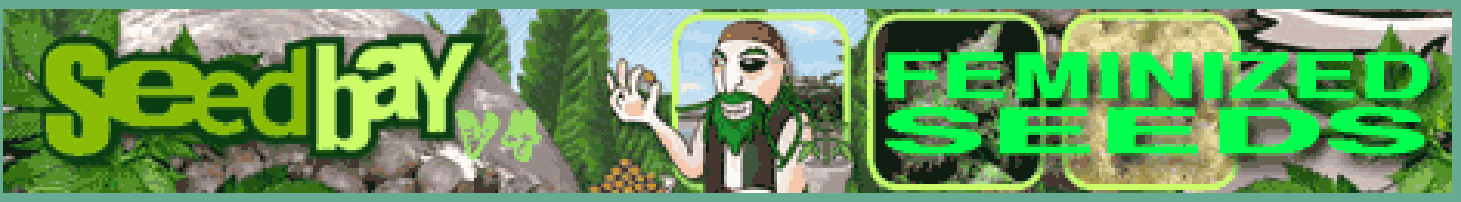
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02-15-2010, 03:01 AM #136

Kodiak
Mad Scientist

Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456

Good luck with all your projects and Keep it Green


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[Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning](#)

Last edited by Kodiak; 02-15-2010 at 02:43 PM..
Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)







03-06-2010, 02:58 PM #137

Chimney





klfjkljg

Guest Posts: n/a 	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>  <hr/> Did you find this post helpful? Yes
--	--

03-07-2010, 07:01 AM #138

Kodiak Mad Scientist  Join Date: Oct 2008 Location: The Lab Posts: 456  	I updated the guide. It now contains a reworked diagram on <i>THC</i> synthesis, based on new information. Enjoy! <hr/> <div style="text-align: center;">  <u>Got Some Seeds And Wanna Grow Weed?</u> <u>Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning</u> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: right;"> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>  <hr/> Did you find this post helpful? Yes </div>
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03-14-2010, 03:03 PM #139

<u>bud lover</u> Member  Join Date: Mar 2010 Location: north west england Posts: 61  	thanks kodiak i think every question i had has just been answered <div style="text-align: right;"> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>  <hr/> Did you find this post helpful? Yes </div>
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03-16-2010, 04:47 AM #140

!!! Now in technicolor	I direct all newbie friends here. Great guide. I suggest adding something about coco and CMH. I also feel the harvesting/drying/curing section is incomplete. When a newb spends so much money and time on their first crop, harvesting and drying is a scary subject. What do I cut? Does it have to be hung upside down? Should a fan blow on it? What temp while drying? When do I put them in jars? Why does my harvest smell like
----------------------------------	--



Join Date: Sep 2009
 Location: Sinatra covered
 the song
 Posts: 1,526



hay? How long does it take to dry and cure? (a valid assumption is that one can pick the buds off and smoke them)

Kodiak, you should stick this post in a PDF and sell it starting at \$19.95.

My thoughts as a marketer, for making this guide more accessible to the general public:

The guide may come off as somewhat daunting to complete beginners. Perhaps change the title to "Growing GREAT Weed" (rather than just any weed) - or adding a small statement that your setup is pro, but that good weed can be grown with a much less elegant setup. Maybe just put a few pics of less complex setups. Nothing wrong with your setup but I noticed people tend to quit reading and give up on the idea of growing when they see fans and devices all connected, with talks about a dozen nutrients and additives to use (i.e., the bottles of nutrients pic.)

[100% prop 215 Compliant—but I don't live in CA.](#)

- [400w Super Lemon Haze \(done\)](#)
- [Cheap DIY Cooltube Pictorial](#)
- [Lucas Formula](#)
- [Excellent Seed Germination Tutorial \(Mandala\)](#)
- [Zeus' Take on Harvesting](#)
- [Best Stealth Lighting System? PL55W](#)

You don't have to open the door for police. If they *could* get a warrant they won't knock! **Wave at them from the window but don't open the door!** Seriously. **Download Never Get Raided**



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)



03-16-2010, 07:14 AM

#141

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
 Location: The Lab
 Posts: 456



Thanks for the input. Like I said in the beginning of the guide, I will only deal with growing in soil because that is what I know. That is also the reason why the guide is posted in the indoors - soil section. Its main purpose is to provide general growing information for people who are starting out. Usually that means growing in soil. Apart from factual errors that I have since corrected, no one has had any real complaints about the content so far.

I took your advice regarding the harvesting/drying/curing section and made the necessary changes as well as some of the other changes that you suggested.

I have tried to keep the guide simple and to the point in order to avoid confusion. Sometimes less is more. In most sections of the guide, the text is as compact as it can be made. I tried to promote creative thinking throughout the guide, because there is always more to learn.

Perhaps I will write a book someday but the guide is far from perfect. I do appreciate the vote of confidence though. The guide on topping and training is much cleaner, so I'm constantly trying to improve on this one as well.

The fact is that although growing good weed is quite easy, one still has to become familiar with new things like nutrients, and what I have presented in my guide are the bare essentials. This is all part of learning something new. Perhaps the guide reflects my own frame of mind but I'm sure that the readers would also like to give their plants the best possible growing conditions from the start.

It's only fair to them that I provide them with all the necessary information, so that they can take what they need and apply it to their own grows.

The current version of the guide is already the fifth revision, so you can understand that I'm constantly working on improving on it.



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)



03-16-2010, 10:36 AM

#142

headband 707

Plant whisperer

Join Date: Jul 2009
Location: who wants to know?
Posts: 4,017



That was a great read Kodiak

Really well done love the harvest part as this is the part ppl fuck up on all the time lol peace out Headband707



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

03-21-2010, 01:29 AM

#143

endu11

New Member

Join Date: Jan 2010
Posts: 9



Thank you sir . I enjoyed the read and its very helpful indeed. Especially for us new growers. + rep from me

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

03-21-2010, 04:20 AM

#144

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456
[Progress bar]



You're Welcome. I tried my best to include everything that you might want to know but feel free to ask my any questions if something springs to mind.



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

03-24-2010, 09:15 PM

#145

chaz

Member

Join Date: Mar 2010
Location: new england
Posts: 55
[Progress bar]



hello kodiak i had just read your work.wow.thats great stuff for the "newbie"like myself,whom has already learned the fundamentals of soil growing.such as *ph*,temp,light intensity,and so on.this was like a helping hand with the bonus of some interesting facts.it was perfect for me because you didnt get into certain things that people really should learn before spending hard earned cash and time before attempting.thank you sooo much.

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

03-25-2010, 03:52 AM

#146

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456
[Progress bar]



Hi chaz. I am glad that you liked it.
Keep it Green



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

03-25-2010, 05:23 AM

#147

Lord_Shagrath

Rip it - Strip it - Smoke it

Dude, credit where credit is due! Great thread man!

Please Visit the following:



Join Date: Aug 2009
Posts: 65



The Daily Cannagrapher
1st Scrog with Super Lemon Haze



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

04-07-2010, 10:16 AM

#148

Danks2005

Member

Join Date: Oct 2005
Posts: 713



Great guide kodak. Though I wouldn't consider myself a newbe, i am by no means a guru. I have always veged 24/0 just for simplicity and no timer needed. Though I am thinking about changing this. I hear a lot of arguments saying that 24 hours gives you a little more growth, getting you into the flower room a little faster.

Well I am also a vegetable gardener, and spend a lot(too much) time in my garden. Lately I have observed all my plants but mainly the tomatoes, adding growth over night. I go outside and smoke a joint while inspecting all my plants for pests and whatnot, everynight, and I can clearly see new growth in the morning. I been thinking about puting a camera on a solid tristan to see if i can't prove it, but my stoner ass proolly wont get to it. I already, have a large vegie garden, indoor garden, wife, kid, just to much going on to experiment like I want to.



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

04-07-2010, 01:35 PM

#149

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



I'm glad that you liked it.

24/0 is fine but so is 20/4 or even 18/6. The most important thing to remember when running the plants under 24/0 during veg, is that there will also be a significant stretch when you flip the switch to 12/12. Therefore it is best to shorten the day gradually instead in order to keep the internodes tight. Other than that, you can get great results with almost any vegging schedule at or above 18/6. Some light schedules work better than others, depending on the plant.

More rest gives the plants the time to relocate energy and growth hormones more efficiently but being a C3 plant, it can photosynthesize 24/7.

I believe that most of the photosynthetic activity takes place during the first few hours of the day, when the air is rich in CO2. That's why the air smells fresh in the morning, because the plants are pumping out massive amounts of oxygen. I think that the rate then decreases significantly during the day.

Are you sure that the tomato plants are putting on weight at night, or early in the morning? I suspect the latter but it's possible that the plants

take time during the night to relocate energy and therefore look better in the morning.

I also grow a lot of other plants, including all sorts of vegetables and herbs. Finally got around to trying the Naga Morich (Ghost Pepper) this year, which is the strongest chili known to man.

Nothings beats the taste of homegrown organic vegetables though. Very sweet. I have also grown tobacco just for fun, both virginian and mapacho. Tobacco carries resin glands, just like cannabis plants and it can be very potent, especially the mapacho, which is hallucinogenic to some extent. I found that out the hard way when I was working with the plants without wearing gloves.

Works great as an organic pesticide though, when combined with hot chili, cooking oil and soap.

You should look into companion planting. Chamomille for example is known to increase the production of *essential oils* in other plants. Works great on basil so I don't see why it wouldn't work on cannabis as well. I'm going to try it out outdoors when I get the chance.



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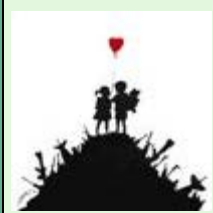


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04-07-2010, 05:30 PM # 150

ganjamind
Member



Join Date: Apr 2010
Posts: 231



Kodiak you are a source of inspiration 4 all the growers...
Tnx..><

I smoke weed because of them.

I'm not the one to blame.. <<they are

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05-25-2011, 02:48 PM

#211

Stress test

I'm always here when I'm not someplace else



Join Date: Oct 2010
Posts: 2,527



Hey Kodiak nice post and spot on the advice I gave him too.

It's difficult sometimes to explain to people that flush is a last resort for plants with lockout problems that derive from nutrient salts building up in the root zone.

One method people use in trying to prevent buildup related lockout is alternating clean water and nutes at watering.

I have found that if a plant is getting everything it needs every time, there is no salts buildup because it's all being used by the plant.

A friend once showed me a recipe that he used for sick or deficient plants. It works great and plants recover almost over night, but I done a break down on the available nutrients and trace minerals in the recipe and it is so complete that I adopted it for a complete feeding solution for all my plants until they are flipped for flower.

Full coverage of nutrients is the key to healthy plants. If one mineral is missing the plant may shut down and stop uptake entirely. So in most cases a full spectrum nutrient flush will correct most deficiency problems.

"I would.

I'd really like to meet an honest man.
But I'd have to lie to him cause I smoke pot."

- [First Outdoor Guerrilla Grow 2011](#)
- [Understanding Ph.](#)
- [Ingenious \\$4 Walmart Cloner.](#)
- [SOG's DIY micro-cloning factory tutorial.](#) (Very well illustrated and explained).
- [Handy site for the Gardener](#) (A wealth of information for any gardener).



Sometimes when I'm really medicated, I can really crack me



up.



 

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)


05-25-2011, 03:49 PM #212

outinit
Member

Join Date: May 2011
Location: the heartland
Posts: 119




Excellent and informative. Thank you.




Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

05-25-2011, 03:59 PM #213

Kodiak
Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



Sure thing outinit, I'm glad you liked it.

Hey Stress_test

Yeah. There's no need to flush the soil if you are just adjusting the *pH*. That can be done by making the nutrient solution slightly more acidic or basic.

I could not agree more. Growing becomes a whole lot easier if you make sure that the plants have everything that they need. I always make sure that I have everything covered. I add organic nutes to the soil, mainly guano and blood meal, and use a complete lineup of BioBizz liquid nutes as supplements. The combination has worked pretty well for me so far. Outdoors I use homemade compost that has a lot of stuff added to it, like ash, sea weed, sea shells, sawdust and so on. That stuff is rocket fuel for plants. It gives new meaning to the term explosive growth.

Preparing the soil is half the work, so it should be done with great care imo. It's also good to keep an open mind because it allows us to come up with new ideas on how to grow better weed. I've picked up a lot of stuff by growing and experimenting with all sorts of plants, like chili, herbs, vegetables and tobacco. You can learn something from every plant and that knowledge can then be applied when you grow weed.

Your recipe sounds great. You should post it somewhere. It might come in handy for many growers who are dealing with sick plants or just looking for a good feeding schedule.



[Got Some Seeds And Wanna Grow Weed?](#)

[Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning](#)



 

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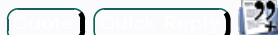
06-29-2011, 12:03 PM #214

trichrome101
Member

Join Date: Feb 2011
Posts: 50



I was wondering if someone could tell me the best soil *pH* for growing in?



Did you find this post helpful? Yes

06-30-2011, 08:04 AM

#215

Kodiak
Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



Anything between 6.0-7.0 is fine. Soil is more forgiving than hydro. The optimum range for growing in soil probably falls somewhere between pH 6.5-6.8.



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[Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning](#)



Did you find this post helpful? Yes

06-30-2011, 07:06 PM

#216

trichrome101
Member

Join Date: Feb 2011
Posts: 50



Quote:

Originally Posted by **Kodiak**
Anything between 6.0-7.0 is fine. Soil is more forgiving than hydro. The optimum range for growing in soil probably falls somewhere between pH 6.5-6.8.

thanx kodiac
ya i wasnt sure and i went trhough 3 books before i found it thanks for the memory update.

Did you find this post helpful? Yes

07-14-2011, 07:58 PM

#217

shorty68
Member

Join Date: Jan 2011
Location: indoor tent 5x5
600hps
Posts: 108



thx for your tips and advise. still learning as i grow but iv learned most from these forums like urs.

Did you find this post helpful? Yes

07-19-2011, 02:52 AM

#218

Kodiak
Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



No problem shorty. Drop in anytime if you have any questions. Best of luck with your plants 😊



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Did you find this post helpful? Yes

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

08-01-2011, 08:01 AM

#219

sgapetti
Pollen chucker

Join Date: Jun 2011
Location: Lost in space
Posts: 1,976



Great info, thanks for sharing. I am making som seed (first time) and your guide is most helpful.



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

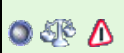
08-01-2011,
01:16 PM

#220

Kodiak
Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



Glad you liked it.

If you are lucky, you will find a male plant that looks like this



[Got Some Seeds And Wanna Grow Weed?](#)

[Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning](#)



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

09-21-2011, 12:49 AM

#221

SoulShine
seeking knowledge



Join Date: Jun 2007
Posts: 179



Thanks for all the great info here Kodiak! Been out of it for awhile and getting ready to fire up again, so just doing some research to make sure my fried brain hasn't forgotten the basics!



[SoulShine Moves Into The Closet](#)

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

09-21-2011, 11:29 AM

#222

Kodiak
Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



No problem SoulShine

This stuff gets into your blood so I'm sure that you will remember what to do when the time comes.



[Got Some Seeds And Wanna Grow Weed?](#)

[Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning](#)



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

09-22-2011, 01:59 PM

#223

de Morville
Member

Join Date: Sep 2011
Location: somewhere in the stratosphere
Posts: 61



awesome guide
for me the best i have read so far
lots of input from you, thanks

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

09-25-2011, 06:33 AM

#224

Kodiak
Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



Thanks. I'm glad you liked it.

Happy Growing



[Got Some Seeds And Wanna Grow Weed?](#)

[Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning](#)



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

09-25-2011, 02:11 PM

225

Capt Cannabis

Member



Join Date: Feb 2011

Posts: 84



Great post, tons of great information. Tagged for future reference.



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

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Page 15 of 22 << First < 5 13 14 15 16 17 > Last >>

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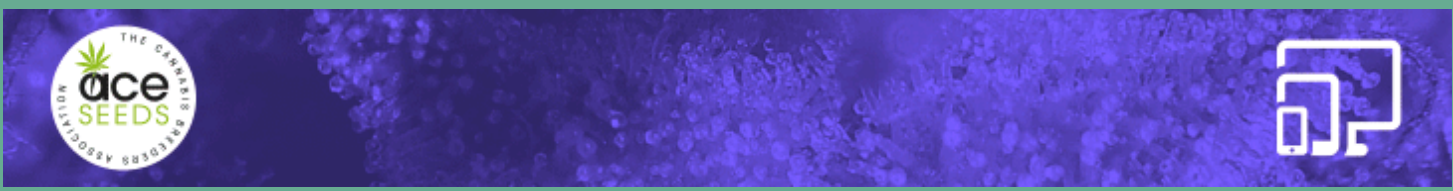
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04-07-2010, 05:38 PM #151

LUDACRIS
Banned

Join Date: Oct 2009
Location: SCOTLAND
Posts: 1,993

Exellent post.

LUDA.

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

04-07-2010, 06:24 PM #152

Hank Hemp
Senior Member

Good upgrade of your thread Kodiak.

I luv this flag more than the haters hate it!
God bless Johnny Boone wherever you are.



Join Date: Mar 2006
Location: Just South of the Mason/Dixon, away, away down South in Dixieland.
Posts: 4,562



Not all who wander are lost 🧐

I don't care who you are that's deep 🧐

You may see me tonight with a illegal smile. J. Prine



1 members found this post helpful. **Did you find this post helpful?** [Yes](#)

04-07-2010, 09:18 PM

#153

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



Thanks for the good vibes

Yeah, I gave the guide another complete overhaul some time back.

Seems like it's never truly done but it does look better than the first draft.



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

04-08-2010, 11:15 AM

#154

Hank Hemp

Senior Member



Join Date: Mar 2006
Location: Just South of the Mason/Dixon, away, away down South in Dixieland.
Posts: 4,562



This is a cross of your own making to bare.

ps your doing a good job. I don't have that kind of nerve, by a long shot



I luv this flag more than the haters hate it!

God bless Johnny Boone wherever you are. 🧐

Not all who wander are lost 🧐

I don't care who you are that's deep 🧐

You may see me tonight with a illegal smile. J. Prine





1 members found this post helpful. **Did you find this post helpful?** [Yes](#)

04-10-2010, 11:39 PM

#155

Hazy Lady

Prom Night Dumpster Baby

ICMag Donor



Join Date: Jul 2009
Location: I'm taking a stroll
Posts: 1,091



Super job Kodiak, very helpful guide.



Tom Hill 'Haze'

Quote:

My selections have focused on high-quality resin production, and imo this line is the Haze resin-queen.



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

04-11-2010, 01:37 AM

#156

bodonovich

Member

Join Date: Aug 2009
Posts: 54



very helpful thx



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

04-11-2010, 01:48 AM

#157

Dr.TomAdams

Member

Join Date: Mar 2010
Posts: 41



great



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

04-11-2010, 02:08 AM

#158

Maj.Cottonmouth

We are Farmers

Quote:

Originally Posted by [Kodiak](#)

Seed Junky



Join Date: Aug 2009
Location: An Elevated Plane of Existence
Posts: 3,579



Thanks for the good vibes

Yeah, I gave the guide another complete overhaul some time back.

Seems like it's never truly done but it does look better than the first draft.

I think this is an understatement, the make over is Fab U Lus, very easy to read.

All My Children

- [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) [6](#) [7](#) [8](#) [9](#) [10](#) [11](#) [12](#) [13](#) [14](#) [15](#) [16](#)

[Easy Smart Pot Transplant](#)

So, in summation: The CIA, with a little help from the Nazis, accidentally helped invent hippies while they were trying to figure out how to brainwash communists.

1 members found this post helpful. **Did you find this post helpful?** [Yes](#)

04-11-2010, 02:50 PM #159

HighHead

Member

Join Date: Oct 2009
Posts: 50



great post

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

04-11-2010, 07:55 PM #160

gs123

New Member

Join Date: Apr 2010
Posts: 11



my babys are 3 n a half week into veg, i topped 1 ov them but forgot to do it with the lights off will ther b any negative consequences

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

04-11-2010, 08:18 PM #161

ILoveit

Member

Deeply appreciated for this thread.



Join Date: Jun 2009
Posts: 273



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

04-12-2010, 09:38 AM

#162

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



Thanks everyone, I'm glad I could help.

No need to worry gs123, your plant will be just fine. LST'ing goes well with topping, so you could give it a shot for even better results.



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

04-12-2010, 02:34 PM

#163

nineblanc

Member



Join Date: Mar 2010
Posts: 41



Nice guide dude (: very usefull

Smoke weed every day <3

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

04-12-2010, 06:17 PM

#164

Reverend Mojo

Member



Join Date: Apr 2010
Location: Ontario Canada
Posts: 326



1St class posting. Should be a sticky imho.



Pink Floyd - Sheep : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j5mJQGMqJvw>

*Have you heard the news?
The dogs are dead!
You better stay home
And do as you're told.
Get out of the road if you want to grow old.*



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

04-18-2010, 03:27 AM

#165

WauGreen

Member



Join Date: Apr 2010
Posts: 25



BIG THANKS

Just want to say a big thanks for this post, I am a new gower and thought this was the mosy helpful guide I have read to date. Feeling a bit more confident going ahead with my babies, I have 5 feminised Northern Lights and 7 Super skunk which are about 3 weeks old, so far so good!! Will keep returning to review your guide though.

Thanks 🌿



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04-18-2010, 03:39 AM #166

frikn squirrel
Member
Join Date: Mar 2010
Posts: 140

I read this thread a while back and was very impressed. I just read through it again and found that it has been continually updated, and I was even more impressed. Very nice reference guide. I really like the details on peak time to harvest. That's a hard part to get down, imo..'

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

04-18-2010, 07:14 AM #167

Kodiak
Mad Scientist

Thanks, I'm glad you liked it.

I will keep updating the guide with new information when something comes to my attention.

[Got Some Seeds And Wanna Grow Weed?](#)

Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



[Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning](#)



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

04-26-2010, 03:47 PM

#168

[Aphex Ghost](#)

New Member

Join Date: Mar 2010
Posts: 19



Absolutely plum. Concise, informative and inspiring. Imagine that in a handwritten pocket book. Holy shitsauce. *Rhizopogon villosullus* is on the menu for my seedlings...

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

04-26-2010, 03:53 PM

#169

[metameric](#)

Member



Join Date: Jun 2009
Location: Often turned on,
rarely tuned in...
Posts: 152



Great thread

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

04-26-2010, 06:07 PM

#170

[Kodiak](#)

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456

Thanks

Yeah, mycorrhiza is some good stuff alright. Makes plants grow twice as big in half the time, while improving on resistance at the same time.



[Got Some Seeds And Wanna Grow Weed?](#)

[Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning](#)



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

05-08-2010, 04:59 PM

#171

haveaNOSday

Banned



Join Date: Feb 2010

Posts: 86



clever person deserves a bump....Very good read!

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

05-08-2010, 10:12 PM

#172

Rambro

Member

Join Date: Apr 2010

Posts: 157



subscribed!

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

05-23-2010, 02:54 PM

#173

ERVABUE

Member



Join Date: Nov 2009

Location: 35.30°N and

51.5°N

Posts: 87



nutes dosages

Hi Kodiak,a great work you have here !

maybe you can tell to a question of a confused friend...

The question is /The tables of the nutrients brands eg.canna,vitalink,biobizz,etc. ..coming with a millimetre dosage reference under each week of the plant life from vegetative till end of flowering.He asks if that is the amount required for that week and that amount should last all week,or can he give it more times over the same week as required by the plant?should use some plain water?

cheers mate

Is only a flower for GOD sake!...

325 watts CFL-SLH and kush going in flowering,..and a cheese clone!



<https://www.icmag.com/ic/showthread.php?t=188554>



Black Jack(sweet seeds)

<https://www.icmag.com/ic/showthread.php?t=178258>

Enjoy



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

05-24-2010, 06:59 AM

#174

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008

Location: The Lab

Posts: 456



Hi ERVABUE

The tables are just general guidelines.

I think that the dosage is supposed to last the whole week but if he feeds them more, he should use the same amount of nutrients.

All plants are different so the feeding schedule might work better for some plants than others. Some plants are very nutrient hungry and might need a second feeding or a stronger dosage at one point or another.

A good way to tell if a plant is hungry is by looking at its colour. If the leafs are deep green, the plant is also well fed. If the leafs look pale, it usually means that the plant is hungry. The only way to learn about the specific needs of a plant, is by growing it.

If the plants look nice and green, he could feed them plain water instead of nutrients because the plants might have all that they need at that time.

Following the tables might be a good idea if he is starting out but later on he might not need them anymore as he will be able to tell what needs to be done, just by looking at the plants.



[Got Some Seeds And Wanna Grow Weed?](#)

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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

05-24-2010, 01:30 PM

#175

ERVABUE

Member





Join Date: Nov 2009
Location: 35.30°N and 51.5°N
Posts: 87



experience is the lot

cheers

Is only a flower for GOD sake!...

325 watts CFL-SLH and kush going in flowering,..and a cheese clone!



<https://www.icmag.com/ic/showthread.php?t=188554>

Black Jack(sweet seeds)

<https://www.icmag.com/ic/showthread.php?t=178258>

Enjoy



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

06-27-2010, 08:29 AM

#176

LiLWaynE

I Feel Good

ICMag Donor



Join Date: Sep 2007
Location: errwhere
Posts: 2,965



" The Most Influential ICMag Threads... lets see them "



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

06-27-2010, 09:03 AM

#177


Kodiak

Mad Scientist



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THANK YOU.

LUDACRIS.



 

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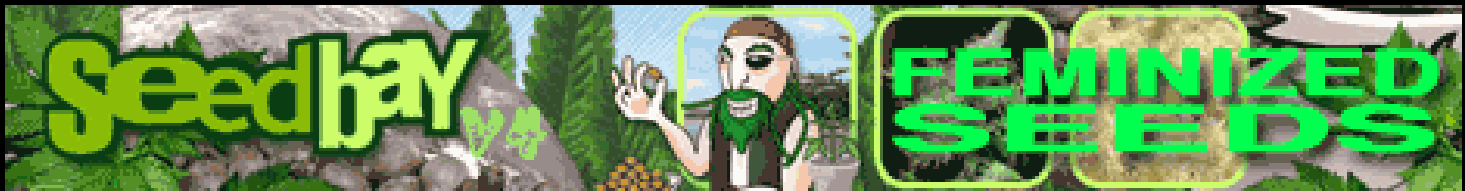
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10-12-2011, 09:04 PM #226

Thumb Billy
New Member
Join Date: Sep 2011
Location: A clearing in the woods in the thumb of Michigan
Posts: 2

I've been growing for many years but was never able to learn from others. Just recently joined this group and I am amazed by the information that you have available and about how little I really knew after all of these years. Thanks for all of the time and effort that you put into this thread. Once I started I couldn't stop reading.

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

10-12-2011, 10:18 PM #227

who dat is
Cave Dweller

Quote:
Originally Posted by **Thumb Billy**
I've been growing for many years but was never able to learn from others. Just recently joined this group and I am amazed by the information that you have available and about how little I really knew after all of these years. Thanks for all of the time and



Join Date: Oct 2007
Posts: 3,116



effort that you put into this thread. Once I started I couldn't stop reading.

That about sums up my experience here too man except for the growing for years part. I've definitely spent some hours reading and researching stuff on this site. Welcome aboard. 🍀



Instagram @whodatisco
Who Grows Glue Better Than You. (current)

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

10-13-2011, 04:47 AM

#228

Kodiak
Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



Thanks guys, I'm glad that you liked the guide.

Yeah, this place is packed with tons of information and it just keeps on getting better.



[Got Some Seeds And Wanna Grow Weed?](#)

[Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning](#)



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

11-09-2011, 06:50 PM

#229

FISH4250
New Member

Join Date: Nov 2011
Location: usa
Posts: 6



HATS OFF to the writer of this page & pages I'm newbie & I actually found the thread to CI on mag420 & your site o are so in depth & easy to follow its on real, if i would of found this sight in the beginning, In a nutshell I wouldn't of made so many mistakes keep the great work up as my teacher in school always said DO YOUR HOME WORK

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

11-13-2011, 04:17 AM

#230

Kodiak
Mad Scientist

Thanks for the good words, I'm glad that you found the guide useful.



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456
■■■■■

Your teacher was right but theory is always slightly different from practise. Making mistakes is part of the learning process. That's how I found out half of this stuff. Every time you experiment with something new, you have to be prepared to make a few mistakes. You can learn just as much that way. Sometimes you learn faster if you encounter all sorts of problems from the start.

Even after many years of growing, I still run into new things because I grow both indoors and outdoors and make my own seeds. The outcome is always unpredictable to some degree. There's always something new around the corner, so the learning never actually stops. Growing does get easier though, the more you know.

I used to study the science behind plants and growing for a long time but nowadays I like to forget about all of it and just enjoy watching the plants grow. It's more fun and reminds me of the times when I started out.

At first the plant is just a plant. Then you start researching it and it becomes something else. You break it down into little pieces in order to see the whole picture. When you are done reasearching, the plant is just a plant once again, only you know it better.

That's when you get to the smooth sailing. You prepare everthing so well that the plants pretty much take care of themselves because you know what they like and need.

Have fun growing

K



[Got Some Seeds And Wanna Grow Weed?](#)

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1 members found this post helpful. **Did you find this post helpful?** [Yes](#)



12-08-2011, 01:41 PM

#231

Seedlin

Member

Seedlin's Avatar



Join Date: Dec 2011
Posts: 173



New to ths site myself and can't tear myself away from it. So much good information. Will be designin a grow room /tent inthe next few days and ordering some seeds from somewheres. Any suggestions on seed bank or a good indica strain to start out with?



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

12-09-2011, 09:36 PM

#232

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



Welcome to ICmag

Stick to the well known seeds banks and you should be ok.

Try Hindu Kush or Master Kush. They are both reasonably priced and easy to grow.

Here's a list of indica strains that you also might want to check out:

- Hash Plant
- Black Domina
- Afghani #1
- Maple Leaf Indica
- Northern Lights
- Durga Mata
- Sandstorm
- Legends Ultimate Indica
- X18
- Deep Chunk
- Taskenti

There are many more to choose from, so check out different seed banks/breeders and pick a plant that you like.



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1 members found this post helpful. Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)



12-18-2011, 10:58 PM

#233

420stoner

Member



Join Date: Jan 2011
Location: HERE AT MY PAD
Posts: 119



THANKZ FOR SHARING THE INFO MAN!





Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

12-20-2011, 07:20 AM

#234

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



No problem 420stoner. I'm glad you liked the guide.

Keep it Green



[Got Some Seeds And Wanna Grow Weed?](#)

[Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning](#)



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

01-07-2012, 05:01 PM

#235

ganjah master

New Member

Join Date: Dec 2011
Posts: 1



I'm really impressed with kind of high quality information this site provides.
thanks, keep working the good job mates



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

01-20-2012, 01:15 PM

#236

Siomha

Member



Join Date: Jan 2012
Location: France right now
Posts: 633



Kodiak

I read your posts over and over and finally decided to sign up here.

Your write so even I can get a lot out of it and i never had grown before.
Still want to learn some more about organic and hopefully i will be growing soon.

Fantastic posts!



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

01-20-2012, 02:30 PM

#237

faintfuzzies

Member

Join Date: Oct 2011
Posts: 249



end of 5th week of flower some yellowing

first off i just lost all but 1 medical legal plant due to a climate disaster, my vent to outside stayed open from a branch keeping vent door open it let all this cold 10 degree f air into room threw light and i went in room other day and it was about 10 degree F so i lost all but 1 plant.I have 1 plant left plant that was in the small room flowering it was saved becuase it was not near that disaster room, but this one plant is in 5th week of flower and doing really well but i did take some large yellow fan leaves off today maybe 3-4 large lower leaves The plant is a big plant 3+ft tall. in the 5th week of flowering(nice big flowers and they look real good is this normal or should i up the nitrogen a little bit. im using advanced nutes micro grow and bloom Im in sunshine mix #4 advanced mix my ppm is at 1150 and *ph* is between 6.0-6.2 ..most of time about 6.1ph.. I think its normal to see some yellowing in flowering but this is my first round and im not 100% sure. I want to make sure its happy being i lost all my other plants do to the cold . what a nightmare , my heart dropped.

Faint



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

01-21-2012, 02:32 AM

#238

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



Thanks guys, I'm glad that the guide was useful.

faintfuzzies, sorry to hear about your loss but on the upside, at least you still have the one plant so you have to make the most of it. Yeah, some yellowing of the lower leaves is normal and nothing to worry about. The plant is just relocating energy. The topmost leaves should however remain green until the later stages of flowering, when the remaining energy is used up for buds.

You do have a few options to consider. You can try to take clones from the flowering plant and persuade them to root in a bubbler. It might take some time and there are no guarantees but then you could start a second grow right after the first one, which might make up for lost time. Seems like it's a good plant. You can also try to re-veg the mother plant. I would probably cut the plant down in size, scratch a bit at the roots to promote new growth and then re-pot her in a good sized pot with fresh vegging nutes. Then I would put her back under 24/0 light schedule.

You can also train the big plant a bit, so that it produces more bud. It probably has a good 4, maybe 5 weeks to go, so there's some time. I would just spread out the branches a bit, so that more light reaches the lower buds and leaves. I might also consider removing some of the lower "pop-corn" buds, thereby pushing the production towards the top of the plant, to the areas that receive more light. The plant might also become healthier when more leaves are exposed to the light. Overall, it might take slightly longer to mature but it might be worth your while to wait.

I would up the phosphorus dosage slightly and you might also want to give them a small dose of nitrogen, in order to keep the leaves healthy. You should also have the rest of the fertz covered, so a few bottles of supplement nutes is required for healthy flowering. You can also try adjusting the *ph* a bit if the fertz don't do the trick. Some plants are

more fussy than others.

It's a bit difficult to give exact advice when I don't know the strain or what the plant looks like. Still, it seems like a hardy plant since it survived the cold, so I think that you are just a few steps from dialing in the nutes. You can try training the plant from the start the next time and see if you can pull more weight off her that way.

Stay creative when you grow your plants. It helps sometimes to think outside of the box. That's how people came up with all this stuff in the first place.

I wish you the best. May your harvest be grand.



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-08-2012, 08:20 PM #239

[junkyarddog](#)
 New Member

Join Date: Nov 2009
 Location: Oregon
 Posts: 23

Hey Kodiak -great job. I hope you/we can keep this thread going. Just thought I'd share a great spider mite repellant: Azatrol and spinosad mixed as directed - 2/3 tsp Azatrol and 1 TB spinosad in one quart water. Best spider might fighter I've found so far - after keeping grow site clean !

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-12-2012, 09:41 AM #240

[Kodiak](#)
 Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
 Location: The Lab
 Posts: 456

Hey junkyarddog,
 I'm sure that the thread will remain active. It's not as busy as before but I check in every now and then to answer questions and share thoughts on growing.

Thanks for that spider mite recipe. New ways of fighting them are always welcome because they are really pesky critters. They grow resistant to most toxins within a few generations and their reproduction cycle is very fast. That is why you should always hit them with everything you've got, to reduce the chance of them bouncing back. In reality though, they are almost impossible to wipe out completely because they move to other



potted plants in the house and wait there until their next strike. Just when you think you've gotten rid of them, they show up again with a vengeance.

They travel on clothes so they spread quite easily from grow to grow, especially if you accept clones from friends. I have unfortunately been forced to terminate mother plants in the past in order to fully eradicate the bugs.

The only foolproof way of getting rid of them is to stop growing for a few months. They need the plants to survive, so removing all soft tissue plants also means that the spider mites are eradicated because they are unable to feed and breed. You can keep plants around the house that have hard or very thick coated leaves because they are unable to feed on them. Anything with soft tissue will be attacked.

They are quite disgusting to look at as well. The word "infestation" springs into mind.

There are some quick remedies that can be applied when you encounter spider mites. You can wash the plants in the shower with copious amounts of water. That will take care of some of the eggs and mites but rarely all of them. You can also submerge the pots in water. Insects need air to breathe so they will abandon ship and head for the surface. It's interesting to watch because they start swimming for air en masse after a few minutes. Plant roots can survive without oxygen longer than insects can, so it's quite safe.

Then you hit them with either Neem Oil or Pyrethroids, preferably both. A mixture of nicotine water, hot chili, soap and cooking also work quite well. The oil and soap clogs up the passive breathing holes on the insect body (tracheae). The chili burns them and nicotine is a toxin, so they are poisoned as well. I use that mixture to spray on the top soil as it deters the critters from emerging from their hideout and feeding on the plants.

The best approach is however to use everything at once.

Just some thoughts on spider mites this time.

Have fun growing your plants and keep it green.

Kodiak



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1 members found this post helpful. **Did you find this post helpful?** [Yes](#)

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03-02-2012, 03:19 PM #241

Vampire Guest Posts: n/a

I'm not a new grower but I picked up lots of useful info here. Bookmarked and thanks.

03-04-2012, 03:41 AM #242

Kodiak Mad Scientist Join Date: Oct 2008



No problem Vampire, I'm glad you liked it. Got Some Seeds And Wanna Grow Weed? Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning

Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



1 members found this post helpful. **Did you find this post helpful?** [Yes](#)

03-04-2012, 03:41 AM

#243

Kodiak
Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



No problem Vampire, I'm glad you liked it.



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1 members found this post helpful. **Did you find this post helpful?** [Yes](#)

04-10-2012, 09:33 AM

#244

blue_lighter
Member

Join Date: May 2011
Location: pacific northwest
Posts: 38



great post! I have a quick question about cooling. i have an 1000w hps/mh and i was going to install i 4" inline fan with scrubber. I am setting up my grow room right now and i was wondering if that will be enough to cool down my 7x6x6 grow tent. i live in the pacific north west and my basement is 60 degrees so i was planning on the light warming the tent up a bit, i just dont want to burn my house down.

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

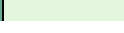
04-10-2012, 04:26 PM

#245

Kodiak
Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



I would say that bigger is always better when it comes to duct fans and cooling solutions for the hot bulbs, unless noise is an issue.

You can always hook up the fan to a speed controller, in order to adjust the air flow. Get something a little bit more advanced because the cheap fan speed controllers tend to create a loud buzzing sound and they can also kill the motor on the fan.

I'm sure that the relatively cool ambient temperature in your basement will keep the temps in the tent slightly lower but not by much. That 1000w bulb is going to get really hot.

Keep in mind that the benefits from a stronger light will be negated, if you cannot keep the temps within an acceptable range (77F-86F). You

don't want to burn your plants. Everything will be fine as long as you can keep the temps inside the grow tent at around 80 degrees F. That should be measured at the topmost shoots.

Use the smaller fan if you already got it but if you still have a choice, go with something a bit larger. Perhaps you should also check out what other growers here on the forum use with their 1000w lights. They can probably tell you what works and what does not. You should also find out how far away they keep the light from the plants, as that can help you determine the correct time to start flowering the plants.

It's difficult to give you definite advice on this matter because there are too many factors at play, but I hope that I at least gave you some new ideas.



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1 members found this post helpful. **Did you find this post helpful?** [Yes](#)

04-12-2012, 12:46 PM

#246

[blue_lighter](#)

Member

Join Date: May 2011
Location: pacific northwest
Posts: 38



Thank you for the information. The feeling that i have been getting is that i need a new fan. Better safe than sorry!

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

05-09-2012, 05:01 AM

#247

[Numenor](#)

New Member



Join Date: Apr 2005
Location: Police State
Posts: 20



Kodiak, thank you very much for taking the time to put this together. Extremely useful.






1 members found this post helpful. **Did you find this post helpful?** [Yes](#)

05-12-2012, 06:09 PM #248

airplane
Banned


Join Date: Apr 2012
Posts: 129




great information

That information pesented is the best I have ever read, believe me there are a lot on line , any way easy reading/understabding

Any good picture of plants just before harvest, always find them helpfull





1 members found this post helpful. **Did you find this post helpful?** [Yes](#)

05-14-2012, 01:53 AM #249

Kodiak
Mad Scientist




Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456





Thanks guys. I'm glad that you liked the guides.


Keep growing that sweet green gold.



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

05-16-2012, 06:22 AM #250

Elweedster
New Member

Join Date: Mar 2012
Posts: 15

ggo

goodstuff



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

05-19-2012, 06:45 AM #251

green planet
Member

SHOT FOR THE ARTICLE: Could you please assist with the following question. What are the effects of putting young (2 week)plants from the veg room in to the flowering room. Will this result in unsuccessful

Join Date: Nov 2011
Posts: 43



flowering or a reduced and undeveloped bud? What is the ideal time to move from clone to flowering room.

Thanks



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

05-19-2012, 02:06 PM

#252

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



Yeah, I should probably have put that in the article but I can no longer change the text because the guide contains more pictures than the current limit. In order to change the text, I would have to break it up over several posts, so I won't. I like having it all in one place and it's more clear that way.

To answer your question, putting young plants into flowering might have some of the following effects:

- Shorter veg time equals smaller plants, with smaller roots, which results in less bud. The plants might spend some time growing in size before they start flowering.

- Shorter veg times means less nodes and a longer stretch, which is counterproductive in terms of bud mass. In other words, you will get small plants with long internodes. They will build more stem than budding nodes because they won't have enough leaves to capture the light efficiently, so the plants will reach for it.

- Young plants have to reach sexual maturity before they will flower. That means that it will take them longer to begin flowering if they are put under 12/12 early. Plants can be flowered as soon as they show preflowers, but they will benefit from longer veg times, as that gives them time to put on more weight, form more bud nodes, establish their roots and grow a thicker main stem, which aids in the uptake of water and nutrients.

Putting them into flowering early will, however, not result in incomplete or unsuccessful flowering but you might end up with less bud and not actually save a lot of time. The plants will largely stop growing in size when they are put under 12/12. I don't think that stress is a factor here, the plants will just be small.

You could go with 18/6 for 2 more weeks, in order to make up for the shorter veg time. They will flower sooner that way, because the shorter days might also shorten the transitional stage between vegging and flowering. If you have access to both Metal Halide and HPS lights, you could leave the MH bulb in place for the first 2 weeks of 12/12, until you see real flowers, after which, you change to the HPS bulb. That will encourage vegetative growth during those 2 weeks and it might reduce the stretch.





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05-21-2012, 06:12 AM #253

<p>green planet Member</p> <p>Join Date: Nov 2011 Posts: 43</p> 	<p>Thanks mate for the info. Appreciate your generosity. Will attended to it.</p> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> 
<hr/> Did you find this post helpful? Yes	

05-21-2012, 08:49 AM #254

<p>airplane Banned</p> <p>Join Date: Apr 2012 Posts: 129</p> 	<p>another great post/information fro "Kodiac" Thanks</p> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> 
<hr/> Did you find this post helpful? Yes	

05-21-2012, 01:08 PM #255

<p>Kodiac Mad Scientist</p>  <p>Join Date: Oct 2008 Location: The Lab Posts: 456</p> 	<p>No problem. Glad you liked it guys.</p> <p>Keep it green.</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Got Some Seeds And Wanna Grow Weed?</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> 
<hr/> 1 members found this post helpful. Did you find this post helpful? Yes	

05-24-2012, 01:13 PM #256

<p>Madjag More Dhamma, Less Drama</p>	<p>Your Work Will help Many</p> <hr/> <p>I thank you deeply as well. Though I've been a grower for 35 years,</p>
--	---



Join Date: Jan 2012
Location: Sonoran Desert - Arizona
Posts: 1,723



outdoors of course, I have recently dabbled in starting my friends under CFLs and have learned the hard way about setting them outside too early.

Your info has helped me refine the technique, along with other ICMag threadsters.

Gracias,

Madjag



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05-25-2012, 10:01 AM #256

Kodiak
Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456

Very cool pics Madjag. I'm an outdoor grower myself, so I can appreciate the nice plants that you have. I started growing outdoors some years ago and now I can enjoy both worlds. Outdoor bud is my favourite though, as you can smell and taste the elements in the bud when you smoke it. You can taste the wind, the rain etc. It's more feral and not so delicate.

You also get HUGE plants outdoors, which is great. The thickness of the stem in the pic that you provided is what I also see. You basically need an axe or a saw to cut them down. I've seen trees break in hard wind, while the bud still stands tall.

You also learn about nature, which is fun. I got so good at walking around in the forest silently, that I was able to sneak up on deer. Got some really good nature pics too.

Yeah, you can't put them outside too soon or the critters will get them. Once they reach a certain size, they are mostly out of harm's way. Even if they get topped, they still survive. You can build small "cages" for the plants out of sticks, in order to protect the plants. That way it will blend into the surroundings, as long as you use stuff that you find in the forest. Camouflage plays a big part of outdoor growing. Picking the right spot etc. but I'm sure that you know all this already, being a veteran of outdoor

growing.

I've noticed something else too. It seems as if the plants that are pre-grown inside, also get attacked more by insects and critters, than plants that have been planted into the ground as seeds. The way I reasoned that is that the soil carries a certain "scent" and when you bring out plants that have been growing in "foreign" soil, they stick out more because they "smell" different. Plants that have grown from seed in the ground, carry the same "scent" as the surrounding vegetation, thereby blending in more.

It could be a coincidence, but sort of makes sense to me.

Good luck with your plants. May you get grand harvests.



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1 members found this post helpful. **Did you find this post helpful?** [Yes](#)



05-25-2012, 12:07 PM

#257

[airplane](#)

Banned

Join Date: Apr 2012
Posts: 129



go to "1,000 bulbs.com" for your CFL's (10 star company)



1 members found this post helpful. **Did you find this post helpful?** [Yes](#)

05-28-2012, 01:22 PM

#258

[mattkilla420](#)

Member



Join Date: Mar 2012
Location: Estados Unidos
Posts: 428



Excellent guide Kodiak. This is my first time growing cannabis and i have been following ur guide thoroughly. One thing i wished u would have elaborated more on is the drying and curing. To me this seems like most crucial state to get decent bud. I read couple others methods. And they seem to be more complezl. I.e. air dry then paper bag for cpl days then air dry then jar cure. Idk they really just confused the shit out of me. I didnt know if u had a more detailed way if ur thread was just cut short. Any response soon would be awesome, im only few weeks off from harvest. Thanks dude. Great guide.

Sent from my C771 using Tapatalk 2

[2 Guys and a plant...the third tier of my growing](#)

life!**{CURRENT GROW}** DEEP-AERO-CULTURE(current hydro grow)



--->K.I.S.S. A new way of life!k---{OLD}
Matkilla420's Hempy Bucket grow!!{OLD}

A nation's culture resides in the hearts and in the soul of its people.
-Mahatma Ghandi



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

05-28-2012, 04:50 PM

#259

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008

Location: The Lab

Posts: 456



Hey Matkilla. Yeah, there are different methods but the basics steps are the same every time.

This is what I do: First you need to slowly allow the buds to dry in the air, making sure that there is proper air exchange to prevent mold. When the bud almost dry, while still retaining some minute moisture, place them in the jars. Then keep curing them in the jars, while ventilating out the bud daily. This sort of makes the bud "sweat" a little bit, bringing out the scent and taste. You don't want to place the bud into the jars too early because then you won't get the same effect. If you wait too long, it won't stay nice as long and get really dry.

That keeps the buds really nice. The bud will be at its best sometime past one month in the jars. The remaining *THC* acid will have turned into fully realized *THC*, while the smoke gets smoother and the smell gets stronger.

Enjoy that bud



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2 members found this post helpful. Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

05-28-2012, 05:22 PM

#260

mattkilla420

Member



Join Date: Mar 2012
Location: Estados Unidos
Posts: 428



Thx dude. Sorry another? I kno youll help. I just found out my bagseed plant is full blown hermie. I cut few nanners few days ago and im looking today n thete everywhere. What are my options? Im on day 46 of flower. I have three othet plants in my closet.2 ssh which look very mildly pollinated and 1 ww tjat had few nanners but is also little pollinated. I don't want any further possible *pollination* so i wanna get it out of closet right. Could i finish it under 4 lamp 2ft t5 elsewhere. I really dont have an idea and i don't just wanna toss it. It smells super fruity. But i cant keep picking this many nanners everyday hard to spot. Any help be awesome
Attachment 168269Attachment 168268

Sent from my C771 using Tapatak 2

2 Guys and a plant...the third tier of my growing life{CURRENT GROW}

DEEP-AERO-CULTURE(current hydro grow)



--->K.I.S.S. A new way of life!<---{OLD}
Mattkilla420's Hempy Bucket grow!!{OLD}

A nation's culture resides in the hearts and in the soul of its people.

-Mahatma Ghandi

Last edited by mattkilla420; 07-26-2014 at 01:00 PM..



Did you find this post helpful? Yes



05-28-2012, 06:08 PM

#261

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



I would get all the hermies out of there and then concentrate on getting more weight out of the the stable females. If you can stop further hermie *pollination*, you can also let those Super Silver Haze females go a bit longer for more weight. You might want to do some extra training in order to increase the yield. Super cropping perhaps. Just extend the flowering time for the stable females, while you try to encourage the formation of more *dominant* shoots. You can prolong or shift the flowering stage through training, to some degree.

You can also just let them be and get around to your next grow as soon as they finish.

There's really no point in allowing the hermies to flower any further because they will just continue to sprout nanners and pollinate each other all over the place. It might even get worse. You can't catch all the nanners or pollen in time. You'll just get loads of seeds that you really

can't use. More seeds means less smokable bud. The hermie pollen will also spread to the SSH females via the air, clothes etc.

Unstable hermies don't really make good parents for feminized seeds. You'll just get more full-blown hermies in the offspring.

I would take down the hermies. You can dry them and smoke them while you are waiting for the stable females to pack on more weight. They might still have a good high. The hermie trait does not exclude good potency.



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)



05-28-2012, 07:05 PM

#262

mattkilla420
Member



Join Date: Mar 2012
Location: Estados Unidos
Posts: 428

Thanks bro that's what i thought. I just didnt know since its only 46 days in flower what was best way to consume. Hash,smoke, etc. Well looks like ive got lil work tonight. Trim and dry it like u suggested and ill think more on wether to hash or not. Would u expect it to get me high? Thanks again bro

Sent from my C771 using Tapatalk 2

2 Guys and a plant...the third tier of my growing life!**{CURRENT GROW}**

DEEP-AERO-CULTURE(current hydro grow)



--->K.I.S.S. A new way of life!<---**{OLD}**
Mattkilla420's Hempy Bucket grow!!**{OLD}**

A nation's culture resides in the hearts and in the soul of its people.

-Mahatma Ghandi



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

05-29-2012, 07:37 AM

#263

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008

Location: The Lab

Posts: 456



It's been flowering for some 6 weeks, so I would expect it to work. Probably not quite as potent as fully flowered bud but still pretty good. It will get better after a few weeks in the jars.

Enjoy



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

05-29-2012, 11:41 AM

#264

mattkilla420

Member



Join Date: Mar 2012

Location: Estados Unidos

Posts: 428



Thank you very much mr.miagi!

Sent from my C771 using Tapatalk 2

[2 Guys and a plant...the third tier of my growing life!{CURRENT GROW}](#)

[DEEP-AERO-CULTURE\(current hydro grow\)](#)



--->K.I.S.S. A new way of life!---{OLD}

Mattkilla420's Hempy Bucket grow!!{OLD}

A nation's culture resides in the hearts and in the soul of its people.

-Mahatma Ghandi



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

05-29-2012, 02:59 PM

#265

No problem bro. Good luck with the SSH.

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



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[Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning](#)



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

10-13-2012, 07:41 AM

#266

Lastname

New Member



Join Date: Sep 2012
Location: Indoor
Posts: 2



Must read for every newcomer.
Great job Kodiak.

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

10-26-2012, 05:05 AM

#267

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



Thanks. I'm glad you liked the guide.

Happy growing



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[Complete Guide To Topping, Training And Pruning](#)



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

10-31-2012, 10:31 AM

#268

ThaMagnificent

The Biggest Boss Thus Far...



Join Date: Apr 2009
Location: The Second City
Posts: 360



Great writeup! A must read for any newbie grower!

I was wondering if you had a section on how to properly care for Mother plants?

The Boss...



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

11-29-2012, 12:49 PM

#269

Javadog
Guest

Posts: n/a



Excellent write up. Thank you!



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

12-04-2012, 04:55 AM

#270

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



No problem guys, I'm glad that you found the guide useful 😊

I don't have a section for mother plants but that's fairly straight forward. You just keep the mother plants under a 24/7 lightschedule (or 20/4, which I prefer) and keep her in check by removing growth every week. That growth can also be used to create new clones.

It all depends on how much space you have to spare for the mother plants. Pot size also determines the size of the plant, as root mass = plants mass.

Then again, if the mother plants becomes root bound (runs out of root space), she might start flowering. If you keep the mother plant around for a long time, you might have to trim the roots as well, in order to prevent this from happening.

You can train the mother plants, so that they don't require much space, by topping and LSTing. Check out the Training Guide in my sig for more information on that subject.

Here is a thread on keeping Bonsai Moms, and mother plants in general.

[All About Bonsai Moms](#)



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A Cannabis Growing Guide - All that you need to know to get started

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01-03-2013, 01:20 PM #271

User profile for Kodiak (Mad Scientist) with a bear avatar, join date (Oct 2008), location (The Lab), and post count (456).

Hi guys,
I just wanted to let you know that for the time being, I won't be around to answer questions (I'll be back, I just don't know when).
I hope that the guide will answer most of the things that you might need to know.
Feel free to still post questions here, someone might answer them in my place.
Happy Growing,
K



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1 members found this post helpful. **Did you find this post helpful?** [Yes](#)

01-03-2013, 01:36 PM
#272


hush
Señor Member





Join Date: Jan 2011
Posts: 3,346



Just saw this today for the first time... it's a very well-worded instructional, complete with pictures. Very good job!

[My hidey hole... where I hide out](#) 

[My ongoing QWISO journal](#) 




Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)


01-20-2013, 09:49 AM
#273

veclo
Guest

Posts: n/a




one of the most detailed guides ive read, A++



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

01-29-2013, 02:05 AM
#274


MedicalGrower
Member



Join Date: Feb 2011
Location: beneath 80" inches of liquid sunshine...
Posts: 179

Safe journey's Kodiak

Quote:

Originally Posted by **Kodiak** 

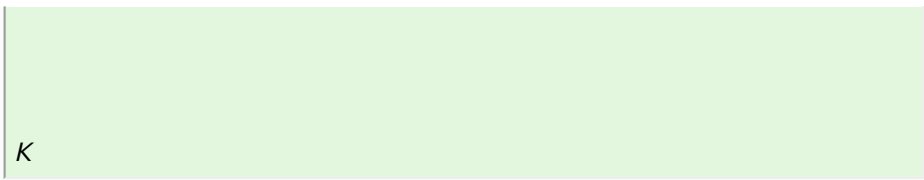
Hi guys,

I just wanted to let you know that for the time being, I won't be around to answer questions (I'll be back, I just don't know when).

I hope that the guide will answer most of the things that you might need to know.

Feel free to still post questions here, someone might answer them in my place.

Happy Growing,



K

Safe journey Kodiak, thankx for sharing its an awesome guide you have put here...
be well 🌱
mg

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-16-2013, 11:04 PM #275

808Rob
New Member

Join Date: Dec 2012
Location: A little grass shack
Posts: 11

Thanks for this great post. Super informative, just like your others. Still, I'm stumped what to use for soil. You wrote some good info on nutes, but I didn't notice an explanation of what you're starting with for soil. I'm just starting my first grow. Seeds are germinated and placed in Jiffy pellets to develop. Now I'm thinking ahead and unsure what to do for soil. My plan is to veg under T5HO and then move outside in the pots to flower. Since its my first run, I want to keep it simple. Do you think I can get away with Fox Farm soil first, while using their various liquid nutes during veg and flowering?

Thanks for sharing your knowledge!!

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-17-2013, 12:31 AM #276

Javadog
Guest

Posts: n/a

I use FFOF and the Botanicaire line with success.
Good luck,
JD

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-17-2013, 04:55 PM #277

808Rob
New Member

Join Date: Dec 2012
Location: A little grass shack
Posts: 11

Thanks for the confirmation, JD. I think I've decided.
Aloha!

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-17-2013, 08:35 PM

#278

Javadog
Guest

Posts: n/a



Good luck!

Let us know how it goes.

JD



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-22-2013, 03:32 PM

#279

masterwelder65

New Member

Join Date: Oct 2007
Location: SANTA MONICA
CA
Posts: 24



This is a great thread.



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-22-2013, 03:50 PM

#280

Madjag

More Dhamma, Less Drama



Join Date: Jan 2012
Location: Sonoran Desert -
Arizona
Posts: 1,723



Soil Threads on ICMag

Quote:

Originally Posted by [808Rob](#)

Thanks for this great post. Super informative, just like your others. Still, I'm stumped what to use for soil. You wrote some good info on nutes, but I didn't notice an explanation of what you're starting with for soil. I'm just starting my first grow. Seeds are germinated and placed in Jiffy pellets to develop. Now I'm thinking ahead and unsure what to do for soil. My plan is to veg under T5HO and then move outside in the pots to flower. Since its my first run, I want to keep it simple. Do you think I can get away with Fox Farm soil first, while using their various liquid nutes during veg and flowering?

Thanks for sharing your knowledge!!



Here are two threads concerning soil recipes. The first was started to ask Tom Hill, pro grower and breeder, to share his soil mix and knowledge. it's now up to 423 pages:



<https://www.icmag.com/ic/showthread.php?t=159846>



This second thread is a compendium of 50-60 growers' recipes, compiled by a friend of all growers, Joe Fresh. It's amazing, too:



<https://www.icmag.com/ic/showthread.php?t=228020>

	<p>Peace, Madjag</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> </p> <hr/> <p>1 members found this post helpful. Did you find this post helpful? Yes</p>
---	---

02-22-2013, 04:01 PM	#281
<p>masterwelder65 New Member</p> <p>Join Date: Oct 2007 Location: SANTA MONICA CA Posts: 24</p> 	<p>Thanks ^^ for the heads up. 😞 😊</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> </p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: right;">Did you find this post helpful? Yes</p>

02-27-2013, 12:00 AM	#282
<p>DemonTrich Member</p> <p>Join Date: Jan 2013 Posts: 696</p> 	<p>kodiak, thank you so much for the thread.TONS and TONS of very usefull info. new grower and i can use all the help i can get. dual tents with 600watt a/c hoods 🌿 and legal</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> </p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: right;">Did you find this post helpful? Yes</p>

03-24-2013, 10:44 AM	#283
<p>bud88 New Member</p> <p>Join Date: Mar 2013 Posts: 1</p> 	<p>AMAZING GUIDE MAN, YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW MANY NEW GROWERS USE THIS GUIDE, THIS IS BETTER THAN THE GROWERS BIBLE! THANKS</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> </p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: right;">Did you find this post helpful? Yes</p>

03-27-2013, 10:56 PM	#284
<p>DoobieGrower Newbie</p> <p>Join Date: Mar 2013 Location: California Posts: 32</p> 	<p>Thank you for putting this guide together. It really does help to educate the newbs like myself. I appreciate your hard work.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Thank You! </p>



1 members found this post helpful. **Did you find this post helpful?** [Yes](#)



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09-15-2013, 02:56 PM #286

Born-on-420
Newbie

Join Date: Aug 2013
Location: The Netherlands
Posts: 24

So Much Good Info
Really! this is a lot of great info, my guru's have missed some of these finer points, I've booked marked this page!
Great post!
born-on-420

Did you find this post helpful? Yes

10-06-2013, 12:32 PM #287

Kodiak
Mad Scientist

Hi guys
I'm glad you liked the guide.



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



Keep up the good work.

I will check in but not very often, so try to help each other out on this thread by answering questions and providing information.

Keep it green

-Kodiak-



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Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

10-06-2013, 01:47 PM

#288

trichrider
THEORETICAL



Join Date: Apr 2010
Location: between CB1 and the singularity.
Posts: 6,527



K+
from one who recognizes the effort involved.
saint kodiak.



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

04-13-2014, 05:06 AM

#289

Kodiak
Mad Scientist





Thanks for the kind words 😊

Keep growing the good stuff



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Join Date: Oct 2008
 Location: The Lab
 Posts: 456

  






2 members found this post helpful. **Did you find this post helpful?** [Yes](#)

04-28-2014, 07:32 PM #290





hestah
 Member
 Join Date: Apr 2014
 Posts: 138

  

Thanks for this immensely valuable guide! As a newb grower this among a few others are now subscribed and will be read many more times.




Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

04-30-2014, 11:53 AM #291





DeFiyah Mon
 Newbie
 Join Date: Apr 2014
 Location: Westmoreland
 Jamaica/FEMA RegionIII
 Posts: 3

  

Great work and thanks Kodiak. Gonna cut my teeth outdoors at 18.33 degrees N. Absorbed plenty for a novice(about 2% lol). Some local know mixed with ICM and I'm gonna Grow up!
 Gonna need a cloning shed! I've noticed the lack of cloning amongst mi farma bredren.
 Any strain suggestions for my latitude and experience level. Thx




Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

04-30-2014, 12:04 PM #292

DeFiyah Mon
 Newbie
 Join Date: Apr 2014
 Location: Westmoreland
 Jamaica/FEMA RegionIII
 Posts: 3

  

Guess that would be a cloning / germination shed!



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

06-12-2014, 11:20 PM #293

djvai
 Newbie

thanks for the advise - I'm a newbie at growing - been some interesting reading - however quite overwhelming the amount of information that is available in this forum - great place to learn.

Need to find "The One".



D

Join Date: Jun 2014
Posts: 7



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

06-23-2014, 11:44 AM

#294

zeke99

Member

Join Date: Dec 2010
Posts: 368



Quote:

Originally Posted by **Kodiak** [View Image](#)

IMO, the inclusion of this photograph in the guide is a net negative. Thinking about inexperienced growers visiting this thread, it's highly likely that they're going to assume that a multitude of expensive, bottled "nutes" and "boosters" are necessary tools.

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

07-11-2014, 10:08 AM

#295

CimeTempestose

Member



Join Date: Apr 2014
Location: Wonder Land
Posts: 765



great job man !

- Organic Grower -

run 2014 : Jamaican Pearl + Durban (SS) closed

... non si smette di giocare perchè si diventa vecchi... si diventa vecchi perchè si smette di giocare....

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

08-29-2014, 02:16 PM

#296

jeff62

Newbie

Join Date: Jan 2014

Kodiak, both your posts were great easy to understand reading. I was wondering what kind of *kelp* you used on your indoor plants? Any info would be appreciated. Thanks again jeffc

Location: northern maine
Posts: 1



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

09-18-2014, 04:49 PM

#297

funkadellic19

Newbie



Join Date: Sep 2014
Location: USA
Posts: 13



Super useful! Thanks for the post!

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

09-18-2014, 04:58 PM

#298

funkadellic19

Newbie



Join Date: Sep 2014
Location: USA
Posts: 13



So, I've read this entire post a bunch of times. I've also read through many of the texts available for beginning grows. I've collected seeds from friends, mostly old, that I've tried to germinate without success. Let's see... I've..

- soaked them in water... nothing
- put them between moist paper towels... nothing
- soaked them and put them between paper towels and gently heated them on top of my cable box... nothing
- tried gibberellic acid, got one to pop, but by the time the tap root grew to >2 mm it turned slightly brown and did nothing when placed into soil
- chipped the seed coat and soaked in gibberellic acid... waiting to see what happens.

Should I assume that the seeds are simply of poor quality and old (useless) or should I try something else?

Opinions are welcome. Of course, I'm new to all of this and I don't expect to get fantastic results the first time, but figured I'd see a seedling by now.. Lol....

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

10-09-2014, 05:54 AM

#299

bombadil.360

Andinismo Hierbatero

funka, sounds like the seeds are old, and when they are too old, it is problematic to get them to germinate. could also be they were not stored properly.



Join Date: Nov 2009
Location: iron lung village
Posts: 3,887



try to find fresh seeds.

if you just plant fresh seeds directly into a light soil, and the soil is kept lightly wet, they will sprout no problem. you can also put fresh seeds in a glass of clean water and the seeds should crack between 24-36 hours, after which you must transplant to a proper medium.

keep in mind that for the germination to happen, the ideal temperatures will be between 22 and 27 Celsius degrees. the seeds can germinate under 22 and over 27, but are not ideal temps...

good luck!

si durante un segundo no jugara ningún niño sobre la tierra, se desintegrarían las galaxias

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ft7kkXO98c>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VjARZPAcATM>



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

12-10-2014, 10:27 PM

#300

IntelliGeneS

Member

Join Date: Jun 2014
Posts: 81



Great overall collection of growing information, very nicely done! Thanks!



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

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02-12-2015, 05:40 AM

#301

Kodiak

Mad Scientist



Join Date: Oct 2008
Location: The Lab
Posts: 456



Hi guys

Just dropped in to say hello.

Yeah, perhaps that picture gives you the idea that expensive nutes are needed to grow good plants, but unfortunately, I cannot edit the guide anymore. The moderators have since then changed the number of allowed pictures within one post. The number of pictures in the guide exceeds that limit, so in order to edit the guide, I would have to split it up over several posts (like post #2 and #3 etc.). I cannot save any changes and keep the guide as it is now. Due to this fact, I will leave it alone.

In any case, you can grow plants with any kind of nutes, but the organic ones are the best in my opinion. I have tried several different kinds of chemical fertilizers and they are less forgiving, in terms of overfeeding. It's easier to burn the plants with chemical fertz. The chemical fertz also tend to accumulate in the plant tissue, giving rise to bad taste and also burning of the lips when smoked. In short, the organic nutes are better for many reasons. They are also broken down and absorbed more easily by the plant. Plants will, however, grow with any kind of suitable nutrients and one can adjust the dosage until one finds something that works, without said side-effects.

Yeah, bombadil.360 is right. If you cannot get the seeds to germinate by any means, then they are probably too old or dead. In that case, they have probably been sitting on a shelf so long that they dried up completely. Chipping the seed coat is pretty much 100% effective, as long

as the seeds are alive. Germination usually occurs within 24 hours, using that method, although it comes with the risk of killing the seed by cutting too deep.

In regards to growing plants far north, you should look for autoflowering strains or plants that have been acclimatized to northern environments. Some Danish outdoor strains have been grown there since the 1970's, so they will have a greater chance of producing bud further up north than plants from say, Afghanistan. Still, if you are way up north, even the Danish outdoor strains might be too late to flower. The only guaranteed harvest will come from autoflowering plants, as they will flower regardless of the *photoperiod* (triggered by age). Autos are, however, less potent than regular indoor plants, because they have been infused with Cannabis *Ruderalis* (fibre *hemp*), in order to gain the autoflowering trait. I worked on the autoflowering plants for numerous generations, and only through selective breeding, was I able to increase the potency to acceptable levels. Autos are also dwarf plants, meaning that they are very small in size. In order to compensate for that fact, you have to grow a lot of plants.

There is also a third option which has quite recently come to light; namely pure autoflowering Asian sativas. The autoflowering trait (and to some degree a hermie trait) seems to be prevalent in some of these plants. A few guys have been working with these plants in order to create large-sized autos with high potency. These plants have no *Ruderalis* in them, so they are not low to medium potency dwarves, but huge plants that still have the same autoflowering trait. I have not tried these plants, but I talked to the guys and their plants show great promise. Look for strains called; Auto Asian Haze and Samurai Jack.

Good luck and keep it green



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5 members found this post helpful. **Did you find this post helpful?** [Yes](#)

02-12-2015, 09:42 AM #302

Kiloz
Member



Join Date: Feb 2014
Posts: 341

Hey Kodiak!

Just want to say thank you for this wonderful guide, it have helped many people including myself!

"This is the best taste I've ever smoked!" - Ricky

[Kiloz Adventures](#)





Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-18-2015, 02:25 AM

#303

outhereinthesun

Member



Join Date: Jan 2011
Location: SADC
Posts: 154



Cool read brother,
Subtle and eloquent.
Guidance to ya
Local Earthling



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-20-2015, 09:10 AM

#304

OldGuyInOregon

Member



Join Date: Feb 2015
Location: Duh
Posts: 189



Awesome work Kodiak! I tried to download the pdf, but when I follow the link, guide1.exe downloads, not guide1.pdf. I do not wish to download an exe file, is there any source for the original pdf file? Thanks!



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

02-20-2015, 10:20 AM

#305

cboy

Newbie

Join Date: Feb 2015
Posts: 1



Dear Kodiak,
thx for sharing the wonderfull guide.
I have the same problem as 'OldGuyInOregon' I can't seem to download your PDF file.
If you could send it to my email directly or PM me on more info.
Thx!!



Did you find this post helpful? Yes

02-20-2015, 10:42 AM

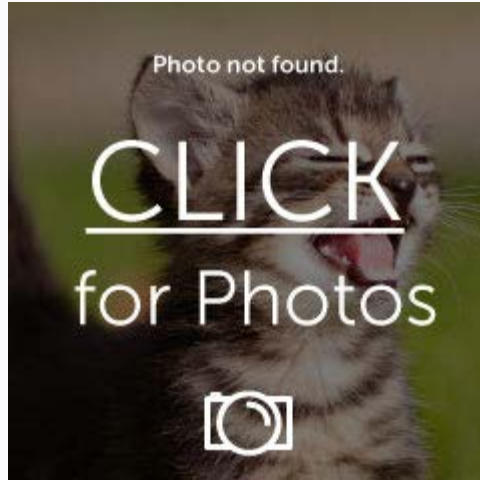
#306

Mikell

Dipshit Know-Nothing



Join Date: Aug 2013
Location: Van Isle, BC
Posts: 3,202



Crazy bugger, you're supposed to smoke it, not eat it 🍷

Haven't seen this thread in awhile, good to see you around Kodiak. ?



Did you find this post helpful? Yes

03-19-2015, 06:08 PM

#307

Starlight_angel

Newbie



Join Date: Mar 2015
Location: woods
Posts: 15



Thank you Kodiak for sharing the guide. It helps alot! 🍷



Did you find this post helpful? Yes

04-03-2015, 05:39 AM

#308

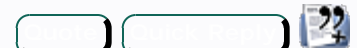
theobromine

Newbie

Join Date: Jan 2014
Posts: 14



Good Thread! The hardest part is finding the reply button because there's so much info. Thanks!





Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

04-03-2015, 06:23 AM

#309

rod58

Member



Join Date: Mar 2015
Location: just east of
TIMBUKTOO
Posts: 316



very indepth and informative , thanks for sharing your knowledge .



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

09-08-2015, 01:38 AM

#310

DJMILKCRATE

Newbie



Join Date: Aug 2012
Location: SITTING ALONE
IN MY 4 CORNER ROOM
LOOKING AT CANDLES
Posts: 6



Great post helped me alot



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

09-24-2015, 10:38 PM

#311

mbizzy

Newbie



Wow..very informative. I have a lot to learn. Thanks.

Join Date: Oct 2014
Posts: 2



Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

01-02-2016, 05:17 AM

#312

God bless

Member



Join Date: Dec 2015
Location: Earth
Posts: 114



Awesome in-depth information. Thank you very much. God bless.

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

01-02-2016, 05:18 AM

#313

God bless

Member



Join Date: Dec 2015
Location: Earth
Posts: 114



I think the PDF file has been deleted.

Did you find this post helpful? [Yes](#)

01-02-2016, 05:19 AM

#314

God bless

Member



Join Date: Dec 2015
Location: Earth
Posts: 114



I know this post is quite old, but only hps and mh light sources are mentioned. I wonder if Kodiak has worked with LED's and can share some info on his experiences.



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01-02-2016, 05:23 AM

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Quote:

Originally Posted by **Kodiak**

Hi guys

Just dropped in to say hello.

Yeah, perhaps that picture gives you the idea that expensive nutes are needed to grow good plants, but unfortunately, I cannot edit the guide anymore. The moderators have since then changed the number of allowed pictures within one post. The number of pictures in the guide exceeds that limit, so in order to edit the guide, I would have to split it up over several posts (like post #2 and #3 etc.). I cannot save any changes and keep the guide as it is now. Due to this fact, I will leave it alone.

In any case, you can grow plants with any kind of nutes, but the organic ones are the best in my opinion. I have tried several different kinds of chemical fertilizers and they are less forgiving, in terms of overfeeding. It's easier to burn the plants with chemical fertz. The chemical fertz also tend to accumulate in the plant tissue, giving rise to bad taste and also burning of the lips when smoked. In short, the organic nutes are better for many reasons. They are also broken down and absorbed more easily by the plant. Plants will, however, grow with any kind of suitable nutrients and one can adjust the dosage until one finds something that works, without said side-effects.

Yeah, bombadil.360 is right. If you cannot get the seeds to germinate by any means, then they are probably too old or dead. In that case, they have probably been sitting on a shelf so long that they dried up completely. Chipping the seed coat is pretty much 100% effective, as long as the seeds are alive. Germination usually occurs within 24 hours, using that method, although it comes with the risk of killing the seed by cutting too deep.

In regards to growing plants far north, you should look for autoflowering strains or plants that have been acclimatized to northern environments. Some Danish outdoor strains have been grown there since the 1970's, so they will have a greater chance of producing bud further up north than plants from say, Afghanistan. Still, if you are way up north, even the Danish outdoor strains might be too late to flower. The only guaranteed harvest will come from autoflowering plants, as they will flower regardless of the photoperiod (triggered by age). Autos are, however, less potent than regular indoor plants, because they have been infused with Cannabis Ruderalis (fibre hemp), in order to gain the autoflowering trait. I worked on the autoflowering plants for numerous generations, and only through selective breeding, was I able to increase the potency to acceptable levels. Autos are also dwarf plants, meaning that they are very small in size. In order to compensate for that fact, you have to grow a lot of plants.

There is also a third option which has quite recently come to light; namely pure autoflowering Asian sativas. The autoflowering trait (and to some degree a hermie trait) seems to be prevalent in some of these plants. A few guys have been working with these plants in order to create large-sized autos with high potency. These plants have no Ruderalis in them, so they are not low to medium potency dwarves, but huge plants that still have the same autoflowering trait. I have not tried these plants, but I talked to the guys and their plants show great promise. Look for strains called; Auto Asian Haze and Samurai Jack.

Good luck and keep it green

Hey Kodiak thanks again for sharing the knowledge. I too seek to grow strictly organic but I'm a rookie so not too keen on the best organic nutes to try. Hoping you can recommend some that you have used? God bless.

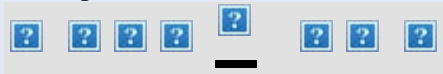


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