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**Regal Orchids
Info Sheet**

For

Orchid Hydropot Kits

The Hydropot kit is a versatile all-in-one growing kit for orchids. It works using the simple principles of Hydroculture – that is, a soil-less medium giving adequate water, nutrients and air to the growing roots. Hydropot kits suit orchids especially because of their epiphytic nature (that is, they grow suspended parasitically from trees).

The kit contains an outer vase, the inner pot, growing medium (Hydroleca) and a water level indicator.

Simple to Use:

The kit works by replacing the normal compost around the roots with leca (which is highly moisture absorbent) in the inner pot that rests in a reservoir of water in the outer vase. The plant rests above the reservoir and the slots in the side of the inner pot allow plenty of air circulation through the medium and around the roots.

The reservoir is filled with water/nutrient solution to a height dictated between the min and max measurement on the indicator (the optimum level) creating an ideal micro-

climate for your orchid plant. There is no need to re-fill the reservoir until it has run dry and the leca on the surface feels dry to the touch. Depending on conditions in your house, this can be from 1-2wks or more.

It is also unlikely that your plant will need re-potting for at least a couple of years and when it does, it is simply a matter of moving it to a larger hydropot and re-filling any void with more leca.

Method of Use:

Wash your leca in a sieve under a running tap to wash away any dust and leave to dry for a short period.

Remove your plant from its old pot (preferably when the old compost has been allowed to dry out fully). Gently remove all the old compost from around the plant's roots (orchid roots are quite tough and can take a bit of rough handling – they will grow back quick enough). Snip off any dead or broken roots with a clean pair of scissors.

Place a layer of leca in the inner pot and then the plant so the roots are resting on the leca. Fill in all the voids in and around the roots with more leca and tap the inner pot gently to settle the leca in amongst the roots. Level off the surface of the leca (it should be above the roots and around the base of the plants leaves/pseudobulbs).

Add a thin layer of washed grit or gravel if required to hold the leca and plant in place.

Put inner pot back into outer vase then fill gently with water/nutrient until the water level indicator shows optimum level in the reservoir has been reached.

You are finished.