SwellGel
WATER STORING GRANULES

"The essential additive for every planting occasion."

SwellGel Instructions for Use

All application rates based on using dry SwellGel granules.
Use only as directed and do not exceed amount stated as this may cause compost to over expand when watered.
1 scoop = 5g

Hanging Baskets

Mix with compost at planting up stage – mix dry granules into bottom ¾ of basket compost or add to compost as a pre-mix. Water well twice at 1 hour intervals to fully charge the SwellGel granules.
Rates

25cm (10") basket	1 scoop
30cm (12"0 basket	2 scoops
35cm (14") basket	3 scoops
40cm (16") basket	4 scoops
45cm (18") basket	5 scoops

Or 1.75g per litre of compost, 120g per 70 litre bag

Already planted Hanging Baskets – use a pencil or garden cane to make evenly distributed holes throughout the basket and add ½ scoop of SwellGel to each hole.

Top Tip
Add 1 scoop of granules to 1 pint of water and allow to fully absorb water (approx 1 hour).
Put circle of plastic approx 12" diameter in bottom of basket next to moss/liner, pierce with a few holes. Add the 1 pint of gel then add compost as per the rate above to ¾ fill the basket, plant up as required and top basket with compost containing no SwellGel (as plants do not need it here).
After a few weeks the plants will have grown into the gel reservoir and the plants will colonise the gel. Watering frequencies will be greatly reduced and water retention will be ultimately increased.

Patio Tubs

Fill the tub ¾ full of compost and mix appropriate amount of dry SwellGel into compost (see below). Top up the tub with untreated compost. Water well twice at 1 hour intervals to fully charge the SwellGel granules.
The plant roots will automatically grow down into the moist compost and make full use of the water reservoirs. Watering frequencies will be greatly reduced and water retention will be ultimately increased.

Rates
Incorporate the SwellGel at a rate of 3 to 4 scoops for containers up to 30cm diameter.
For containers over 30cm diameter (e.g. half barrels) incorporate 9 to 10 scoops of SwellGel.

Already planted Containers – use a pencil or garden cane to make evenly distributed holes throughout the tub and add ½ scoop of SwellGel to each hole.

Top Tip
For terracotta pots an inner lining of plastic around the sides can help reduce evaporation through the pot walls.

Window Boxes

Fill the window box ¾ full of compost and mix appropriate amount of dry SwellGel into compost (see below). Top up the tub with untreated compost. Water well twice at 1 hour intervals to fully charge the SwellGel granules.
The plant roots will automatically grow down into the moist compost and make full use of the water reservoirs. Watering frequencies will be greatly reduced and water retention will be ultimately increased.

Incorporate 1 scoop of SwellGel per 30cm length of window box.

Grow Bags

Cut out holes for plant stations and before planting mix 4 scoops of dry SwellGel in and around each planting station ensuring as good a blend as possible. Water well twice at 1 hour intervals to fully charge the SwellGel granules.

Houseplants and Conservatory Plants

Incorporate dry SwellGel granules into the compost at a rate of ¼ scoop per litre of compost and re-pot the plants into the new improved mix. Water well to fully charge the SwellGel granules.

Where re-potting is not possible use a pencil or garden cane to make evenly distributed holes throughout the compost and sprinkle dry SwellGel granules into each hole using table below as a guide. Cover holes with compost and water well twice at 1 hour intervals to fully charge the SwellGel granules.

Pot Size	Total SwellGel	Number of holes
15cm	½ scoop	4
20cm	1 scoop	6
25cm	2 scoops	8

Vegetable plots

For season long benefit:
Treat the whole vegetable plot at a rate of 100g/m2 of dry SwellGel
(approx 20 scoops) and incorporate into the top 20cm prior to planting, this will ensure plenty of moisture is held at the root zone.

To assist germination and early growth:
Incorporate 2 scoops of dry SwellGel per metre run of seed drill and gently work into top 5cm of soil. This will aid germination and help prevent soil capping.

To assist transplant establishment:
For bare root transplants such as cabbages/strawberries simply make a planting hole and mix ½ scoop of dry SwellGel into each planting station. This will help to reduce transplant shock.

In all cases water well twice at 1 hour intervals to fully charge the SwellGel granules.

Runner Beans

Excavate a trench and half fill with desired mix (e.g. compost, manure) then sprinkle 1 scoop of dry SwellGel onto the surface for each plant/cane and mix well. Back fill the trench and repeat as above. After planting water well twice at 1 hour intervals to fully charge SwellGel granules.

This will ensure thorough incorporation within the root zone helping to keep a good air content and ample supplies of water available to the plant.

Borders and bedding

For large exposed beds sprinkle 100g/m2 of dry SwellGel
(approx 20 scoops) and incorporate into the top 20cm prior to planting, this will ensure plenty of moisture is held at the root zone.

Alternatively simply make a planting hole and mix ½ scoop of dry SwellGel into each planting station.

In both cases after planting water well twice at 1 hour intervals to fully charge SwellGel granules.

Shrub Planting

For container grown plants, excavate a planting hole double the size of the root ball and incorporate dry SwellGel granules thoroughly into backfill mix.

Container size	Amount	Planting hole
Up to 5 litres	1 scoop	20cm x 20cm x 20cm
Up to 10 litres	2 scoops	25cm x 25cm x 25cm
Over 20 litres	3 scoops	30cm x 30cm x 30cm

After planting water well twice at 1 hour intervals to fully charge SwellGel granules.

Already established shrubs:
Place your garden fork about 15cm away from original planting position and push it into the ground as deep as it will go. Move backwards and forwards to create 4 holes around the root area. Repeat this process as many times as necessary (and maybe a second outer ring, if well established plants are to be treated). Pour ½ scoop of dry SwellGel granules down each hole followed by a small amount of water to wash the granules downward. Once all holes are treated apply sufficient water to ensure SwellGel granules are fully charged. Within a short period of time new plant roots will colonise the columns of SwellGel.

Tree Planting

Excavate a planting hole double the size of the root ball and incorporate dry SwellGel granules thoroughly into backfill mix.

Planting hole	Amount
30cm x 30cm x30cm	5 scoops
45cm x 45cm x 30cm	12 scoops
45cm x 45cm x 45cm	18 scoops

After planting water well twice at 1 hour intervals to fully charge SwellGel granules.

Already established trees:
Place your garden fork about 15cm away from original planting position and push it into the ground as deep as it will go. Move backwards and forwards to create 4 holes around the root area. Repeat this process as many times as necessary (and maybe a second outer ring, if well established plants are to be treated). Pour ½ scoop of dry SwellGel granules down each hole followed by a small amount of water to wash the granules downward. Once all holes are treated apply sufficient water to ensure SwellGel granules are fully charged. Within a short period of time new plant roots will colonise the columns of SwellGel.

Turf/Grass Laying

Application – turf
Prepare the top soil for the turf. Just before laying out the turf sprinkle 50 – 100g per m2 onto the soil surface. Lay the turf as normal and water well twice at 1 hour intervals to fully charge the SwellGel granules.
Continue to water as necessary.

Application – grass seed
Just before sowing the grass seed sprinkle 50 – 100g per m2 onto the soil surface and work into the top 15/20cm of top soil. Rake the surface and sow the grass seed. Water well twice at 1 hour intervals to fully charge the SwellGel granules.
Continue to water as necessary.

Hedge Planting

Application
Dig a notch and add 1 scoop (5g) of SwellGel dry granules per plant/whip. Back fill and water well twice at 1 hour intervals to fully charge SwellGel granules.

Villa Gardens

The same information given throughout this leaflet also applies to villa gardens i.e. gardens in warmer climates than the UK. The benefits of incorporating SwellGel into gardening applications in the climate conditions are obvious as water retention is paramount.

Application
Please add 50% to all application rates quoted for these conditions.

Bedding and Pot Plant Production

Application
Incorporate dry SwellGel granules into the compost at a rate of 1kg/m3 (1000 litres) of compost (equivalent to 1g per litre). After planting water well twice at 1 hour intervals to fully charge the SwellGel granules.

Nursery Stock & Tree Production

Incorporate dry SwellGel granules into the compost at a rate of 1kg/m3 (1000 litres) of compost (equivalent to 1g per litre). After planting water well twice at 1 hour intervals to fully charge the SwellGel granules.

Compost Additive

Incorporate dry SwellGel granules into the compost at a rate of 1kg/m3 (1000 litres) of compost (equivalent to 1g per litre). After planting water well twice at 1 hour intervals to fully charge the SwellGel granules.

Soil Conditioning

Incorporate dry SwellGel granules into the compost at a rate of 1kg/m3 (1000 litres) of compost (equivalent to 1g per litre). After planting water well twice at 1 hour intervals to fully charge the SwellGel granules.

Store under cool, dry conditions away from children and pets * May be harmful if swallowed * Wash hands after use
Spills are slippery when wet * Spent granules are biodegradable in soil and slowly disappear *

SwellGel is a registered trademark of Glowcroft Ltd.
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