

## **Applying Coco Weed Guards**

**A.** Measure the top diameter of the pot and use a weed guard of the same size. It is important to fit the weed guard tight to the periphery of the pot. The Coco Weed guards open slit must also be tightly sealed (or overlap if the disc is larger than the pot diameter). If you use a smaller disc, there will be openings at the periphery of the pot and at the slit of the disc. Therefore, weeds can push through the loose points (openings).

**B.** If you have a Coco Weed Guard that is 1 cm shorter than the top diameter of the pot.

-Fill the pot 3 to 4 cm below the lip of the pot. This will ensure a tight fit. Once the weed guard gets wet, the thickness will increase by 2.5 to 3 times to fill the gap at the top of the pot and leave some space for you to lift the pot at the time of transportation.

IMPORTANT: It is crucial to have a tight fit at the wall of the pot as well as at the joint or overlap.

**D.** One side of the weed guard has a rough surface, the other side is smooth with a latex coating. Always make sure the rough side is placed up (smooth side with latex contact with soil). This will facilitate faster water penetration and prevents weeds from pushing through.

**E.** It is best to apply the Coco Weed Guards at the time of potting (canning) to minimize your application cost. You can apply them at any stage, but application cost may be higher once the pots are in the field.

**F.** Our weed guards will control about 95% of weeds. Still, a very small % of weeds may come from the center opening or from periphery if weed guards are not properly applied. After about two and half months of using the Coco Weed Guards, have one or two workers to walk around and clean the weeds what may come from center opening or periphery. Now you need much less labor, time, and can reduce manual labor drastically (by about 95%). If you see small weeds on the Coco Weed Guard (on top / surface), turn the Coco Weed Guards upside down. All the weeds will die by exposing the roots. This is not very common, but it is best to cover all aspects to get the best results.

**H.** You can also cut down irrigation by about 10-15% by using Coco Weed Guards, as they act as a mulch and prevent evaporation. Also cut down splashing (from overhead irrigation).

**I.** If you are using drip irrigation, then insert the drip nozzle through the disc slit (Coco Weed Guards are strong and you may not be able to pierce through - if you are fertigating the plants use the same slit).

**J.** You can either apply the fertilizer on top of the Coco Weed Guard or under the weed guard. If you put them under the weed guard, it will completely prevent spillage (both fertilizer and soil) during transportation.

**K.** you can bury the coco weed guard at the time of planting as this is 100% natural and 100% biodegradable.

**Note:** Most of the weed seeds come and land on the pots during the second year. Coco Weed Guards start to open out at the beginning of the second year. If the weed growth in the surrounding / border areas are intense you may see weed growth on the pots that are closer to these high weed density areas. If you can trim these weeds before weeds starts to bloom / flower that will increase the life span of the Coco Weed Guards beyond the second year.

If you need more information, please contact us at any time at 1-888-558-8665.

**G.** Repeat the same steps in another two and half month.