

## LOW WATT PROPAGATION MATS

*The economical way to germinate seeds and propagate cuttings.*

These mats use less than 20 watts per square foot and thus are more energy efficient than electric cables and old higher wattage mats. This mat will provide uniform heat, because it is a continuous sheet heater, not coiled wires imbedded in a mat.

We recommend using a thermostat to regulate the temperature of the mat.

### **Set Up:**

- 1) Select a germination area that is normally heated to within 15 degrees F of the temperature you need to germinate your seeds. Find an area, such as a table, where the mat may be laid flat.
- 2) Place the mat on top of a plywood sheet. Be sure the top surface of the propagation mat (surface with the label on) faces up.
- 3) Cover the propagation mat with a plastic sheet draped over the sides, then an aluminum screen which is grounded, next another plastic sheet.
- 4) The screen can be grounded to any electrical ground or to the bolt on the FT-15 thermostat if you are using it. **KEEP THE MAT DRY.**
- 5) Keeping the mat dry will extend its life and reduce the possibility of electrical shock.
- 6) Place the pots on top of the plastic. Space them evenly if they do not cover the mat completely. Do not use Styrofoam trays on mat. They insulate trapping heat under them and can damage the mat.
- 7) Plug the mat into the thermostat to maintain the desired temperature for the seedlings. With the thermostat in place, put the temperature sensing bulb in contact with the growing medium. Mats must be protected with a GFI electrical circuit.
- 8) Put a sheet of clear plastic over seedlings. This will aid in water retention. Clear plastic allows the light to penetrate as well.

### **CAUTION**

Puncturing of the propagation mat or misuse may cause an electrical shock or even a fire. Do not fold or crease the mat or expose to high greenhouse temperatures.

## INSTALLATION

Place the mat on a well-drained bench (no standing water around the mat). Drape a plastic sheet over the mat. Cover the plastic sheet with aluminum screening (purchase from local hardware store) and ground it to an electrical ground. Drape another plastic sheet over this set up to keep the mat dry. Plug the mat into a thermostatic control and place the sensing bulb in growing medium. All propagation mats must be protected by a GFI electrical circuit.

## CAUTION

Puncturing of the propagation mat or misuse may cause an electrical shock or even a fire. Do not fold or crease the mat or expose to high greenhouse temperatures. Light weight soil mixes that are left to dry out in containers on top of the mat can create hot spots and damage the mat.