

## Teething issues with Peat Free Growing Media?

With the horticultural industry steadily moving away from traditional growing media and onto peat free alternatives, growers are needing to adapt their long standing growing techniques. Growers across the UK making the switch onto peat free substrate are experiencing a range of circumstances such as:

- Poor rooting
- Poor water retention
- Poor re-wetting ability
- Increased fertiliser/input usage
- Reduced plant shelf life

Alongside the evident financial implications these issues present, there are environmental consequences also. This includes increased water and fertiliser usage compared to traditional growing media, for the same or sometimes lesser results, signaling a decrease in nutrient use efficiency for growers across the UK.



## Unlock peat free growing media's potential

OMEX have been working with growers over the past 12 months to establish an effective solution to their peat free growing problems. Working to formulate a revolutionary product, designed to replace carbon compounds to make peat free mixes emulate peat, OMEX have conducted extensive independent commercial and in-house lab trials. A range of humic acids and several seaweed constituents have been designed to provide an environment that roots want to grow in, chelate minerals, increase beneficial biology and create a buffer to ensure more even growth across batches of plants.

### Catalyst

Catalyst is a liquid humous designed to mimic and replace organic acids and compounds no longer supplied in peat free growing media.

Catalyst encourages rooting, increases biological activity and reduces excessive fertiliser usage.

It has been designed to be applied to peat free growing media to provide the perfect environment for roots to grow and hold on to applied nutrients, making nutrition better available to the plant.



*Roots in peat free growing media when using Catalyst*

## Research and Development

OMEX has conducted an array of independent and inhouse R&D projects, with all trials consistently demonstrating increases in root mass and plant biomass of 20-30%. This brings root mass and biomass back in line with levels expected to be seen with traditional growing media, by providing a liquid humous to replace the carbon compounds previously supplied for free.

Roots



Untreated Catalyst

Root & Top Growth



Catalyst (Top) Untreated (Bottom)

Root Growth



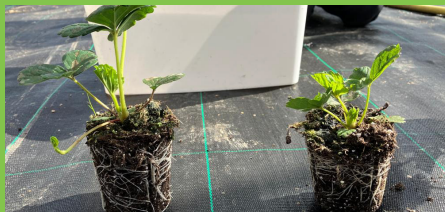
Catalyst

Top Growth



Catalyst Untreated

Root & Top Growth



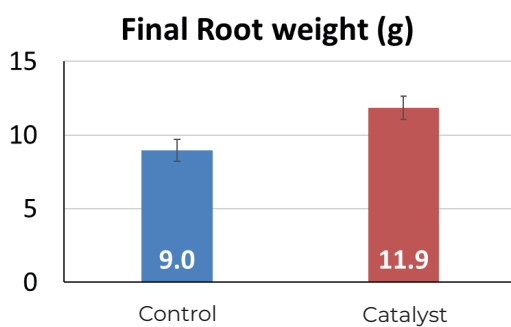
Catalyst Untreated

Root & Top Growth

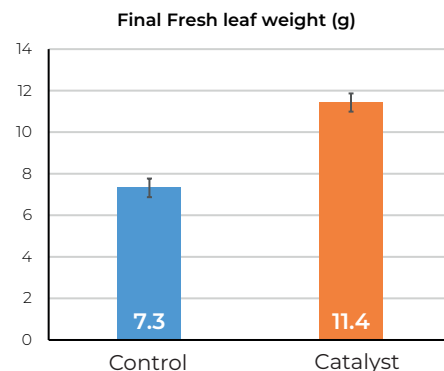


Untreated Catalyst

### Root Weight Trials



### Biomass Trials



## Timings and Rates

**Catalyst** is simple to apply as a stand alone drench or with your fertigation feed. Apply once per week from potting/sowing every week at a rate of 750ml per 100L of stock solution dosed at 1:100

Combine with **Kobra** at 100ml per 100L of stock solution dosed at 1:100 to ensure excellent re-wetting and water distribution.

Speak to your OMEX technical manager for full recommendations

Have a question?  
Contact our team

