

JuicePlus+/Tower Garden Distributors: Use these 5 areas to guide sales, educate customers and set expectations to ensure happy and successful Tower Gardeners.

1. The Environment - Where will the Tower Garden be located?

- Inside:
 - Public or Private area?
 - Exposed to people/pets? Pest Mgmt?
 - Good air circulation? Fan?
 - o LED lights @ 16-18 hrs
 - Timer "I" for inside or 15 on/45 off

- Outside:
 - What is the Plant Hardiness Zone?
 - What are Day and night temps?
 - Sun direction? Sun intensity?
 - o Good air circulation?
 - Timer "O" for outside or 15 on/15-45 off

2. The Gardener – Who is responsible for the Tower Garden?

- Every farm needs a farmer and every garden needs a gardener including Tower Gardens.
- Who will be responsible for planting, checking, protecting, treating, cleaning, and harvesting the Tower Garden?
- Hug your Tower Garden every day!

3. Pest & Disease Control - Be Prepared!

- In general plants grow faster in Tower Gardens which minimizes pest/disease risks because the faster the turns the less opportunity to attract pests or diseases. Yay, Tower Garden!
- Encourage gardeners to prune/thin the plants and harvest often to minimize the risks.
- It is still important to have a pest and disease prevention and treatment program in place before it's needed.
- Have clean, organic, OMRI-listed products on hand for aphids & insects, worms & caterpillars, and a fungicide.
- Pests & diseases do not go away by themselves. They have to be treated early and often.
- Check plants thoroughly every day to be aware of the very first issue for best results.

4. Plant Selection - What do they like to eat?

- Plant selection is the fun part!
- First review what plants grow well in Tower Gardens then decide which ones they like to eat \odot
- Experienced gardeners may enjoy growing a wide variety of plants.
- Encourage new gardeners to start with plants that are easy to grow and harvest often.
- It's also good to know which plants are susceptible to pests and/or disease.
 - Plants least prone to aphids are lettuces and most herbs are safe.
 - $\circ~$ Greens (kale, spinach, arugula, celery, pac choi, etc.) can attract aphids.
 - \circ $\;$ Squash, tomatoes and cucumbers are slow to grow and susceptible to disease.

5. Seedlings - How to get started?

- Growing seedlings is a great experience and highly recommended especially with children.
- Seedlings grown in the dirt and/or purchased from a reputable store can be repurposed for the Tower Garden.
- The easiest and fastest way to start gardening is to buy seedlings specific for Tower Garden from a Certified Seedling Provider (like ATL Urban Farms (2)).
- Plant your seedlings after the roots are showing through the rockwool.
- The bigger the seedlings the faster to harvest.

For more information to guide each of these decisions, go to: <u>www.atlurbanfarms.com/creating-tower-garden-success/</u>