



## Guidelines (V2.2)

**IMPORTANT!!!**

Maintenance of the Metazet FormFlex cultivation gutter system

### Introduction

When your Metazet FormFlex cultivation gutter system is installed for use, it is important to know how this system can be used and maintained so that it continues to function optimally. Just like any other system, a cultivation gutter system is subject to wear and tear. By following the recommendations and tips provided below, you can limit wear to a minimum and extend the life of your system. **It is best to keep these guidelines with your administration and information about crop rotation!**

### Product features

The Metazet FormFlex cultivation gutters are manufactured from high-quality strip steel that is covered with a zinc coating which, in turn, is covered by a 'food-safe' plastic top coating. The zinc layer and plastic top coating protect the cultivation gutter against damage and prevent the formation of rust. All coatings are elastic and therefore somewhat porous. This is necessary in order to form the strip steel into a cultivation gutter using a rollforming machine. Besides, the coatings are also somewhat permeable to moisture and will, over time, be subject to wear depending on the circumstances under which they are used\* and the prevailing climatic conditions.

### Maintenance

- a) After the cultivation gutter system has been put into use, grime will attach itself to the cultivation gutters over the course of time. It is not possible to remove this grime completely during the first cleaning attempt with water only. After each cultivation, the cultivation gutters ought to be cleaned with a special-purpose cleaner. Metazet FormFlex has developed a special product called FormClean for this purpose. In the Netherlands, FormClean is available from Metazet FormFlex or from your familiar horticultural wholesalers.
- b) It is recommended that the first attempt to remove dry and/or stubborn grime be done by hand.
- c) In order to remove persistent soiling, the cultivation gutters may be cleaned with a soft-bristle brush while rinsing.
- d) Make sure to never use any other substances, since these may permanently damage the coating of your cultivation system.
- e) Always test cleaning agents for the greenhouse first on a small patch of your cultivation system to prevent unnecessary damage. Besides, please make sure that the cultivation gutters are sprayed after greenhouse cleaning in order to remove any residue that may be left. If using a high-pressure sprayer, a maximum pressure of 25 bar and a divergent spray setting should be employed. Besides, a minimum distance of 20 cm should be kept between the cultivation gutter and the spray nozzle.
- f) Metazet FormFlex will not be held responsible for damage caused by/while using other agents than FormClean.
- g) After using FormClean, make sure to rinse the gutters thoroughly. If using a high-pressure cleaner, please observe our pertinent recommendations under g).
- h) The temperature of the cleaning liquid should never exceed 60 °C.
- i) The cultivation gutters should always be allowed to dry well before introducing new rock wool mats or another cultivation medium. Never cover your cultivation gutters with a foil. If you deem this necessary nevertheless, please make sure to let the cultivation gutters dry thoroughly before covering them with the foil.
  - In places where there is no air circulation, the cultivation gutter will be permanently damp. Over the course of time, this may affect the quality of the coating. However, it has no influence on the functional capacity of the cultivation gutters.

## Substances

The list below shows the substances used in commercial horticulture and the effect that these substances have on the lifespan of the cultivation gutters. These substances are used for a wide range of purposes, one of which is to promote the growth of plants. We advise to test products on a small surface of your cultivation system before first use. In addition, we recommend that you follow the instructions for use of the product in question. If in doubt, always consult with the supplier of the product in order to prevent damaging side-effects.

Ammonium phosphate	Ammoniumfosfaat	very safe
Antiseptic drench	Antiseptisch doorweken	very safe
Carbon dioxide	Koolstofdioxide	very safe
Fertiliser 10 % phosphate	Meststof 10% fosfaat	very safe
Fertiliser ammonium phosphate	Meststof ammoniumfosfaat	very safe
Fertiliser NPK 25:5:5	Meststof NPK 25:5:5	very safe
Fertiliser NPK 5:24:15	Meststof NPK 5:24:15	very safe
Formalin (40%)	Formaline (40%)	very safe
FormClean	Fosforzuur/vetalcohol ethoxylaar	very safe
Sodium chlorate	Natriumchloraar	very safe
Sodium nitrate	Natriumnitraat	very safe
Sodiumcarbonate	Natriumcarbonaat	very safe
Urea	Ureum	very safe
Water	Water	very safe
Weed killer	Onkruid bestrijder	very safe
Wood preservative	Hout beschermer	very safe
Ammonia (75%)	Ammonia (75%)	safe
Lactic acid (10%)	Melkzuur (10%)	safe
Sodium hypochlorite	Natrium hypochloriet	safe
<b>Loss of warranty if you use:</b>		
Acetic acid	Azijazuur	<b>do not use</b>
Ammonium nitrate	Ammoniumnitraat	<b>do not use</b>
Butyric acid	Boterzuur	<b>do not use</b>
Fluor	Reinigingsmiddel	<b>do not use</b>
Hydrochloric acid	Zoutzuur	<b>do not use</b>
Hydrogen peroxide	Waterstofperoxyde	<b>do not use</b>
Peracetic acid	Perazijazuur	<b>do not use</b>
Sodium Hydroxide Pellets	Natriumhydroxide pillen	<b>do not use</b>
Sulphuric acid	Zwavelzuur	<b>do not use</b>

*Whenever we act as a vendor or supplier, all orders placed with us as well as all contracts signed with us are subject to the TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF METAALUNIE. These terms and conditions were filed with the Office of the Clerk of the Courts of Rotterdam in the Netherlands.*

## Repair work

If it is found that the cultivation system is damaged in a way that you cannot repair yourself, please contact us for professional advice. For all other questions, please do not hesitate to call us or send us an email; we are more than happy to help you!

Kind regards,

The Metazet FormFlex team