

It's Alive!

By Tara August

TWO CALGARY ENTREPRENEURS ARE PRAISING THE VIRTUES OF A NEW WATER REVITALIZATION SYSTEM. THEY SAY IT WILL MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER, CLEAN OUT YOUR WATER PIPES AND MAKE YOUR PLANTS GROW FASTER!

Earlier this year, George Tsoukas and Bob Seeley of Ecolife Technology Alberta convinced Abraham van der Breggen, greenhouse manager at Golden Acre Garden Centres Ltd. in Calgary, to install a "Living Water" system in his geranium greenhouse. They assured him that his geranium cuttings would grow better and faster than they were with regular tap water.

"I was very skeptical," says van der Breggen. He says it was an offer that sounded too good to be true. "But they were very willing to just loan it to me... for a three month period."

Now it's eight months later and Golden Acre is propagating its second batch of geraniums using the "living" water. "The actual percentage of cuttings that do root in... is about 20 per cent higher than before the system was put into place," says van der Breggen.

Tsoukas and Seeley obtained the exclusive rights to sell the water revitalization system in Alberta and have already installed more than 150 units. Tsoukas says they are happy to give clients a three month trial period with the system because the results speak for themselves.

According to Tsoukas, installing one of the Living Water systems will give people better tasting water, cleaner water pipes, and healthier plants. The small business owners also claim that the system will allow customers to use less soap, fertilizer, or anything else the water interacts with.

The water revitalization system consists of a small metal cylinder. The walls of the cylinder are filled with highly magnetized or "energized" water that changes the molecular structure and the surface tension of the water as it passes through the unit. Johann Grander, the inventor of this process, says the energized water works better with every medium it comes into contact with.

Grander, an Austrian naturalist, first observed the



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virtues of energized water while spending time in the Alps. He noticed that he felt better after drinking the water from mountain streams. Upon further investigation, he found that he could restore regular tap water to its natural glacial state by re-introducing magnetic energies into the water.

Grander says that water loses most of its natural energy when it is collected and forced through pipelines. He adds that the water is further contaminated through the addition of chemicals like chlorine and fluoride and that this "dead" water, as he calls it, has little benefit to man and no benefit to nature when it eventually finds its way back there.

Van der Breggen, however, is still a little hesitant to install more units throughout all of his greenhouses. "I just want to make certain that the miraculous thing that occurred still keeps on happening here," he says. The result from his first batch of geranium cuttings was a 20 per cent increase in production. He says that so far he is seeing the same impressive results in his second batch. And a 20 per cent increase in geranium production can translate into as much as \$200,000 in retail sales for Golden Acre.

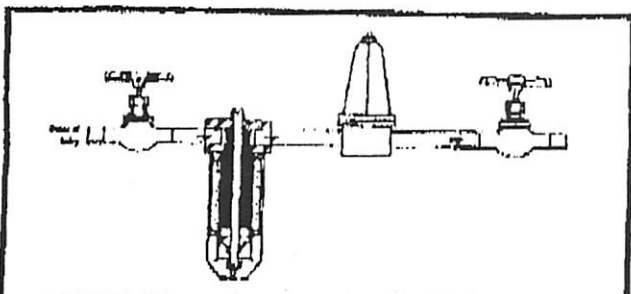
Van der Breggen has also noticed that his geraniums are taking faster. "The actual rooting-in phase was shortened by one week," he says.

Tsoukas claims that the living water makes plants grow one day faster per week, which means a seven-week-old plant grown with living water would be as advanced as an eight-week-old plant grown with regular tap water.

Although van der Breggen has not done any controlled experiments directly comparing the growth of his cuttings using regular water and living water, he says there is no other way of explaining the increase in his geranium propagation. "The only different thing I did was attach this unit onto the house that feeds the water that I was using on the geranium cuttings."

Ecolife has written up a proposal for Golden Acre that includes installing systems in all of the greenhouses there. The estimated cost is around \$17,000. Van der Breggen is waiting to test the system a little longer before accepting the offer. He says, "Taking that jump is something one wants to be very prepared in doing."

The cost of the units vary with their size and prices start from \$600. The average cost for a residential unit is about \$1,600 and for larger buildings like greenhouses and hotels, prices range from \$3,900 to \$17,000, but can go as high as \$20,000 to \$40,000 depending on the water main size for large golf courses.



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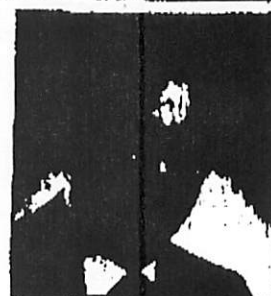
Senley is quick to point out that by purchasing a Living Water system, one can save enough money on things like soap, de-scaling chemicals and fertilizer to repay their initial outlay of cash. "Virtually in every commercial installation we've done they will have paid back their cost in one year."

Ecolife has a stack of letters from various clients testifying as to the wonders of the Living Water system. For those who remain skeptical, says van der Breggen, "I would recommend... if they are given the opportunity to test [the system] out, to certainly give it a try. Let them decide for themselves whether or not they want to pay the dollar." ●

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