Defoliation

Preparation

- Use clean sharp scissors only
- At day 21 and 42:
 - o Reduce Irrigation events for 24-48hrs
 - Use gloves, long sleeves and hat to prevent contact with trichomes.

Procedure

1. Cutting

- Cut branches off as close to the main stem as possible without damaging the node.
- Cut leaves off as close to the branch as possible without damaging the node, however for faster cutting this may not be possible.

2. Handling Biomass

- Allow branches and leaves to fall onto the bench (avoid floor).
- o Once finished, collect all biomass from bench and place into **black sacks**.

3. Cleaning

- Vacuum benches thoroughly to remove small leaves and cuttings.
- Ensure all biomass is removed to prevent mold and insects.
- Clean and sanitize scissors after use.
- Empty vacuum and discard collected waste appropriately.

4. Canopy Management

- Space colas/branches evenly in the scrog.
- o Ensure light is evenly distributed across all plants with no canopy gaps.

Notes

- The scheduled defoliation must be completed on the same day.
- If any signs of browning leaf tips, mold, or insects are observed, notify the Team Lead immediately.

Schedule

Day 1 – Flower

 Remove only minor lower branches (bottom 10%) that will not receive sufficient light.

Day 14 - Flower

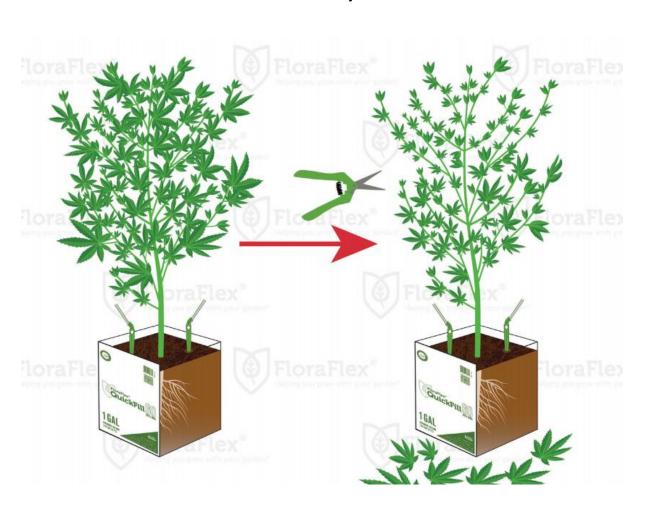
• Remove only minor lower branches (bottom 10%) that will not receive light or fail to reach the scrog net.

Day 21 - Flower

- 1. Remove minor lower branches that will not receive light or fail to reach the scrog net.
- 2. Remove:
 - o All fan leaves wider than 3 cm.
 - Any flowers or shoots from the bottom 15% of the plant.

Day 42 - Flower

- Remove all fan leaves wider than **3 cm**, focusing on those on top colas.
- Remove any sugar and fan leaves that are dying from the tips inward.
- These leaves must be removed before they reach the flower and cause mold.



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