



## Working with Qlipr

Qlipr consists of a metallic plant hook with a length of 120 cm and two clips, which are provided with soft inserts. For the lower greenhouses the measuring of the plant hook can be adjusted. Shorter lengths on request. The clips are manufactured out of stainless steel.

The plant hook hangs on the stretched wire at the top of the greenhouse. After the plant has grown another 50 cm the second clip comes with it. Because the plant is fastened with two clips now, the lowest clip can be removed. Each time the plant has grown about 50 cm, the top of the plant is fastened to the cord with the lowest clip. As the plant reaches the top of the greenhouse, the clips are fastened to the plant hook. The cord can be removed. When we now release the lowest clip, the upper clip will glide down along the plant hook. The top of the plant will again be fastened to the wire with the remaining clip. The plant hook will be put aside during the lowering.

### The Labour

The species that grow straight along the wire are fastened every two weeks. The fastening and the lowering of the plants is combined in one handling. In the first week the plants are lowered, after that the tendrils and (eventually) the trusses can be trimmed. The second week you only trim the tendrils and the trusses. Species that grow on the slant are fastened once a week. The needed time for fastening/lowering the plants with a weekly schedule lies between the 10 and 15 minutes per 100 plants. Because of the fact that the plants are not twisted anymore the trusses are hanging on one side of the plant, which makes the picking easier.

## **Short distance between the plant wire and the top of the plant**

The distance between the top of the plant and the plant wire is relatively short. When following a schedule of lowering the plants every two weeks the average distance is 30 cm and varies from 0 till 50 cm. The short distance between the top of the plant and the plant wire can be an advantage when the system is to be used in lower greenhouses. The top of the plant can even grow above the plant wire without causing problems.

The height of the plant wire has to be adjusted to the average hanging length of the plant (that is the distance between the top of the plant and the truss which is ready to be picked) and the wanted picking height. Under the influence of the hanging length the picking height will vary during the season.

## **At the beginning of the growth**

The plant hook hangs on the stretched plant wire at the top of the greenhouse. The height of the plant wire depends on the average hanging length of the plant, or as the case maybe, the desired crop height. The wire height in the greenhouse normally lies between the 3,2 and 3,7 metres.

At the beginning of the growth the plant hook is provided with a (jute/sisal) string of a few metres. Fasten the string either on the greenhouse-wire or onto the Qlipr plant hook. When the young plant is approx. 50 cm high, the plant is fastened to the cord with the first clip. Pull the string tight with one hand. Take hold of the head of the plant with the clip in the other hand and fasten it to the string.

## **Raising with two clips upon the cord**

After the plant has grown another 50 cm the second clip is placed above the first clip. Because the plant is fastened with two clips now, the lowest clip can be removed. Each time that the plant has grown approx. 50 cm, the top of the plant is fastened to the cord with the lowest of the two clips.

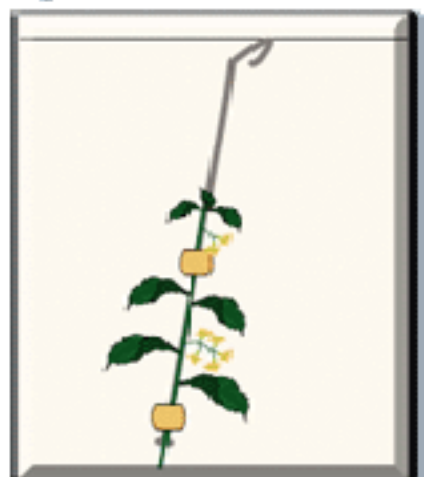
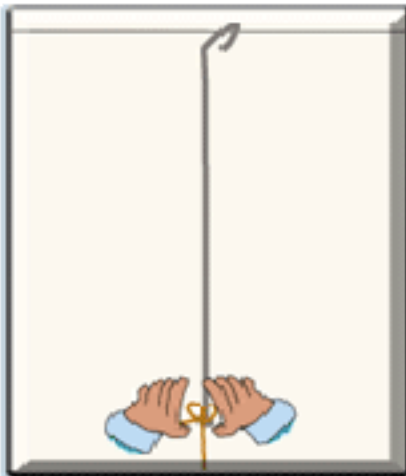
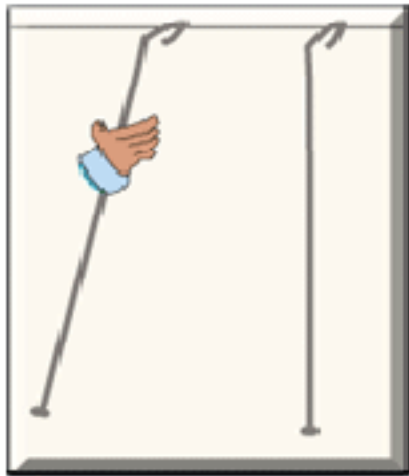
## **Lowering the plant**

As the plant reaches the top of the greenhouse, the clips are fastened to the plant hook. The cord can be removed. When we now release the lowest clip, the upper clip will glide down along the plant hook. The top of the plant will again be fastened to the plant hook with the remaining clip.

## **Tip**

If the stem is not strong enough for lowering do not remove the lowest clip but only replace the upper clip to the top of the plant.

The plant hooks and clips can be used for several seasons.



## Everyone can work with Qlipr

Everyone can work with Qlipr without it taking extra time. The labour is less comparing to the traditional growing methods as twisting or clipping. The system is user friendly which makes you less dependent on experienced employees and enables you to easily put in extra people when necessary.

If the improving of working conditions is the issue, Qlipr offers the solution. The working height is lower and the plants do not have to be taken up from the plant wire during the lowering. However working relief cannot be measured in revenue it is certainly of value.

## Field-tested

Different growers have tested Qlipr under practical conditions. These practical trials have shown that the system does not have a negative effect on the plant's production. Some growers even saw a slight production increase. The linear growth increased with 5 till 10 percent. Qlipr makes it possible to grow following the high wire method in low greenhouses. The adding of extra tendrils goes swift and easy. The system can be used in combination with growing-gutters. In that case there is no cord needed at all.

