



FertileEarth™

SmartFeeder™
AUTOMATIC FERTILISING SYSTEM

**FERTILISE
THROUGH
YOUR
SPRINKLERS**



Owner's Manual
and Installation Guide

Congratulations on your SmartFeeder purchase!

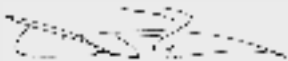
You now own the easiest and most advanced fertilising system for growing beautiful gardens. So now you can spend less time working in your garden, and more time enjoying it!

What fertiliser should you use in your SmartFeeder?

Fertile Earth LiquidLife plant food is a concentrated blend of essential nutrients and trace elements formulated specially to feed your entire garden and lawn through your SmartFeeder.

LiquidLife is available where you purchased your SmartFeeder or visit our web site at www.fertileearth.com.au for your nearest stockist.

Happy gardening!

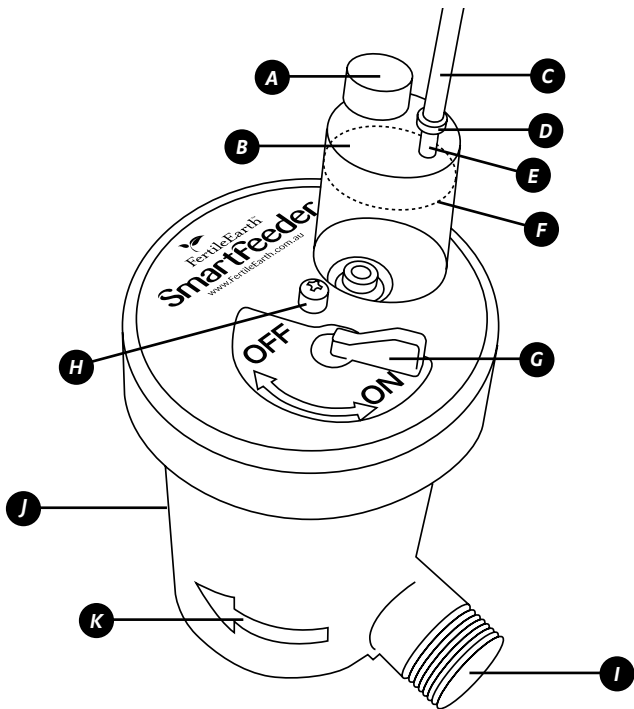


Dave Morton
*President and CEO
Fertile Earth Corporation*



**LIQUIDLIFE PLANT FOOD
BRINGS YOUR GARDEN TO LIFE!**

Get to know your SmartFeeder



- A. 'Primer' Button
- B. Fertiliser Reservoir
- C. Fertiliser hose
- D. Hose clamp
- E. Reservoir Inlet
- F. Reservoir 'Fill Mark'

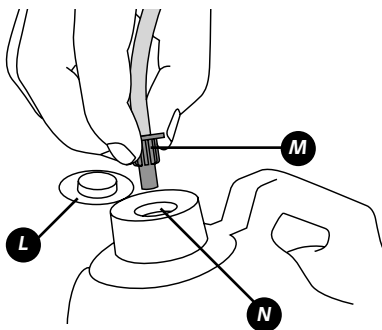
- G. 'On/Off' Switch
- H. Assembly Screw
- I. Water Inlet
- J. Water Outlet
- K. Water Flow Direction Indicator

Contents

Get to know your SmartFeeder	4
Operating instructions	5
How to check SmartFeeder is working	7
Maintaining your SmartFeeder	7
Replacing LiquidLife fertiliser	8
Installation guide	9
Troubleshooting	13
Operating specifications	14
Product Warranty	15
Fertile Earth customer service	16

Operating instructions

1. Connect LiquidLife bottle to SmartFeeder



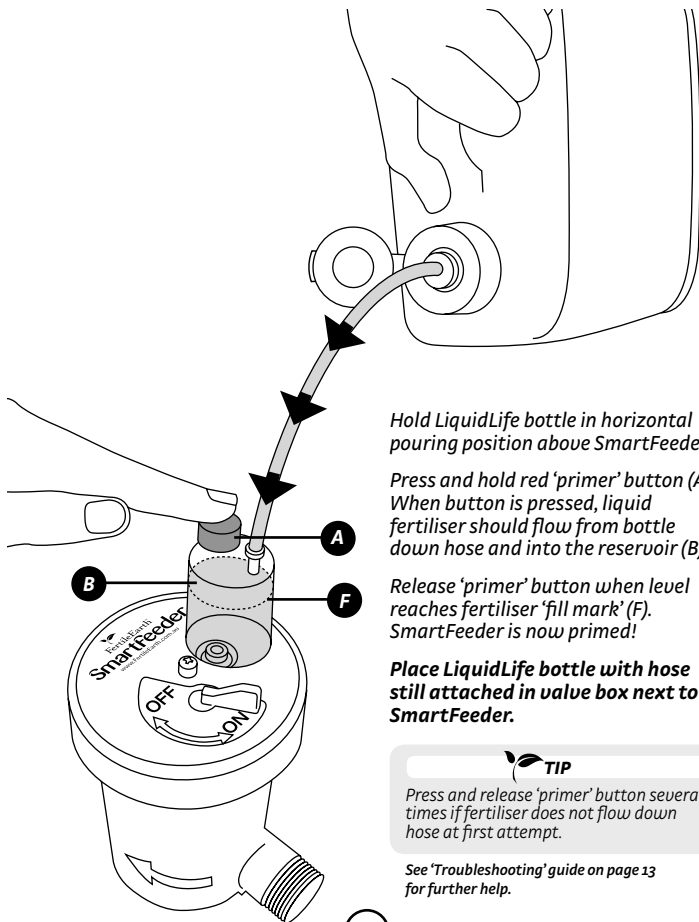
Lift cap (L) on LiquidLife bottle.

Insert hose 'quick connect' attachment (M) into opening in bottle top (N) and press gently to secure connection.



Don't push quick connector too tightly into bottle otherwise it may be difficult to remove when changing bottles.

2. Prime SmartFeeder



Hold LiquidLife bottle in horizontal pouring position above SmartFeeder.

Press and hold red 'primer' button (A). When button is pressed, liquid fertiliser should flow from bottle down hose and into the reservoir (B).

Release 'primer' button when level reaches fertiliser 'fill mark' (F). SmartFeeder is now primed!

Place LiquidLife bottle with hose still attached in value box next to SmartFeeder.



Press and release 'primer' button several times if fertiliser does not flow down hose at first attempt.

See 'Troubleshooting' guide on page 13 for further help.

3. Turn SmartFeeder 'ON'



Turn switch to 'ON' position. SmartFeeder will run automatically with your reticulation system, fertilising your garden as you water.


WATERING TIP

Water early morning or late afternoon for optimum feeding.

How to check SmartFeeder is working

To check your SmartFeeder is functioning properly, turn your reticulation on, turn SmartFeeder 'ON', and look for the following:

 **Liquid fertiliser slowly flowing along hose from LiquidLife bottle and dripping into SmartFeeder reservoir.**

 **An audible 'click' every 5-39 seconds as SmartFeeder's injector mechanism 'fires' (time may vary depending on water flow).**

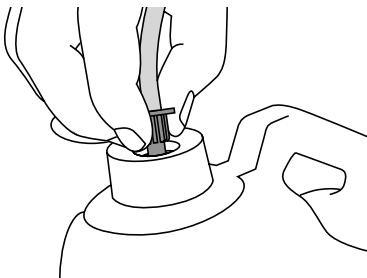
See 'Troubleshooting' guide on page 13 for further help.

Maintaining your SmartFeeder

Your SmartFeeder does not require regular maintenance. However, we recommend you empty fertiliser from the SmartFeeder if not being used for an extended period (60 days or more). To do this, disconnect the hose 'quick connect' from the LiquidLife bottle, and with your SmartFeeder turned 'ON', run your reticulation system until the SmartFeeder reservoir is empty.

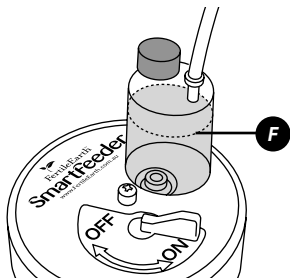
Replacing LiquidLife fertiliser

1. Disconnect empty bottle and attach new bottle



Remove hose 'quick connect' from empty LiquidLife bottle, and insert into top of full bottle.

2. Prime SmartFeeder



If reservoir is empty or part full:

If reservoir is empty or liquid fertiliser level is below 'fill mark' (F), follow **Steps 1, 2 and 3** as outlined in 'Operating instructions'.

If reservoir is full:

If liquid fertiliser level in reservoir is above or level with 'fill mark' (F), follow **Steps 1 and 3 only** as outlined in 'Operating instructions'.



If reservoir is full (fertiliser is above or level with 'fill mark') you don't need to prime your SmartFeeder. Just disconnect empty bottle and attach a full bottle. SmartFeeder will automatically syphon fertiliser out of the bottle and into the reservoir when running.

Installation guide

1. Preparing for installation

Before installing your Fertile Earth SmartFeeder, read all instructions carefully. Do a 'dry run' installation (without cutting and applying glue) to ensure you understand what is involved before attaching components.

If you require installation assistance, please contact the store where you purchased your SmartFeeder or call your local irrigation professional.

This guide shows installation using 25mm barrel unions with 25mm faucet takeoff adaptors. You may choose to use a different method of connecting SmartFeeder to your reticulation system depending on pipe size, space etc.

2. What you'll need

Adaptors: We recommend installation using removable adaptors to allow servicing of SmartFeeder if required.

Value Box: To protect your SmartFeeder from the elements. We recommend a rectangular value box with a minimum internal height of 280mm.

Materials: Thread Seal Tape and PVC Solvent Cement.

Tools: Shovel and PVC Cutter or Hacksaw.

Backflow Prevention Device: For mains connected reticulation systems a compliant backflow prevention device is required. Not required with bore connected systems.

Fertiliser: Fertile Earth LiquidLife plant food.

3. Where to install

SmartFeeder can be installed on pressurised or non-pressurised reticulation systems. Install SmartFeeder between the main valve and first solenoid valve on your main line to fertilise your entire landscape through your reticulation.

If your reticulation is connected to the mains, a backflow prevention device should be installed between the main valve and SmartFeeder.

4. Turn off water and dig hole

Turn off water. Locate where SmartFeeder is to be installed and dig hole. Make sure hole is large enough to accommodate the valve box.



If you do not have room to install the SmartFeeder between the main valve and first solenoid valve, build a diversion in the pipe.

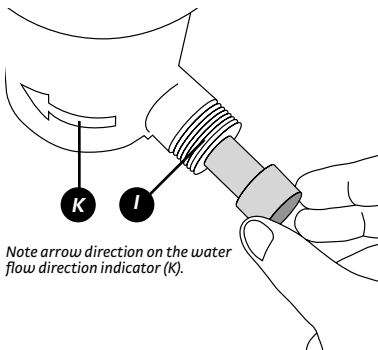
5. Cut out a section of pipe

Measure and cut out the minimum amount of pipe required to accommodate the SmartFeeder and adaptors you have chosen to use.



Measure twice and cut once! If installing into an existing reticulation system it is important to ensure only the minimum amount of pipe is removed for a watertight fit.

6. Install flow director



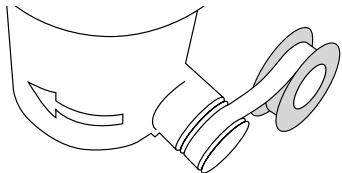
Note arrow direction on the water flow direction indicator (K).

Flow directors control the fertiliser injection rate. Insert the flow director, narrow end first, into the SmartFeeder inlet (I) labelled 'FROM MAIN'.

Blue flow director is for sprinkler/spray systems with moderate-high water flow.

Red flow director is for drip systems with low-moderate water flow, or where a higher fertiliser injection rate is required. Minimum water flow rates apply - see page 14.

7. Apply thread seal tape



Apply thread seal tape to the threads on both the inlet and outlet to minimise the potential of leaking.

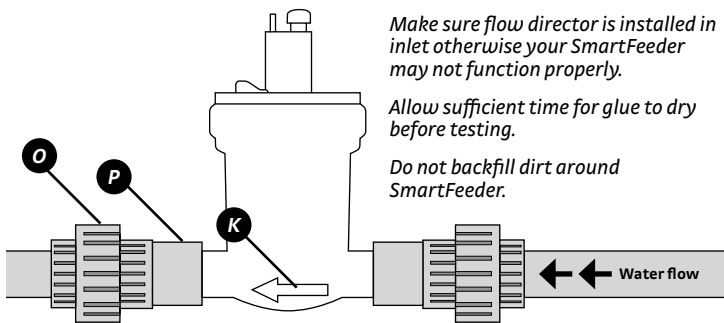
8. Install SmartFeeder

Using adaptors (O, P) and glue, install SmartFeeder with arrow pointing in direction of water flow (K).

Make sure flow director is installed in inlet otherwise your SmartFeeder may not function properly.

Allow sufficient time for glue to dry before testing.

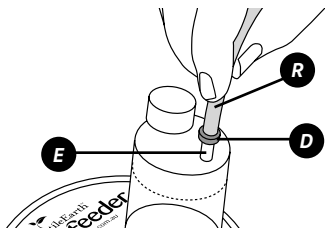
Do not backfill dirt around SmartFeeder.



9. Test for leaks

With SmartFeeder switched 'OFF', turn on water mains and then reticulation system and test for leaks.

10. Attach hose to SmartFeeder



Slide hose clamp (D) onto hose (R) and slide up away from hose end.

Slip hose end over reservoir inlet (E) on SmartFeeder and push down firmly to create a tight seal.

Slide hose clamp (D) down hose and press down firmly to secure hose to SmartFeeder.

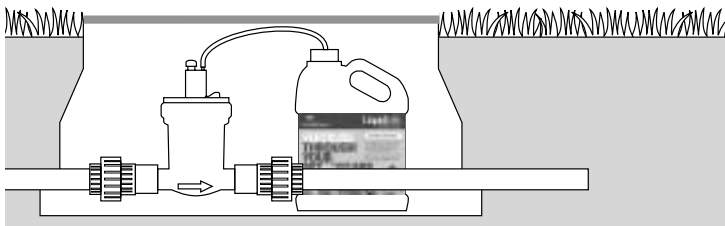
11. Install valve box



If valve box lid is too low it may kink hose and prevent fertiliser flowing from bottle to SmartFeeder.

We recommend a minimum internal height of 280mm to allow LiquidLife bottle with hose connected to fit inside valve box when closed.

If using a smaller height valve box, dig a hole under LiquidLife bottle to reduce height.



Refer to 'Operating instructions' before using your SmartFeeder.

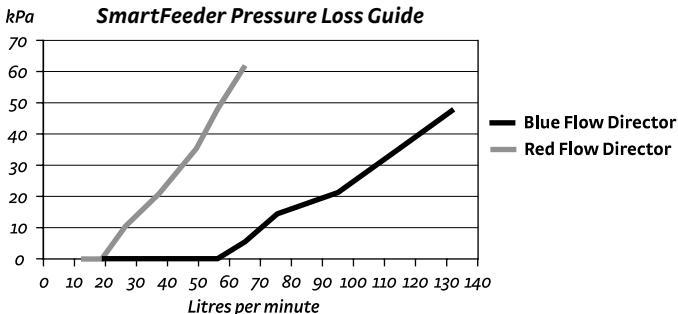
Troubleshooting

For helpful advice and the latest information visit our web site at
www.fertileearth.com.au

PROBLEM	SOLUTION
Fertiliser is leaking from bottom of the reservoir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - tighten assembly screw on lid (H) - avoid pulling or putting tension on hose <p><i>If problem persists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - remove assembly screw and clear plastic lid, apply Vaseline to 'O' ring at bottom of reservoir and reattach
Having difficulty priming SmartFeeder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - check bottle is at least half full of fertiliser - press and release 'primer' button several times <p><i>If problem persists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - turn on reticulation and SmartFeeder and repeat Step 2 from '<i>Operating instructions</i>'
My SmartFeeder is not dispensing fertiliser	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - make sure switch is fully in 'ON' position - make sure reticulation is on and watering garden <p><i>If you <u>cannot</u> hear the device 'firing' or see fertiliser flowing along hose from bottle into reservoir:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - check unit is installed with water flow direction indicator arrow (K) pointing in same direction as water flow - contact Fertile Earth for assistance
My SmartFeeder is dispensing fertiliser too quickly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - you may be over-watering. Check your reticulation is only applying a 'standard drink' of 10mm of water per application as recommended by your local water authority - make sure you have the correct flow director installed
My SmartFeeder is dispensing fertiliser too slowly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - you may not be watering for long enough. Check your reticulation is applying a 'standard drink' of 10mm of water per application as recommended by your local water authority - make sure you have the correct flow director installed
My garden is not greening or growing as quickly as before	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - be patient. SmartFeeder fertilises your garden and lawn slowly, at the correct rate, for steady, even greening and growth
I have dry spots or areas not greening up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - usually due to lack of water, poor water coverage, pests or disease. Adjust your reticulation system or consult your nursery

Need help? If problem persists email us at support@fertileearth.com.au or call **1800 446 812** for assistance.

Operating specifications



SmartFeeder Injection Timing Guide

Red Flow Director Low-Moderate Flow		Blue Flow Director Moderate-High Flow		No Flow Director High Flow	
Flow Rate (Litres per minute)	Injection Timing* (Seconds)	Flow Rate (Litres per minute)	Injection Timing* (Seconds)	Flow Rate (Litres per minute)	Injection Timing* (Seconds)
6	57	Insufficient Flow			
11	30				
19	18			19	38
26	13	26	27	26	81
38	9	38	19	38	55
49	7	49	15	49	41
57	6	57	13	57	36
64	5	64	11	64	31
		76	9	76	27
		95	8	95	21
		114	6	114	18
		132	5	132	15
		Maximum Flow		151	13

*Elapsed time (seconds) between each injection of fertiliser.

Product Warranty

To the fullest extent permitted by law, Fertile Earth shall not be liable for any consequential, special or indirect loss or damage and the sole liability of Fertile Earth and your sole and exclusive remedy for all claims and losses arising out of the sale and use of the product to which this Warranty relates (whether based on negligence, breach of warranty, contract or otherwise) shall be limited at Fertile Earth's option to repair of the product, refund of the purchase price of the product or the supply of a replacement for the product.

Warranty

Fertile Earth warrants that your product will be free from defects in materials or workmanship for one (1) year from your purchase date. At its discretion, Fertile Earth will repair or replace your product, if it does not comply with this Warranty. To make a Warranty claim, you must:

- First contact Fertile Earth Customer Service on 1800 446 812 or email support@fertileearth.com.au;
- Return the product (if warranty service is required) to Fertile Earth as discussed with Customer Service; and
- Provide a copy of your purchase receipt, to show that this Warranty applies to your product at the date of your claim.

You are responsible for the delivery of your product to and its collection from Fertile Earth.

Warranty Application

This Warranty applies only:

- a) To a product that is supplied new to you by Fertile Earth or by a stockist;
- b) If you use the product for your own private or business purposes; and
- c) You have not bought the product for resale.

Warranty Exclusions

This Warranty will not apply if:

- a) Proof of date of purchase cannot be provided;
- b) The product is repaired other than by Fertile Earth;
- c) You have used the product contrary to any technical or operating environment guidelines recommended in the owner's manual; or
- d) A product's malfunction or failure results from deliberate or accidental damage, neglect, modification, use of fertilisers and chemicals not approved by Fertile Earth, incorrect installation, or impurities in water supply.

USE OF FERTILISERS NOT APPROVED BY FERTILE EARTH MAY DAMAGE YOUR SMARTFEEDER AND MAY VOID YOUR WARRANTY.

Fertile Earth customer service

*The Fertile Earth SmartFeeder is manufactured and tested to the highest standards in the USA. However, in the event of your device being defective, please email us at **support@fertileearth.com.au** or call **1800 446 812** for assistance.*

*You may also find helpful advice and information on our web site at **www.fertileearth.com.au**, or in the 'Troubleshooting' section of this Owner's Manual.*



PO Box 1761, Subiaco, WA 6904, Australia Email: hello@fertileearth.com.au

Items required for installation sold separately. Fertile Earth reserves the right to change the product specifications without notice. © 2006 Fertile Earth.

Made in the USA