



Dripper Systems

The critical factors in selecting a dripper system are:

1. the area being irrigated (and hence the distance that water must flow)
2. whether the area is flat or undulating

All dripper systems are low pressure systems. They work by slowly delivering water to the surface allowing it to efficiently infiltrate the soil. Dripper systems water deeply by delivering only a small amount of moisture to the surface. You will need to water for longer than with the traditional spray system. Depending on the flow rate of your drippers or slow release weeping SloFlo hoses, watering may take up to an hour.

Spray watering systems are inefficient as they only water the surface and promote shallow roots. If you have shallow roots you may need to supplement the drip system with some hand watering until your plants have grown deeper roots. It may take 2 or 3 months to develop deep roots.

The systems Town and Country Gardens recommend, stock and install are set out below. Irrigation supplied by Town and Country Gardens uses 4mm or 13mm fittings. It is possible to connect the 13mm tubing to 19mm tubing using adaptor fittings.

It is recommended to add a soil wetting agent such as Saturaid to reduce water evaporation and mulch to increase water retention.

1. SloFlo - designed for flat soil for small zones or short distances up to 20m.
 - This system slowly seeps water into the root zone of plants through porous holes along the tubing. SloFlo minimises evaporation and water loss.
 - The efficiency and effectiveness of this system will depend on your water pressure and the length you need to irrigate.
 - If the length of tubing is more than 20m it will lose pressure at the end. If you turn up the tap, the pressure will build up at low points near the tap, forcing a large amount of water out of small sections of tubing, with no water flowing at the end (giving the impression of large holes in the tubing).
 - There are no regulators in the SloFlo product therefore more water will flow out
 - A pressure reducer must be fitted if you can not reduce the pressure at the tap.
2. Scapeline - designed for flat soil with a distance of up to 50m.
 - Pressure may be lost at the end of the tubing if the length of tubing is greater than 50m. The regulators in the tubing evenly distribute water through all holes giving an even soaking pattern on flat soil. If the soil undulation is too great more water will flow out of the low points, resulting in an irregular soaking pattern
 - A pressure reducer must be fitted if you can not reduce the pressure at the tap.

- An air release valve will help to regulate the system and prolong the life of the product.

3. Techline - designed for undulating and flat soil with a distance of up to 50m.

- Pressure may be lost at the end of the tubing if the length of tubing is greater than 50m. The regulators in the tubing evenly distribute water through all holes giving an even soaking pattern on undulating or flat soil. On very steep sites you may need to run the Techline along the slope in multiple zones, ie a different zone for each major change in elevation.
- A pressure reducer must be fitted if you can not reduce the pressure at the tap.
- An air release valve will help to regulate the system and prolong the life of the product.

Town and Country Gardens stocks a wide range of dripper tubing and irrigation parts including joiners, T-joiners, stops, clamps etc. Please ask our qualified team members in-store for help with your irrigation needs.