

**Fast Facts: Benefits of Using Media vs. Soil**

* Plant spacing can be very intensive in media, allowing you to grow more plants in a given space than soil allows
* Use of media means no soil-borne diseases reach plants
* There are no weeds to pull in a media based system
* There is no need for tilling in a media based system
* Roughly 90% less water is used in a media based system due to water reuse
* Media based systems have faster vegetable growth than soil leading to higher yields being produced
* Aquaponics based media systems do not require fertilizers to be added whereas soil requires fertilization
* Media based systems require much less intensive labor than soil-systems
* Plants grown in the ground can use the water around their root system very quickly in hot weather, leading to wilting from a lack of water very quickly, on a hot day. Plants in a media based aquaponic system get watered constantly, so they always have water no matter how hot the weather is
* Media based systems can be built on land that is not productive due to soil degradation