

CLEANING UP AFTER A PLANT GROWTH EXPERIMENT

- I. SETTING UP THE SPACE AND EQUIPMENT - room 157 - Prep Lab
 - A. Organize materials to be cleaned
 - i. clear any existing clutter from the counter to the left of sink.
 - ii. save a space for the grey bin (see part B).
 - iii. stack all material to be cleaned on this counter.
 - B. Set a grey bin to the left of the sink in for detergent water.
 - i. put in less than a teaspoon of powdered detergent. Put the detergent container on the shelves after you use it so it does not get wet.
 - ii. fill the bin with warm to hot water.
 - C. Prepare the garbage-bin-on-wheels for sterilizing.
 - i. empty existing liquid unless a strong bleach odor can be detected (i.e. unless this preparation was recently previously done).
 - ii. fill part way with water.
 - iii. add one quart (1 liter) of commercial bleach.
 - iv. fill the remainder of the way.
 - D. Gather the needed cleaning materials - depending on what needs to be cleaned, you may need these (starred items are necessary no matter what)
 - i. large bottle brush
 - ii. plastic scrubbing brushes with long handles*
 - iii. large sponge*
 - iv. white towels for wiping up*
 - v. rubber gloves to protect your hands from the bleach.*
 - vi. cannister vac* WITH FILTER REMOVED AND CANNISTER EMPITIED. You will use this to control the water you will spew on the floor and counters.
 - E. Prepare area for stacking cleaned materials to dry
 - i. remove any and all clutter. If there are dirty materials to be washed, regardless of who generated them, stack with your stuff to be cleaned. This is the only way we can keep things organized. You can later find whoever is responsible and make sure they know that they owe you on this one.
 - ii. Wipe down the counter with bleach water.
 - F. Prepare area for rinsing grey bins after bleaching
 - i. This is the least well accommodated task in our cramped cleaning area. You have a few options:
 1. rinse in the sink. This will result in lots of water sprayed around. Be prepared to vacuum it up.
 2. rinse in the garage by the drain. There is a hose valve on the wall to the left of the bike rack. You will have to attach a hose. This drain is sometimes clogged. DO NOT make a big lake if the drain is clogged. Use another option.
 3. rinse in the stair well by Tom Harper's lab. You will need the plastic spray cannister filled with tap water.

II. CLEANING

A. Steuwe conetainers

- i. No turface or soil should remain in the pot. Knock material loose and/or use a bottle brush and detergent water to remove residual contents or surface grime.
- ii. rinse
- iii. throw into bleach water and leave for at least 20 minutes.
- iv. rinse thoroughly
- v. place on cleaned counter to dry.

B. Screens

- i. flatten each screen
- ii. remove any adhering roots or turface
- iii. pitch into the bleach for 20 minutes
- iv. rinse

C. Bins

- i. place a bin in the sink
- ii. scrub with large long-handled scrub brush and detergent water
- iii. do not remove drains unless instructed to do so.
- iv. rinse
- v. dip in grey bleach bin OR
carry to external stair well by Tom Harper's lab and spray
with bleach solution you have mixed in the plastic spray cannister.
- vi. rinse

III. CLEANUP AFTER CLEANING

- A. Mop up, wipe up and/or vacuum up all water.
- B. All turface and dirt should be swept up or otherwise cleaned from counters and floor.
- C. All materials should be cleaned and returned to storage
- D. Wet towels should be wrung out so they are only damp and placed in a plastic grocery bag for cleaning. Give them to Steve or the lab manager. Indicate if more are needed.
- E. Empty the water from the cannister vacuum and replace the dust filter.
- F. Make sure replacement materials and supplies are ordered if any of these have been or are near to being consumed.