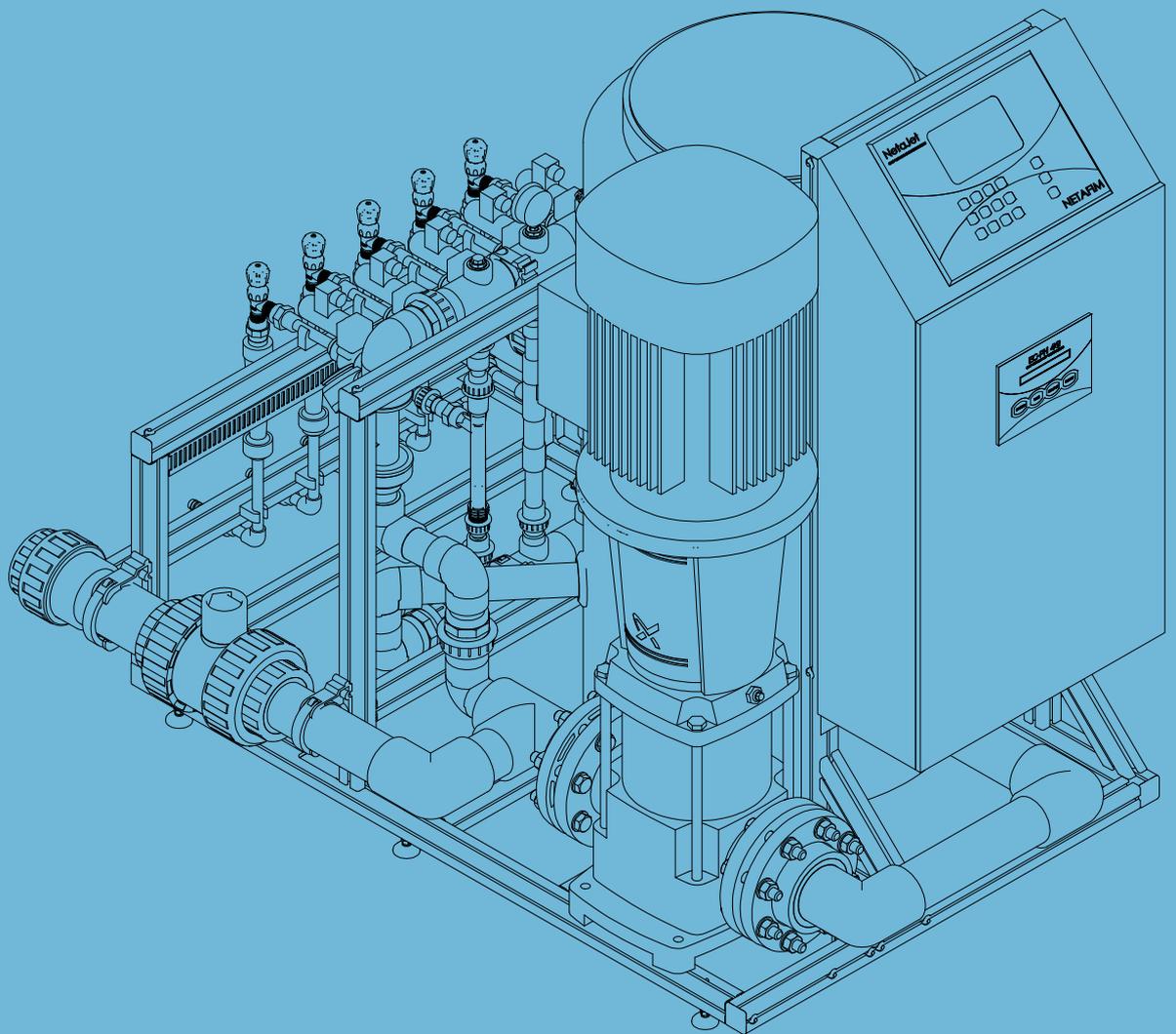


# NETAFLEX™ 3G

## INSTALLATION MANUAL



© COPYRIGHT 2020, NETAFIM

NO PARTS OF THIS PUBLICATION MAY BE REPRODUCED, STORED IN AN AUTOMATED DATA FILE OR MADE PUBLIC IN ANY FORM OR BY ANY MEANS, WHETHER ELECTRONIC, MECHANICAL, BY PHOTOCOPYING, RECORDING OR IN ANY OTHER MANNER WITHOUT PRIOR WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE PUBLISHER.

ALTHOUGH NETAFIM TAKES THE GREATEST POSSIBLE CARE IN DESIGNING AND PRODUCING BOTH ITS PRODUCTS AND THE ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTATION, THEY MAY STILL INCLUDE FAULTS.

NETAFIM WILL NOT ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR DAMAGE RESULTING FROM THE USE OF NETAFIM'S PRODUCTS OR THE USE OF THIS MANUAL.

NETAFIM RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MAKE CHANGES AND IMPROVEMENTS TO ITS PRODUCTS AND/OR THE ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTATION WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.



## **FOREIGN LANGUAGES**

In the event that you are reading this manual in a language other than the English language, you acknowledge and agree that the English language version shall prevail in case of inconsistency or contradiction in interpretation or translation.

# CONTENTS

<b>Use of symbols</b>	4
<b>Introduction</b>	
General instructions	5
Safety instructions	5
Safety instructions when using acid/chemicals	6
<b>Description</b>	
Introduction	7
Highlights	7
Advantages	7
Specifications	8
Basic functions	8
Operating principle	8
Service	8
Maintenance	8
Add-ons	9
Schematic diagram	9
Typical installation overview	10
Dimensions	11
Weights	11
<b>On-site preparations</b>	
Hydraulic infrastructure preparation	12
Electrical preparation	15
<b>Installation</b>	
Unpacking and placement	16
Hydraulic installation	16
Electrical installation	18
<b>System operation</b>	
Preparations for running the NetaFlex™ 3G	19
Running the NetaFlex™ 3G	20
<b>Calibration</b>	
Calculation of dosing channels opening percentage	22
Simulation with a 10 liter (2 US gal) bucket of water	22
Calibration of the NetaFlex™ 3G while irrigating	24
<b>Commissioning</b>	26
<b>Warranty</b>	27
<b>Appendix - System pump electrical data</b>	28

# USE OF SYMBOLS

## The symbols used in this manual refer to the following:



### **WARNING**

Contains instructions aimed at preventing bodily injury or direct damage to the crops, the NetaFlex™ 3G and/or the infrastructure.



### **CAUTION**

Contains instructions aimed at preventing unwanted system operation, installation or conditions that, if not followed, might void the warranty.



### **ATTENTION**

Contains instructions aimed at enhancing the efficiency of usage of the instructions in the manual.



### **NOTE**

Contains instructions aimed at emphasizing certain aspect of the operation of the system or installation.



### **ACID HAZARD**

Contains instructions aimed at preventing bodily injury or direct damage to the crops, the product and/or the infrastructure in the presence of acid.



### **ELECTRICAL HAZARD**

Contains instructions aimed at preventing bodily injury or direct damage to the NetaFlex™ 3G and/or the infrastructure in the presence of electricity.



### **SAFETY FOOTWEAR**

Contains instructions aimed at preventing foot injury.



### **PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT**

Contains instructions aimed at preventing damage to health or bodily injury in the presence of fertilizers, acid or other chemicals.



### **EXAMPLE**

Provides an example to clarify the operation of the settings, method of operation or installation. The values used in the examples are hypothetical. Do not apply these values to your own situation.



### **TIP**

Provides clarification, tips or useful information.

# INTRODUCTION



## CAUTION

Read the Safety instructions chapter before beginning installation of the NetaFlex™ 3G dosing unit.

## General instructions

- Installation must be performed by authorized technicians only.
- Refer to your supervisor if problems occur during installation procedure.
- Installation should be performed on a hard, leveled floor or on a flat, hard, leveled plate.
- Do not apply force or pressure on components during the installation procedure.
- Verify that field components work properly.
- Make sure fertilizers and acid are on site at time of installation.

## Electricity

- Ensure that suitable electrical power supply is available in the vicinity of the installation for the NetaFlex™ 3G electrical connection (see - [Electrical Installation](#), page 18).
- Ensure an electrical socket available in the NetaFlex™ 3G vicinity, for installation and for service purposes.

## Safety instructions

- All safety regulations must be applied.
- Ensure that the installation is carried out in a manner that prevents leaks from the NetaFlex™ 3G, the fertilizer/acid tanks and lines, the peripherals and the accessories, contaminating the environment, soil or ambient area.
- Electrical installation must be performed by an authorized electrician only.
- The electrical installation must comply with the local safety standards and regulations.
- Protection provided by the equipment can be impaired if the equipment is used in a manner other than that specified by the manufacturer.



## WARNING

In agricultural environment - always wear protective footwear.



## WARNING

Measures must be taken to prevent fertilizer infiltration of the water source, to avoid water pollution.



## CAUTION

When opening or closing any manual valve, always do it gradually, to prevent damage to the system by water hammer.



## NOTE

The maximum sound level produced by the equipment does not exceed 70dB.

# INTRODUCTION

## Safety instructions when using acid/chemicals



### ACID HAZARD

When using acid - always observe the acid manufacturer's safety instructions.



### WARNING

Always use protective equipment, gloves and goggles when handling fertilizers, acid and other chemicals!



### ATTENTION

When dosing acid, use a dosing channel fitted with the appropriate components according to the type and concentration of acid used\*:

Type of dosing channel	Diaphragm and O-rings	For pH correction					For maintenance of drippers		
		Nitric acid (HNO <sub>3</sub> )	Phosphoric acid (H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> )	Sulfuric acid (H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> )	Potassium hydroxide (KOH)	Acetic acid (CH <sub>3</sub> COOH)	Hydrochloric (HCl)	Hydrogen peroxide (H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> )	Chlorine (as hypochlorite)
For diluted acid	EPDM	<3%	<85%	<30%	<35%	<30%	<10%	<30%	<1%
For concentrated acid	Viton	<40%	<85%	<90%	<10%	<5%	<33%	<50%	<10%

% is by weight at 21°C (70°F)

\*The table indicates the resistance of the dosing channel components to acid, and is not a recommendation to use the acids mentioned.



### WARNING

Exceeding the recommended acid concentrations will damage the dosing channels.



### WARNING

Substances such as chemicals for pest/disease control might be corrosive and damage the NetaFlex™ 3G. When using any substance other than fertilizers or acids not exceeding the concentrations in the table above, always observe the manufacturer's instructions for corrosivity. In case of any doubt, consult your local Netafim™ representative.

# DESCRIPTION

## Introduction

The NetaFlex™ 3G is a reliable open-tank dosing system.

The NetaFlex™ 3G ensures very precise and homogeneous nutrient dosing for greenhouse crops.

The NetaFlex™ 3G is a modular CE-compliant dosing system that easily integrates with multiple Netafim™ and third-party control and monitoring systems.

The NetaFlex™ 3G always injects a uniform quantity of nutrients while performing perfect EC and pH control.

The NetaFlex™ 3G features a 200 liter open mixing tank fitted with a movable float valve enabling the preparation of 100 or 200 liter solutions.

The NetaFlex™ 3G can accommodate a wide variety of dosing channels for fertilizer and concentrated/diluted acid. Up to 6 dosing channels of various types, from 50 l/hr (13 GPH) each, up to 600 l/hr (158 GPH) each, in many mixed configurations.

The NetaFlex™ 3G accommodates a wide variety of system pumps, peripherals and accessories to meet a vast range of applications and infrastructure constraints.

## Highlights

- Wide range of soil/substrate applications
- Built around a standard platform
- Minimal investment requirement
- Efficient water, fertilizer and energy consumption
- Very large range of irrigation water capacities
- Quantitative or proportional Nutrigation capabilities
- Precise single or dual EC/pH monitoring and control - selectable by customer.
- Almost completely maintenance-free Venturi operations - no moving parts
- Highly accurate dosing channels equipped with quick action dosing valves
- Fast and efficient Nutrigation recipe adjustments
- Easy integration into existing irrigation systems, Netafim's NMC, and third-party controllers
- Multilingual system
- Wide range of integrated accessories and peripherals
- High-quality components and PVC
- Aluminum, corrosion-resistant frame with adjustable legs
- Made by Netafim™

## Advantages

- Easy to install and maintain system
- Highly profitable price/performance ratio
- Requires minimal investment with rapid ROI
- **Productive:** Employing precise EC and pH control assists in delivering a high quality product with outstanding yields (single or dual EC and pH control sets are available).
- **Uniform:** Delivers a consistent quantity or ratio of nutrients in a homogenous solution thanks to an open mixing tank design.
- **Flexible:** Works with a wide range of dosing channel flow rates up to 6 units of 50-600 l/hr (13-158 GPH). Each dosing channel is fitted with a multipurpose dosing valve for the dosing of fertilizer or acid, at any dosing rate up to 600 l/hr (158 GPH). Compatible with 50/60 Hz electricity frequency.
- **Scalable:** System flow rates from 3 m<sup>3</sup>/h (13 GPM) to 64 m<sup>3</sup>/h (282 GPM). Open mixing tank allows the preparation of 100 or 200 liter solutions.
- **Focused:** Made for soil/soilless greenhouse applications.

# DESCRIPTION

## Specifications

### Output flow rate and pressure

The NetaFlex™ 3G ensures a satisfactory mixture in a vast range of system performances.

Flow rate from 3 m<sup>3</sup>/h (13 GPM) to 64 m<sup>3</sup>/h (282 GPM) at a wide range of output pressure according to the selected system pump.

A single NetaFlex™ 3G will accommodate from a 0.1 Ha (0.25 Acres) to a 10 Ha (25 Acres) nursery.

For output pressure lower than 3.0 bar (44 PSI) consult your local Netafim™ representative.

### Fertilizer dosing capacity

The NetaFlex™ 3G accommodates up to 6 dosing channels of various types in many mixed configuration:

- 50 l/hr (13 GPH)
- 150 l/hr (40 GPH)
- 400 l/hr (105 GPH)
- 600 l/hr (158 GPH)

\* For applications requiring more than 6 dosing channels - consult your local Netafim™ representative.

## Basic functions

The NetaFlex™ 3G supports the following Nutrigation™ functions:

- Fully controlled dosing and mixing of fertilizers/acid with source water into a homogenous nutrient solution.
- EC and pH correction of the nutrient solution (single or dual EC and pH control available).

## Operating principle

Fertilizers and acid are injected into a tank, opened to the atmosphere; a homogeneous solution is prepared in the tank before it is delivered to the field.

The open mixing tank method permits accelerated assimilation of fertilizers into the water. The result is a perfectly mixed solution.

## Service

The NetaFlex™ 3G utilises a modular construction making servicing a simple and prompt process.

The dealer keeps a small quantity of interchangeable components on hand, for replacement on site within a few minutes.

## Maintenance

To prevent failures and extend the life cycle of the NetaFlex™ 3G, regular maintenance must be carried out by the user, such as periodic rinsing of filters and calibration of the EC and pH sensors.

Regular maintenance of the NetaFlex™ 3G is a prompt, low cost process requiring no special tools or skills.

# DESCRIPTION

## Add-ons

You can extend the functionality of your NetaFlex™ 3G by means of the many add-ons offering a wide variety of useful functions. All the add-ons are easy to connect to the NetaFlex™ 3G - here are a few examples:

### Fertilizer meter with electric output

Enables continuous reading of fertilizer dosing. Useful in applications where the customer wants a broader indication on fertilizer flow on top of the EC and pH readings.

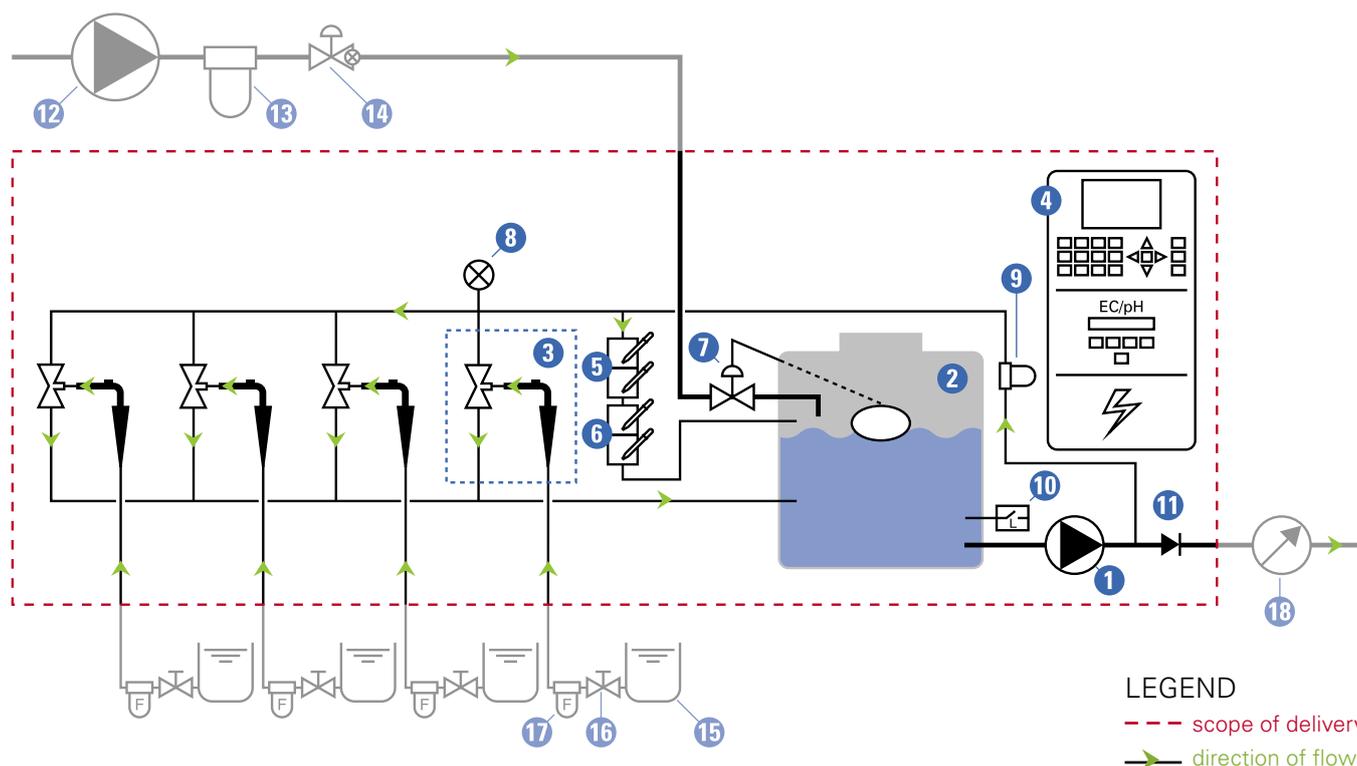
### Stock selection

Enables the dosing of multiple fertilizers through a single dosing channel (in cases where simultaneous dosing is not required).

Available in a wide variety of configurations, from a single channel with 2 fertilizers to as many channels and fertilizers as required.

For further information on the NetaFlex™ 3G add-ons, consult your local Netafim™ representative.

## Schematic diagram



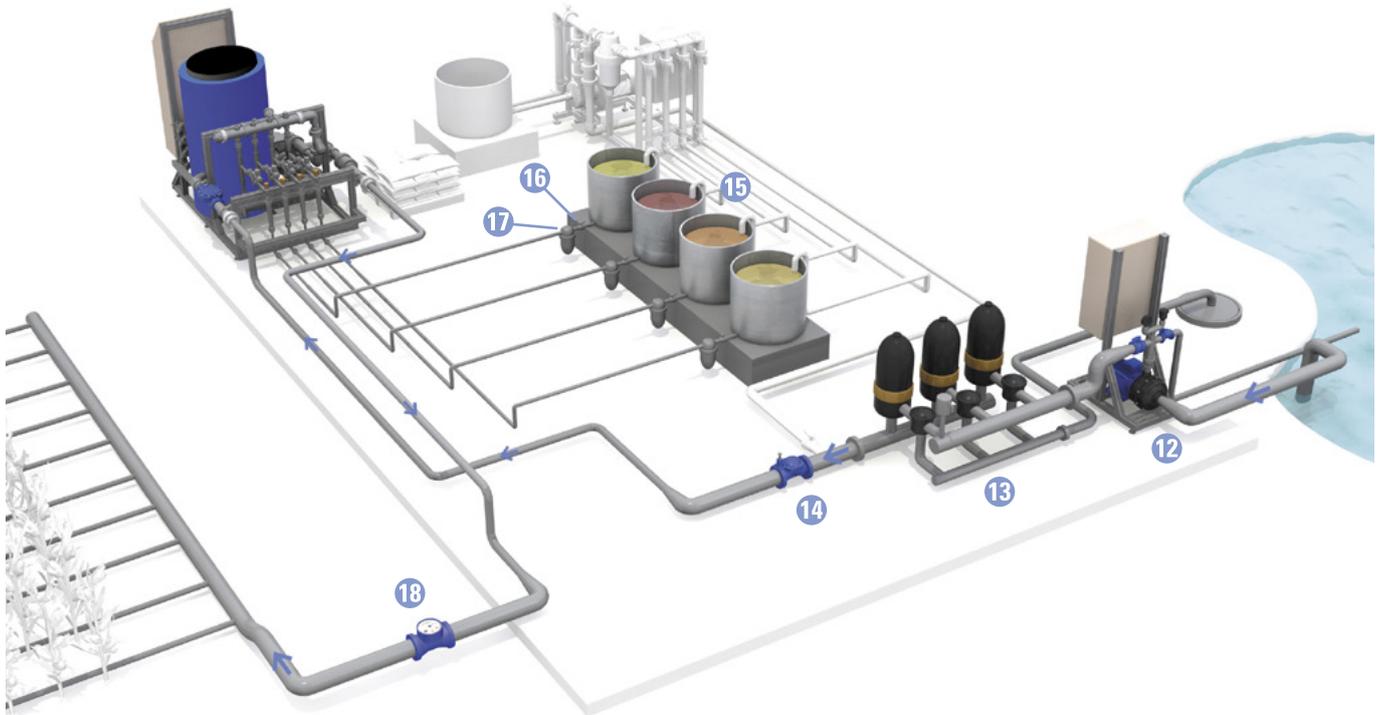
- |   |                         |                               |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 System pump   | 5 EC sensors (2)        | 12 Filling pump               |
| 2 Tank  | 6 pH sensors (2)        | 13 Filling line filter        |
| 3 Dosing channel + Venturi  | 7 Float valve           | 14 Pressure reducing valve    |
| 4 Control panel, including:<br>Controller, EC/pH transducer,<br>electric switchboard. | 8 Pressure gauge        | 15 Fertilizer/acid stock tank |
|   | 9 Upper manifold filter | 16 Manual valve (fertilizer)  |
|   | 10 Low level switch     | 17 Fertilizer/acid filter     |
|   | 11 Non-return valve     | 18 Water meter                |

# DESCRIPTION

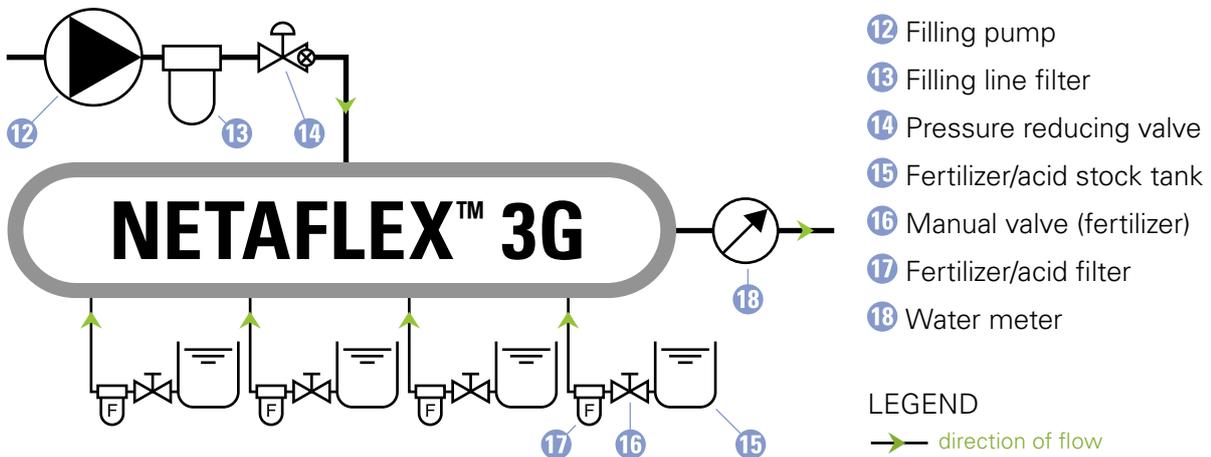
## Typical installation overview

The drawing below represents a typical NetaFlex™ 3G infrastructure.

NetaFlex™ 3G



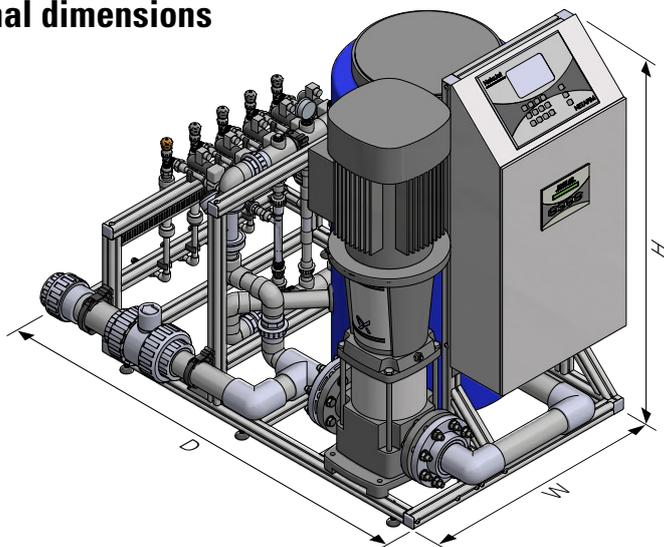
## Infrastructure schematic diagram



# DESCRIPTION

## Dimensions

### Extrenal dimensions



NetaFlex™ 3G external dimensions (W/D/H*)	Package dimensions (W/D/H**)
109/148/133.5 cm (43/58.3/52.5")	131/166/159 cm (51.5/65.5/62.5")

\*The height varies by  $\pm 1$  cm ( $\pm 0.5$ " ) according to the adjustment of the legs.

\*\*The package height includes the pallet height of 15 cm (6").



#### NOTE

Allow 20 cm (8") around the NetaFlex™ 3G for inlet, outlet and fertilizer pipes connections.

## Weights°

The weight of the NetaFlex™ 3G varies according to the selected system pump.

50Hz			60Hz		
System pump	Net weight°	Packed weight°	System pump	Net weight°	Packed weight°
CM10-3	156 kg. (344 lbs.)	286 kg. (631 lbs.)	CM10-2	158 kg. (348 lbs.)	288 kg. (635 lbs.)
CM10-4	159 kg. (351 lbs.)	289 kg. (637 lbs.)	CM10-3	161 kg. (355 lbs.)	291 kg. (642 lbs.)
CM25-2	153 kg. (337 lbs.)	283 kg. (624 lbs.)	CM15-2	160 kg. (353 lbs.)	290 kg. (639 lbs.)
CM25-3	176 kg. (388 lbs.)	306 kg. (675 lbs.)	CM25-2	172 kg. (379 lbs.)	302 kg. (665 lbs.)
CR32-3-2	217 kg. (478 lbs.)	347 kg. (765 lbs.)	CR32-2-2	214 kg. (472 lbs.)	344 kg. (758 lbs.)
CR32-3	217 kg. (478 lbs.)	347 kg. (765 lbs.)	CR32-2	226 kg. (498 lbs.)	356 kg. (785 lbs.)
CR45-2	237 kg. (522 lbs.)	367 kg. (809 lbs.)	CR45-2-2	280 kg. (617 lbs.)	410 kg. (904 lbs.)
CR45-3-2	284 kg. (626 lbs.)	414 kg. (913 lbs.)	CR45-1	233 kg. (514 lbs.)	363 kg. (800 lbs.)
CR64-2-1	283 kg. (624 lbs.)	413 kg. (911 lbs.)	CR64-1	279 kg. (615 lbs.)	409 kg. (902 lbs.)
CR64-2	240 kg. (529 lbs.)	370 kg. (816 lbs.)	CR64-2-2	296 kg. (653 lbs.)	426 kg. (939 lbs.)

°Order of magnitude only - final weights are issued with the product order.

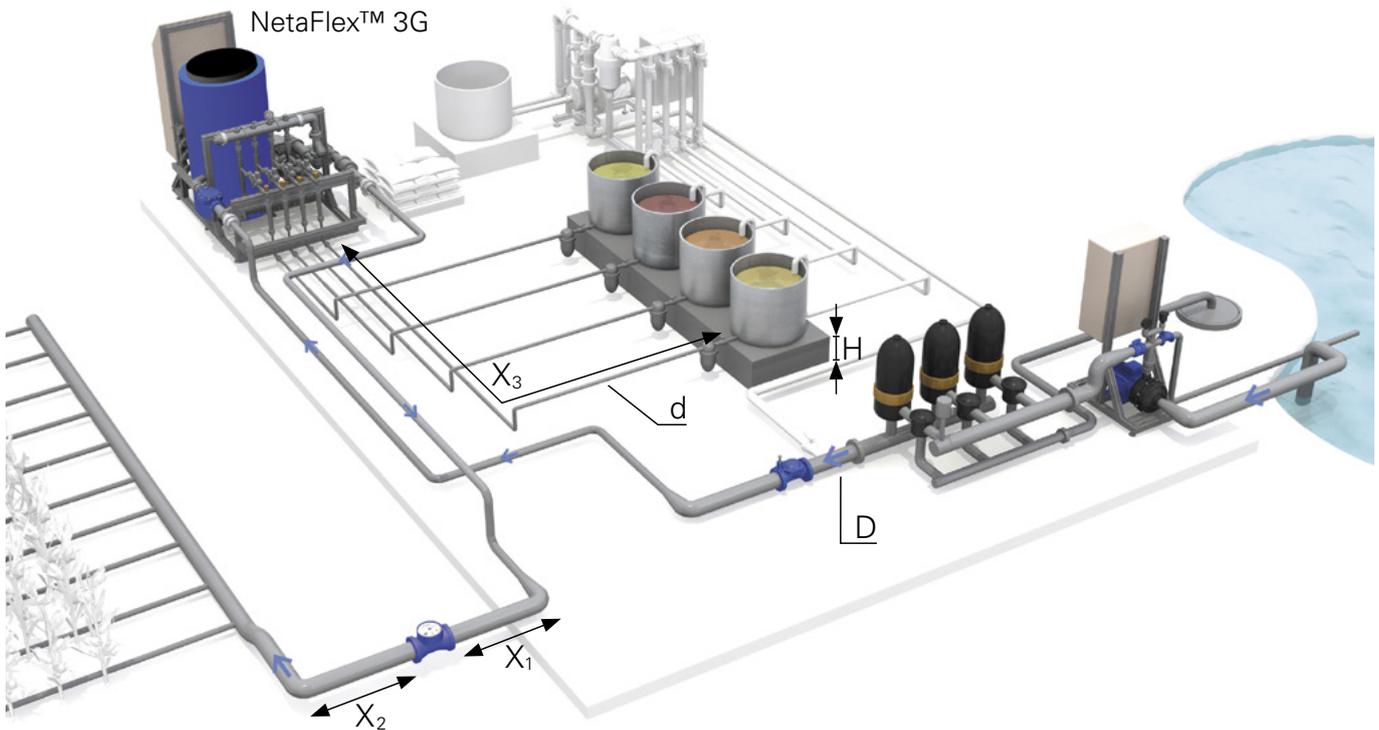
# ON-SITE PREPARATIONS

## Hydraulic infrastructure preparation

Before performing the infrastructure installation, consult [Typical installation overview](#), page 12.

### Required proportions

To enable optimal operation of the NetaFlex™ 3G, piping must be installed while maintaining the following proportions.



### Infrastructure required proportions

Description	Required proportions
D Filling line - pipe diameter	
d Fertilizer/acid lines - pipe diameter: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 32 mm (1¼") for dosing channels of up to 400 l/hr (106 GPH)</li> <li>• 40 mm (1½") for dosing channels of over 400 l/hr (106 GPH)</li> </ul>	
X <sub>1</sub> Length of the pipe upstream from the water meter to the adjacent corner <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pipe must be straight</li> </ul>	10 x D
X <sub>2</sub> Length of the pipe downstream from the water meter to the adjacent corner <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pipe must be straight</li> </ul>	5 x D
X <sub>3</sub> Length of fertilizers or acid lines	Max. 10 meter (33 feet)
H Elevation of the fertilizer/acid tanks	Min. 30 cm (12")

### Filling line flow rate and pressure requirements

In order to enable the NetaFlex™ 3G operation, the following requirements must be met.

- Source water should enter the NetaFlex™ 3G at a flow rate equal to the maximum flow rate required for the field.

If the flow rate at the inlet of the NetaFlex™ 3G is insufficient, the low level switch will be activated and the NetaFlex™ 3G operation will be stopped.

# ON-SITE PREPARATIONS

- The water entering the NetaFlex™ 3G should be within a pressure range of 2 to 4.5 bar (29 PSI to 65 PSI).



## NOTE

To ensure flow rate stability, the consumption of the individual irrigation shifts should be as equal as possible. Each changeover between shifts with different consumption will result in consumption fluctuation that will affect the EC and pH stability. The consumption of the smallest shift should not be less than 75% of the consumption of the largest shift.

## Pump house (Filter house / Fertilizer house) requirements



## CAUTION

The NetaFlex™ 3G should:

- be placed in a roofed building
- not be exposed to direct sunlight
- kept at an ambient temperature between 10°C and 40°C (50°F and 104°F)
- kept at a maximum relative air humidity of 85%
- be properly ventilated
- be protected from dust
- be protected from splashes or direct spraying with water or chemicals

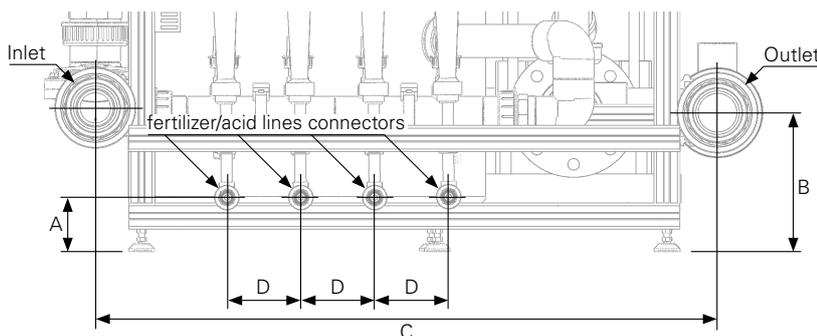


## NOTE

In order to prevent penetration of fertilizer or acid to the soil, it is recommended that the floor of the pump house have a slope of minimum 1% towards a gutter at its lower edge and an underground tank at the lower end of the gutter, enabling drainage of any spill or excess.

## Location of inlet, outlet and fertilizer/acid line connectors

The location of the inlet and the outlet connectors vary according to the selected system pump.



System pump	Distance - cm (inch)			
	A*	B*	C	D
CM10	12.5 cm (4.9")	36.6 cm (14.4")	95.7 cm (37.7")	11.4 cm (4.5")
CM15				
CM25				
CR 32		15.8 cm (6.2")	97.5 cm (38.4")	
CR 45		18.3 cm (7.2")		
CR 64				

\*The height varies by  $\pm 1$  cm ( $\pm 0.5$ " ) according to the adjustment of the legs.

# ON-SITE PREPARATIONS

## The water distribution system

For the setup of the water distribution system the following components should be installed:

### Components of the water distribution system

Component	Specifications
12 Filling pump	Suitable for flow rate satisfying the maximum field requirement (Ensure stable pressure).
13 Filling line filter	≤ 130 μm (≥ 120 mesh).
14 Pressure reducing valve (PRV)	Should be installed on the filling line, downstream from the filling line filter and be able to supply suitable pressure as specified for the NetaFlex™ 3G.
15 Fertilizer/acid stock tank	Between 1 and 6 fertilizer/acid solution stock tanks
16 Manual valve (fertilizer)	A manual ball valve on each fertilizer/acid line at the stock tank outlet
17 Fertilizer/acid filter	≤ 130 μm (≥ 120 mesh)
18 Water meter	With electrical pulses. The pulse should be as short as possible according to the output line diameter and the controller's limitations. (See the Recommended flow meter pulse rate table below.)



### CAUTION

EC and pH sensors must never be exposed to pressure greater than 6 bars (87 PSI).

### Recommended flow meter pulse rate

Flow rate m <sup>3</sup> /hr	Flow meter output l/pulse	Flow rate GPM	Flow meter output US gal/pulse
Up to 6	1	Up to 88	1
6 - 60	10	88 - 1000	10

## The fertilizer/acid tanks and lines

For the setup of the fertilizer/acid tanks and lines, the following components should be installed:

### Components of the fertilizer/acid tanks and lines

Component	Specifications
15 Fertilizer/acid stock tank	Between 1 and 6 fertilizer/acid solution stock tanks
16 Manual valve (fertilizer)	A manual ball valve on each fertilizer/acid line at the stock tank outlet
17 Fertilizer/acid filter	≤ 130 μm (≥ 120 mesh)

### The following aspects should be taken into account:

- Ensure the stock tanks are of sufficient size for storage of at least one day's consumption .
- Sufficient space should be available between the fertilizer/acid tanks and the NetaFlex™ 3G, to enable inspection and maintenance operations.
- Fertilizer/acid pipe diameter: 32 mm (1¼") for dosing channels of up to 400 l/hr (106 GPH)  
40 mm (1½") for dosing channels of over 400 l/hr (106 GPH)
- For the connection of fertilizer supply lines to the NetaFlex™ 3G, use a transparent, chemical-resistant, reinforced PVC water hose with an internal diameter of 16 mm that will not contract when there is a vacuum in the system.
- Use properly sealing stainless steel band clamps for the fertilizer/acid hose connection, type SS 316.

# ON-SITE PREPARATIONS



## CAUTION

After completion of the hydraulic infrastructure, before the installation of the NetaFlex™ 3G, rinse the hydraulic infrastructure and fertilizer/acid lines and tanks by running water through them in order to wash away any residues (chips, shavings, sawdust) due to the setup work.

## Electrical preparation

### Mains connection



## CAUTION

Only qualified electricians are permitted to perform electrical installations!



## ATTENTION

Make sure the electrical supply capacity is in accordance with the electrical characteristics of the NetaFlex™ 3G.

Make sure the short-timed higher current consumption when starting up the system pump was taken in consideration (for further details see the enclosed Pump Documentation).

### The following components have to be provided in the installation:

- A readily accessible circuit breaker, rated according to the NetaFlex™ 3G's total rated power for peak demand, certified as a branch circuit over current protector (see [System Pump List](#), page 28), compliant with the national code and requirements.
- Grounding connection:  $\leq 10 \Omega$ .

For the selection of the supply wire size - consider (see [System Pump List](#), page 28):

- The NetaFlex™ 3G's total rated power.
- Whether the electricity supply is single-phase or three-phase.

### Mains wire size for three-phase system\*

5 wires: GND, N, L1, L2, L3

Power source required (kWatt)	3 X 200-250 VAC	3 X 400-480 VAC
Up to 1.5	$\geq 2.5 \text{ mm}^2 (\leq 13 \text{ awg})$	$\geq 2.5 \text{ mm}^2 (\leq 13 \text{ awg})$
1.5-2		
2-3		
3-4		
4-6	$\geq 6 \text{ mm}^2 (\leq 9 \text{ awg})$	$\geq 4 \text{ mm}^2 (\leq 11 \text{ awg})$
6-8	$\geq 10 \text{ mm}^2 (\leq 7 \text{ awg})$	
8-10		$\geq 6 \text{ mm}^2 (\leq 9 \text{ awg})$
10-12	$\geq 16 \text{ mm}^2 (\leq 5 \text{ awg})$	$\geq 10 \text{ mm}^2 (\leq 7 \text{ awg})$
12-16	$\geq 25 \text{ mm}^2 (\leq 3 \text{ awg})$	

\*Using a cable not longer than 25 meter (82 feet) between the power supply and the switchboard of the NetaFlex™ 3G.

# INSTALLATION

## Unpacking and placement

Check the ShockWatch label attached to the packaging and ensure the indicator is white. If the indicator is red - act according to the instruction on the ShockWatch label.

Place the NetaFlex™ 3G package close to the irrigation system using forklift.

Gently open the packaging.

Remove the 4 screws and bolts connecting the NetaFlex™ 3G to the wooden pallet.

Remove plastic cover from controller (if existing).

Place the NetaFlex™ 3G in its position.

Adjust the legs so that the NetaFlex™ 3G is steady.



## Hydraulic installation



### WARNING

When handling fertilizers, acid and other chemicals, always use protective equipment, gloves and goggles.

### NetaFlex™ inlet/outlet connection

Connect the appropriate pipes to the inlet and the outlet of the NetaFlex™ 3G (see [Location of inlet, outlet and fertilizer/acid line connectors](#), page 13).

#### Two types of connectors are supplied

System pump	CM10	CM15	CM25	CR32	CR45	CR64
PVC, adaptor union - glue connector (installed)	63 mm			75 mm		90 mm
BSP or NPT nipple - male thread connector (supplied)	2"			2.5"		3"

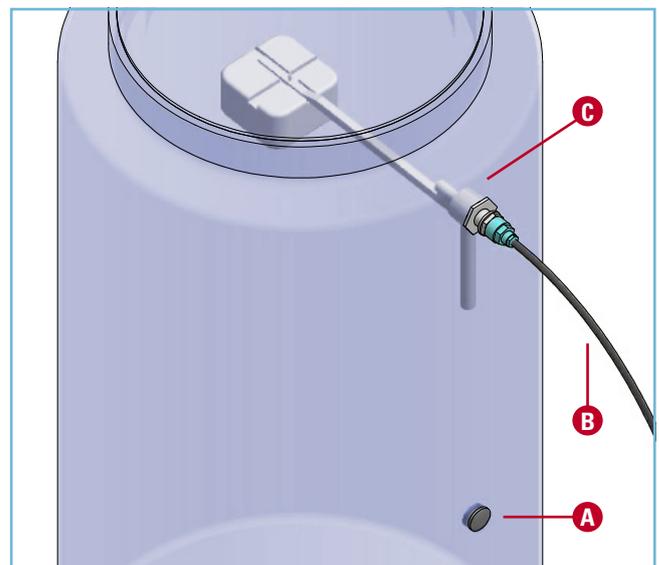
### Float valve location

The float valve can be installed at two locations:

- Top location for 200 liter solution (as supplied)
- Bottom location for 100 liter solution (supplied sealed with a rubber plug)

#### To shift the float valve location

- Remove the rubber plug [A] from the other location.
- Disconnect the controll tube [B] from the float valve.
- Disconnect the float valve [C].
- Insert the rubber plug in its stead.
- Install the float valve at the other location.
- Connect the controll tube.
- After activation, check for leaks and fix if required.



# INSTALLATION

## Stock tank connection

Connect the fertilizer lines to the NetaFlex™ 3G (see [Location of inlet, outlet and fertilizer/acid line connectors](#), page 13).

### Three types of connection are available

Fittings (interchangeable)	Diameter
PVC, hose nozzle insert connector (installed)	16 mm
PVC, nipple - male thread connector (supplied)	1/2"
PVC, half union - female thread connector (supplied)	3/4"

Prior to flexi-tube connection, thread a stainless steel band clamp **A** on each flexi-tube hose.

Heat the tip of each Flexi tube hose in boiling water to make it flexible for insertion.

Connect flexi-tube hose from fertilizer lines to the hose-nozzle-insert connectors of dosing channels **B**, ensuring 1/2 meter (1.7 feet) of transparent, chemical-resistant, reinforced PVC water hose with an internal diameter of 16 mm that will not contract when there is a vacuum in the system.

Attach the stainless steel band clamp on each flexi-tube connection **C** and secure tightly.

### Flexi-tube specification:

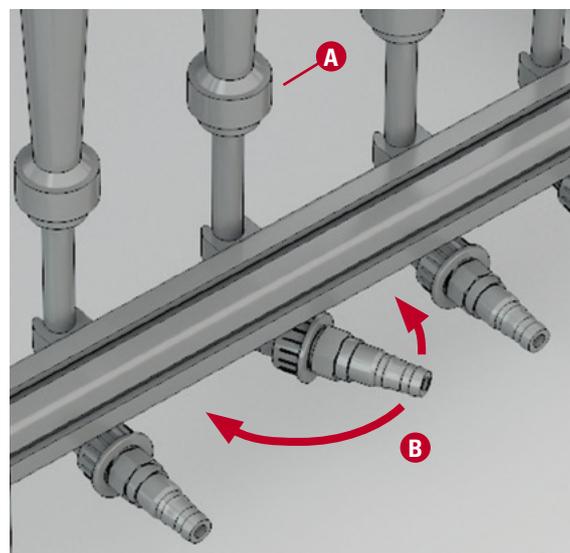
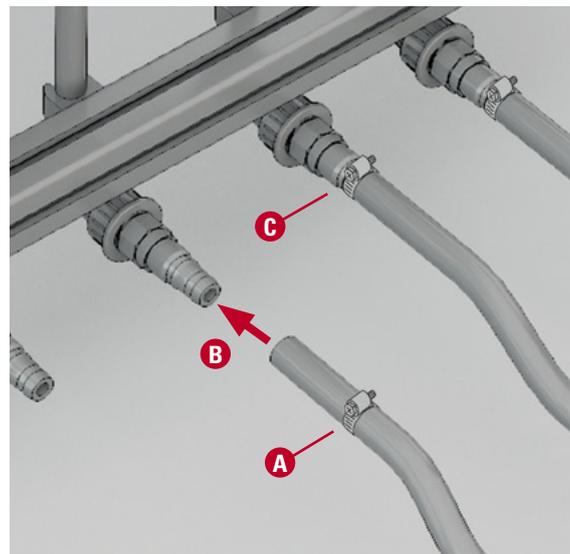
- 16 mm (1/2") reinforced EVA tubing.
- Material: EVA (ethylene vinyl acetate) tube compound specially formulated to meet USDA requirements.
- Polyester cord reinforcement with color tracer.
- Pressure: 18 to 20 Bar (250 to 300 PSI).
- Recommended temperature range: -23°C to +65°C (-10°F to +150°F).



### TIP

You can rotate the hose connectors of the dosing channels to face the desired direction according to the location of the stock tanks.

Loosen the Rotameter's lower connector **A**, rotate the hose connector to the desired direction **B** and fasten the Rotameter's lower connector **A**.



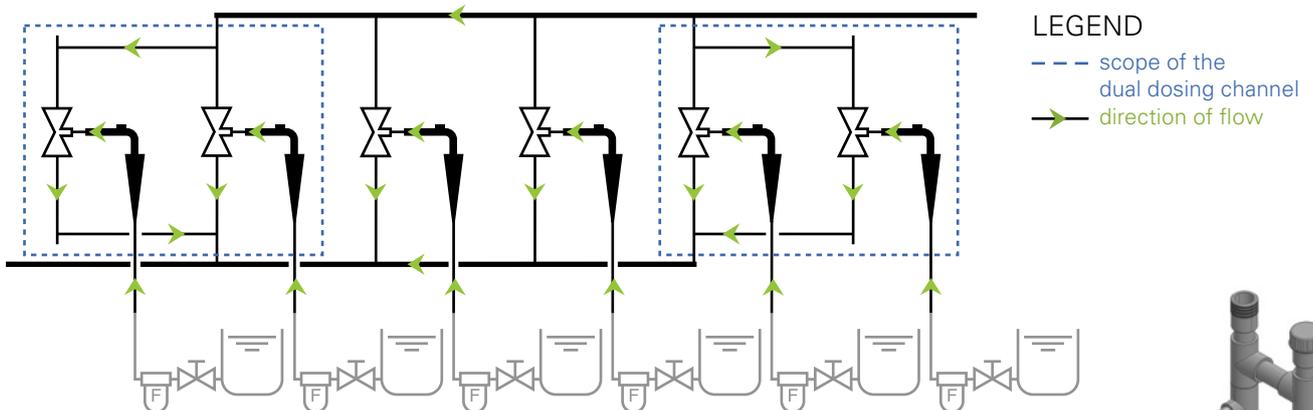
# INSTALLATION

## Dual dosing channel

If the NetaFlex™ has more than 4 dosing channels (up to 6), the dual dosing channel option is utilized.

- Up to 2 dual dosing channels are installed on the NetaFlex™ 3G, at the farthest manifold positions (1 and 4).
- The dual dosing channel option is applicable with 600 l/hr (158 GPH) or 50 l/hr (13 GPH) Venturis.

## Dual dosing channels schematic diagram

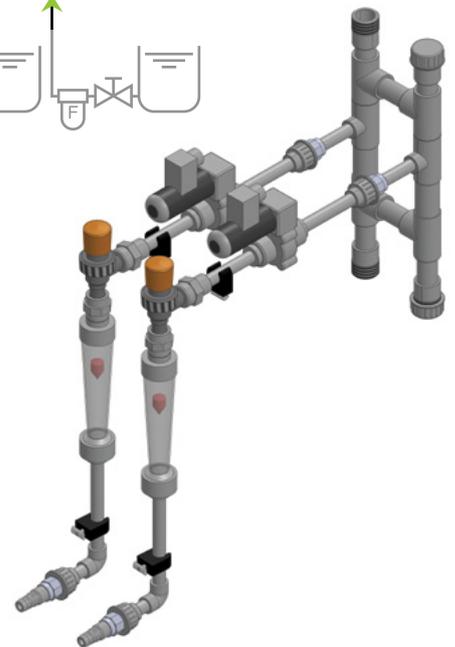


### CAUTION

There are fertilizer combinations that should never be used in the dual dosing channel as they will induce crystallization and cause clogging of the pipes.

- Calcium Nitrate + Ammonium Sulfate => Calcium Sulfate
- Calcium Nitrate + Potassium Sulfate => Calcium Sulfate
- MKP + Calcium Nitrate => Calcium Phosphate
- MAP + Calcium Nitrate => Calcium Phosphate
- Phosphoric acid + Calcium Nitrate => Calcium Phosphate

In case of doubt regarding the use of any combination of fertilizers in the dual dosing channel, consult your local Netafim™ representative.



## Electrical installation



### CAUTION

Only qualified electricians are permitted to perform electrical installations!

Have a qualified electrician connect the NetaFlex™ 3G to the mains.

Follow the instructions in the enclosed Switchboard Documentation.

# SYSTEM OPERATION



## NOTE

The following procedure describes the operations that should be performed, regardless of the type of controller in use. For the operation of the specific controller interface, see the Controller Manual.

## Preparations for running the NetaFlex™ 3G

For NetaFlex™ 3Gs with an onboard or external controller:

Run the controller and enter preliminary general settings (see the Controller Manual).

Ensure that the INPUT for protection against low level in the mixing tank is connected to the controller and defined (see the Controller Manual).

Connect all the elements (valves, pumps, filters, sensors, etc.) to the controller (see the Controller Manual).

### Manual test of controller outputs

Perform the test to make sure that all the elements (valves, pumps, filters, sensors, etc.) function properly upon command from the controller.

Run the test using the controller's TEST menu (see the Controller Manual).

Set the relay status of the dosing channels to MANUAL and make sure that the irrigation program is not defined (see the Controller Manual).



## NOTE

Make sure the dosing valve selector is in the CLOSED position.

To check that the dosing channels are working:

When the OPEN command from the controller is given - the LED on the dosing valve is lit.



### Calibration of sensors

Calibrate the EC and pH sensors (see the EC/pH Transmitter Manual).



## ATTENTION

Unions tend to get loose during transit.

Before operating the NetaFlex™ 3G, tighten all the unions of the NetaFlex™ 3G by hand.

### Filling the NetaFlex™ 3G with water for the first time



## CAUTION

When opening or closing any manual valve, always do it gradually, to prevent damage to the system by water hammer.

Gradually fill the NetaFlex™ 3G with water until the float valve closes.

If the float valve does not close the tank may overflow - immediately stop filling the tank and check the float valve for fault)

Keep the system under static pressure for 10 minutes and visually check for leaks in the filling line.

Verify that the arm of the float remains horizontal (The water level in the tank is kept).

Perform a simulation test with a 10 liter (2 gallons) bucket of water. (see [Calibration](#), page 22).

# SYSTEM OPERATION

## Check the system pump operation



### CAUTION

Only qualified electricians are permitted to perform electrical installations and repairs!

Switch the system pump ON for a few seconds and check that it is rotating in the correct direction. If the pump does not rotate in the correct direction - a qualified electrician should swap between phases L1 and L3 (see the system pump Manual).



### HIGH VOLTAGE ELECTRICAL HAZARD

Before unplugging the system from the main power source, switch the unit and the main power source OFF!

## Running the NetaFlex™ 3G

Define a program in the controller for one valve or multiple valves (shift) as defined by the irrigation plan (see the Controller Manual).

In the first stage it is recommended that you define a program with quantitative or proportional fertigation only, without EC/pH control (see the Controller Manual).

Temporarily deactivate all alarms in the system - EC/pH, flow control, etc. (see the controller manual).

Start the program and wait for the lines to be filled (this takes a few minutes, depending on the size of the installation).

Check that the flow rate displayed on the controller's screen and the pressure at the system outlet displayed on the pressure gauge are stabilized (see the Controller Manual).

Make sure flow rate and pressure are in range according to the performance curve of the relevant system pump (see Sales Documentation, page 10).

If the system cannot reach the required flow rate and pressure, it is possible that there is an air pocket in the system pump's impeller chamber:

Loosen the system pump's bleeding screw and wait until a stable flow, free of air bubbles, is obtained, then retighten the bleeding screw (see the System Pump Manual).

Check the suction of the dosing channels from the stock tanks, and tune the desired flow rate for each dosing channel by adjusting the needle valve (see [Calibration of the dosing unit while irrigating](#), page 24).

Let the system run for about ten minutes and see that it works properly.

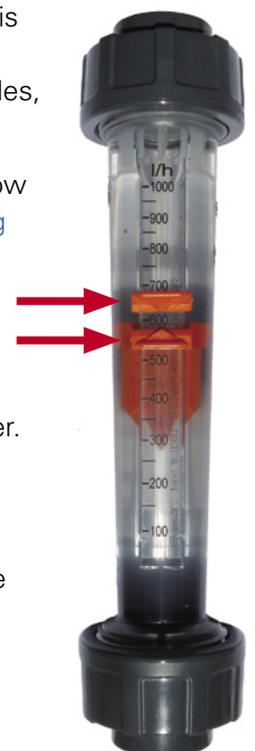
check for leaks in the NetaFlex™ 3G and the infrastructure.

After tuning the flow rate for each dosing channel, adjust the cursors on each Rotameter.



### NOTE

The Rotameter's scale is calibrated by the manufacturer for measurement of the flow rate of water (H<sub>2</sub>O). Certain inaccuracies may be observed when the flow rate of liquids with different densities, such as fertilizers and acids, is measured.



# SYSTEM OPERATION

## Measure the EC and pH control cycle

- EC and pH control cycle is the time elapsed from the start of fertilizer or acid injection until the change starts to be recorded by the EC and pH transmitter (usually 4-10 sec.).

To measure the NetaFlex™ 3G control cycle for pH\*:

Run the NetaFlex™ 3G with fresh water only until the pH value stabilizes on the transmitter's display (Deviation not greater than +0.1 -0.1).

Manually open the acid dosing channel and simultaneously start a timer.

Observe the pH value on the transmitter's display, as soon as it first reacts stop the timer.

We recommend to repeat the 3 previous steps 3 times and calculate the average time.

Enter the data into the controller (**NMC Pro - screen 7.7**).

Stop the program.

\*Time applicable for EC and pH control cycle.



### ATTENTION

Restore the settings of all the alarms back to the state where adequate protection to the system and the crop is provided (see the Controller Manual).

If there is any problem during the process, see Troubleshooting in the NetaFlex™ 3G User Manual.

# CALIBRATION

The process of calibrating the NetaFlex™ 3G is carried out in three stages:

## 1. Calculation of dosing channels opening percentage

To finely calibrate the NetaFlex™ 3G in order to achieve homogeneous and stable dosing, perform the following calculation for each dosing channel (fertilizers and acid) to determine the amount of suction reduction needed to attain the required fertilizer/acid flow rate.

### Metric units

Flow rate of the largest irrigation shift  m<sup>3</sup>/hr  
 X  
 Dosing ratio of a single fertilizer/acid  l/m<sup>3</sup>  
 =  
 Result: a single fertilizer/acid flow rate  l/hr  
 X 1.25 =  
 Result: target Rotameter reading  l/hr

### EXAMPLE

<input type="text" value="30"/>	m <sup>3</sup> /hr
X	
<input type="text" value="8"/>	l/m <sup>3</sup>
=	
<input type="text" value="240"/>	l/hr
X 1.25 =	
<input type="text" value="300"/>	l/hr

### DEFINITION

Dosing ratio =  $\frac{\text{The quantity of fertilizer/acid (l)}}{1 \text{ m}^3 \text{ irrigation water}}$

### US units

Flow rate of the largest irrigation shift  GPM  
 X  
 Dosing ratio of a single fertilizer/acid  US gal/1000 US gal  
 X 0.06 =  
 Result: a single fertilizer/acid flow rate  GPH  
 X 1.25 =  
 Result: target Rotameter reading  GPH

### EXAMPLE

<input type="text" value="130"/>	GPM
X	
<input type="text" value="8"/>	US gal/1000 US gal
X 0.06 =	
<input type="text" value="62"/>	GPH
X 1.25 =	
<input type="text" value="78"/>	GPH

### DEFINITION

Dosing ratio =  $\frac{\text{The quantity of fertilizer/acid (US gal)}}{1 \text{ THG (1000 US gal) irrigation water}}$



### NOTE

The Rotameter's scale is calibrated by the manufacturer for measurement of the flow rate of water (H<sub>2</sub>O). Certain inaccuracies may be observed when the flow rate of liquids with different densities, such as fertilizers and acids, is measured.

## 2. Simulation test with a 10 liter (2 US gal) bucket of water

### Instruments needed

- Good-quality portable EC and pH sensors, finely calibrated
- Calibration solutions for EC and pH
- Bucket with a scale for up to 10 liters (2 US gallons)
- Measuring tube or syringe with a scale for up to 100 cc (1 oz)
- Clean (preferably distilled) water for cleaning sensors during calibration
- Blotting paper for cleaning and drying

The client prepares the fertilizer solutions and the acid solution (if required) in the stock tanks according to the recipe advised by the agronomist/consultant.



### ATTENTION

Ensure the fertilizers and acid solutions in the stock tanks have been thoroughly agitated before starting the simulation.

# CALIBRATION

Note the required dosing ratio of each fertilizer solution and the dosing ratio of the acid solution (if used).

Fill a bucket with 10 liters (2 US gallons) of the client's supply water (without fertilizer or acid).

Measure the EC and the pH levels of the water in the bucket using calibrated portable sensors.

## EXAMPLE

	EC	pH
Supply water (without fertilizer or acid)	0.3	7.8

Using a measuring tube or a syringe, take a dose from each fertilizer solution and from the acid solution (if used) according to the proportions determined by the dosing ratio (see example below) and **mix thoroughly** with the water in the bucket.

## EXAMPLE

### Metric units

For a fertilizers dosing ratio of 10 l/m<sup>3</sup> each and an acid dosing ratio of 2 l/m<sup>3</sup> the quantities for 10 liters of water in the Bucket-simulation-test will be 100 cc of each fertilizer solution and 20 cc of the acid solution

### US units

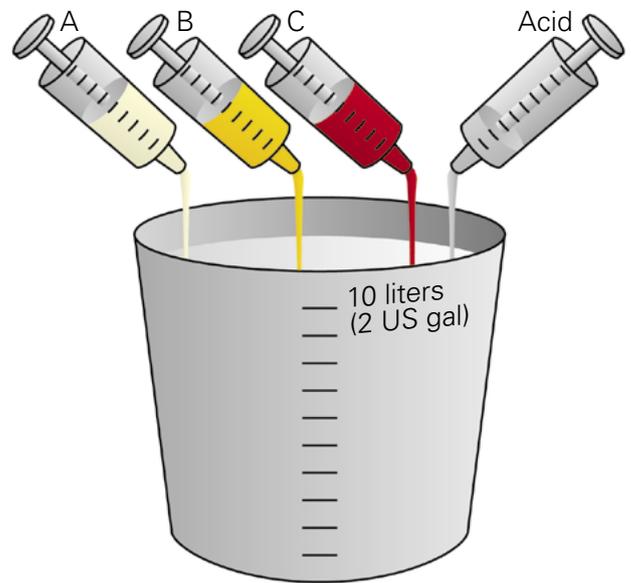
For a fertilizers dosing ratio of 3.0 US gal/THG each and an acid dosing ratio of 1.1 US gal/THG the quantities for 2 US gallons of water in the Bucket-simulation-test will be 0.76 oz\* of each fertilizer solution and 0.28 oz\*\* of the acid solution

### DEFINITIONS

1 US gal = 128 oz

$$* \frac{3.0 \times 2}{1000} = 0.006 \text{ US gal} = 0.768 \text{ oz}$$

$$** \frac{1.1 \times 2}{1000} = 0.0022 \text{ US gal} = 0.28 \text{ oz}$$



Measure the EC and the pH levels of the mixture in the bucket using calibrated portable sensors.

Compare the measured EC and pH values to the target values set by the agronomist/consultant.

## EXAMPLE

	EC	pH
After adding the fertilizers and acid	1.6	5.5
Target values	1.8	5.8
Deviation from target value	11%	5%



# CALIBRATION

With the controller set to operate according to EC/pH values - if the EC and pH values measured in the bucket are within a range of  $\pm 30\%$  deviation from the target values, the system will be able to correct them automatically.

If the values are out of the  $\pm 30\%$  range, check the data and consult the agronomist/consultant.

## 3. Calibration of the NetaFlex™ 3G while irrigating



### WARNING

Extreme EC or pH values may damage the crop.

Perform the following procedure only after completing stage 2 above (Simulation test with a 10 liter or 2 US gallon bucket of water) with satisfactory results.



### NOTE

The following steps explain the operations to be performed, regardless of the type of controller used. For the operation of your controller's interface, consult the Controller Manual.

**However, since the NMC Pro controller is widely used - its interface screens for the execution of each step are noted.**



### NOTE

Before the calibration, confirm that the EC and the pH sensors of the NetaFlex™ 3G have been calibrated according to the instructions in the EC/pH Installation Manual.

Define the dosing configuration, while the EC and pH controls are in the OFF position (**NMC Pro - screen 7.7**).

In the EC and pH alarm definitions, set the EC and pH alarm to the OFF position (deactivated) (**NMC Pro - screen 3.6**).

Enter the data for the irrigation valves, and the dosing ratio for each dosing channel (**NMC Pro - screens 1.1-1.2-1.3**).

Run the program (**NMC Pro - screen 2.2**).

Allow a few minutes for the pipes to fill up and the flow rate to stabilize.

Reduce the suction of the dosing channels by adjusting the manual needle valve of each dosing channel until the "target Rotameter reading" calculated in stage 1 (page 24) is attained.



### NOTE

The Rotameter's scale is calibrated by the manufacturer for measurement of the flow rate of water (H<sub>2</sub>O). Certain inaccuracies may be observed when the flow rate of liquids with different densities, such as fertilizers and acids, is measured.

Check the appropriate controller screen for the measured EC and pH values (**NMC Pro - hot screen 4**).

If the desired values have been reached, check opening percentages of the dosing valves.

The EC and pH target values should be attained with the dosing valves opened to 50% - 80% of their capacity.

If the EC and pH target values are attained with the dosing valves opened less than 50%, reduce the dosing channel suction rate, until the EC and pH target values are reached.



### NOTE

Every change in the flow rate of the needle valve must be updated afterwards in the controller (**NMC Pro - screen 7.6**).

# CALIBRATION

If the EC and pH target values cannot be attained, and the dosing valves are opened more than 85%, measures should be taken to increase the dosing ratio - if feasible, slightly increase the concentration of the fertilizer solution and/or reduce the water flow rate to the field during irrigation.

If not - consult the agronomist/consultant.

In a field where the flow rate changes significantly from one irrigation shift to the next, try to be at a minimum of 50% dosing valve opening for the low flow rate shift, and a maximum of 80% for the high flow rate shift.

When the calibration process is completed, return to the EC and pH control screen in the controller, define the deviation in EC and pH values for the channels and switch the EC and pH control to ON

**(NMC Pro - screen 7.7-7.6).**

In the EC and pH alarm definitions, define the EC and pH deviation from the target values that, if attained, will trigger the alarm and set the EC and pH alarm to the ON position (activated) **(NMC Pro - screen 3.5-3.6).**



## NOTE

EC and pH values must not exceed a  $\pm 30\%$  deviation from the target values.



## ATTENTION

Once a month, read the measured flow rates of the dosing channels and compare them with the flow rates defined in the controller, in order to check whether changes have occurred

**(NMC Pro - screen 7.6).**

After completing the calibration process, write down the data as reference for calibration of the NetaFlex™ 3G in the future.

# COMMISSIONING

**After completing the calibration process, the NetaFlex™ 3G is ready for commissioning.**

- Fill out the reference data line in the Hydraulic Condition Checklist (User Manual, page 30)

Familiarize the client with the NetaFlex™ 3G, the user manual (provided with the NetaFlex™ and can be downloaded at <https://www.netafim.com/en/digital-farming/netbeat/Fertigation/netaflex/>) and the accompanying documents and emphasize the following points:

- The importance of following all the safety instructions.
- The warranty and its restrictions.
- Calibration - accompany the client through this chapter and emphasize the importance of thorough knowledge of the processes in it for the current operation of the NetaFlex™ 3G.
- Proper dissolving of fertilizers for optimal utilization of the dosing channels' capacity.
- The importance of regular maintenance and its impact on the warranty.
- Troubleshooting - accompany the client through this chapter.
- The importance of periodically comparing the hydraulic data with the initial settings in the controller.
- Instruct the client to regularly keep track of the NetaFlex™ 3G Hydraulic Conditions for future reference.

# WARRANTY

Netafim™ warrants all the components of the NetaFlex™ 3G to be free of defects in material and workmanship for 1 (one) year from the date of installation, provided the installation has been reported to Netafim™ within 30 days of installation.

If the installation was not reported or was reported later than 30 days from the date of installation, Netafim™ will warrant the NetaFlex™ 3G for a period of 18 months from the date of production, according to its serial number.

If a defect is discovered during the applicable warranty period, Netafim™ will repair or replace, at its discretion, the product or the defective part.

The above does not apply to EC and pH sensors, since they are wearable. Netafim™ will warrant these items to be free of defects in material and workmanship for 3 months from the date of installation, provided the installation has been reported to Netafim™ within 30 days, or 6 months from date of production if installation was not reported or was reported later than 30 days from the date of installation.



## CAUTION

When not installed, the pH sensor must be immersed in KCL solution (supplied with the sensor) or in calibration buffer 4 at temperature 18-25°C (64-77°F), protected from freezing and not be exposed to pressure greater than 6 bars (87 PSI).

Damage due to these causes is not covered by warranty.

This warranty does not extend to repairs, adjustments or replacements of a NetaFlex™ 3G or part that results from misuse, negligence, alteration, force majeure, lightning, power surge, improper installation or improper maintenance.

If a defect arises in your Netafim™ product during the warranty period, contact your local Netafim™ representative.

## Limited warranty

This warranty is subject to the conditions in Netafim's official warranty statement.

(For the full text of Netafim's official warranty statement, please contact your local Netafim™ representative).

# APPENDIX 1 - SYSTEM PUMP

## System pump list

### For 50 Hz installations

Pump	Electrical data
CM 10-3	Rated power: P2: 2.2 kW
	Rated voltage: 3 x 230Δ/400Y V
	Nominal current: 8.15/4.7 A
	Consumption*: 2.35 kW
CM 10-4	Rated power: P2: 3.2 kW
	Rated voltage: 3 x 230Δ/400Y V
	Nominal current: 11.8/6.75 A
	Consumption*: 3.35 kW
CM 25-2	Rated power: P2: 4 kW
	Rated voltage: 3 x 230Δ/400Y V
	Nominal current: 14.0/8.2 A
	Consumption*: 4.15 kW
CM 25-3	Rated power: P2: 5.8 kW
	Rated voltage: 3 x 230Δ/400Y V
	Nominal current: 20.4/11.8 A
	Consumption*: 5.95 kW
CR 32-3-2	Rated power: P2: 5.5 kW
	Rated voltage: 3 x 400Δ V
	Nominal current: 11.0 A
	Consumption*: 5.65 kW
CR 32-3	Rated power: P2: 5.5 kW
	Rated voltage: 3 x 400Δ V
	Nominal current: 11.0 A
	Consumption*: 5.65 kW
CR 45-2	Rated power: P2: 11 kW
	Rated voltage: 3 x 400Δ V
	Nominal current: 20.8 A
	Consumption*: 7.65 kW
CR 45-3-2	Rated power: P2: 11 kW
	Rated voltage: 3 x 400Δ V
	Nominal current: 14.4 A
	Consumption*: 11.15 kW
CR 64-2-1	Rated power: P2: 11 kW
	Rated voltage: 3 x 400Δ V
	Nominal current: 20.8 A
	Consumption*: 11.15 kW
CR 64-2	Rated power: P2: 11 kW
	Rated voltage: 3 x 400Δ V
	Nominal current: 20.8 A
	Consumption*: 11.15 kW

### For 60 Hz installations

Pump	Electrical data
CM 10-2	Rated power: P2: 2.5 kW
	Rated voltage: 3 x 220Δ/440Y V
	Nominal current: 8.95/4.3 A
	Consumption*: 2.65 kW
CM 10-3	Rated power: P2: 4 kW
	Rated voltage: 3 x 220Δ/440Y V
	Nominal current: 14.8/7.2 A
	Consumption*: 4.15 kW
CM 15-2	Rated power: P2: 4 kW
	Rated voltage: 3 x 220Δ/440Y V
	Nominal current: 14.8/7.2 A
	Consumption*: 4.15 kW
CM 25-2	Rated power: P2: 6 kW
	Rated voltage: 3 x 220Δ/440Y V
	Nominal current: 21.0/10.5 A
	Consumption*: 6.15 kW
CR 32-2-2	Rated power: P2: 5.5 kW
	Rated voltage: 3 x 440Δ V
	Nominal current: 10.6 A
	Consumption*: 5.65 kW
CR 32-2	Rated power: P2: 7.5 kW
	Rated voltage: 3 x 440Δ V
	Nominal current: 14.2 A
	Consumption*: 7.65 kW
CR 45-2-2	Rated power: P2: 11 kW
	Rated voltage: 3 x 440Δ V
	Nominal current: 20.8 A
	Consumption*: 11.15 kW
CR 45-1	Rated power: P2: 7.5 kW
	Rated voltage: 3 x 440Δ V
	Nominal current: 14.2 A
	Consumption*: 7.65 kW
CR 64-1	Rated power: P2: 11 kW
	Rated voltage: 3 x 440Δ V
	Nominal current: 20.8 A
	Consumption*: 11.15 kW
CR 64-2-2	Rated power: P2: 15 kW
	Rated voltage: 3 x 440Δ V
	Nominal current: 28.0 A
	Consumption*: 15.5 kW

\* Total power consumption of the NetaFlex™ 3G with the mentioned system pump, the controller, the dosing valves, etc.







**GROW MORE WITH LESS**

[WWW.NETAFIM.COM](http://WWW.NETAFIM.COM)