

Quality Parameters for Coir Products as Growing Media Constituent (RAL-GZ 250/5-4)


Quality Parameters	Range of values		
	Constituents for growing media		
	max 100 Vol%	max 60 Vol%	max 30 Vol%
1 Physical properties			
1.1 Bulk density [g/l]	to be analysed		
1.2 Dry matter [weight %]	to be analysed		
2 Chemical properties			
2.1 pH-value	< 6.5		
2.2 Salinity [g/l]	< 0.5	< 0.8	< 1.5
alternative: EC ¹⁾ [ms/cm]	< 0.5	< 0.8	< 1.5
2.3 Soluble main nutrients			
1 Nitrogen (NH ₄ -N + NO ₃ -N) [mg/l]	to be analyzed		
2 Phosphorus (P ₂ O ₅) [mg/l]	to be analyzed		
2.3.1 Potassium (K ₂ O) CAT extract [mg/l]	< 400	< 700	< 1300
3 CAL extract [mg/l]	< 500	< 850	< 1600
2.3.4 Magnesium (Mg) [mg/l]	to be analyzed		
2.4 Sodium (Na) [mg/l]	< 70	< 120	< 230
2.5 Chloride (Cl) [mg/l]	< 100	< 170	< 330
2.6 Organic content [%]	> 85		
2.7 Total content of heavy metals			
2.7.1 Arsenic (As) [mg/kg dm]	≤ 40		
2.7.2 Lead (Pb) [mg/kg dm]	≤ 150		
2.7.3 Cadmium (Cd) [mg/kg dm]	≤ 1,5		
2.7.4 Chromium (Cr) [mg/kg dm]	≤ 300		
2.7.5 Nickel (Ni) [mg/kg dm]	≤ 80		
2.7.6 Mercury (Hg) [mg/kg dm]	≤ 1		
2.7.7 Thallium (Tl) [mg/kg dm]	≤ 1		
3 Biological properties			
3.1 Weed content	max. 1 seedlings or sprouting plant part per litre of coir product		
3.2 Plant damaging substances	no plant damaging effect		
3.3 Nitrogen dynamik (N immobilisation / N mineralization) [mg/l]	Δ N ≤ 50	Δ N ≤ 85	Δ N ≤ 170
3.4 Phytopathogenic nematodes	none		
3.5 Human Pathogens			
3.5.1 Salmonellae	none		
3.5.2 E. coli	< 1.000 cfu/g		
4 Further properties			
4.1 Impurities > 2 mm (e.g. plastics, metal or glas)	none		
4.2 Stones > 10 mm	none		
4.2 Foreign odours	free of foreign odours		
5 On initiative by the Quality Committee			
Additional parameters that are not analysed frequently can be specified in a given case by the quality committee in consultation with the testing organisations involved.			
Declaration ²⁾			
Production plant			
max. permissible fraction in the growing media			

¹⁾ Previous experience shows that the salt content according to VDLUFA in g / l material corresponds to the EC value according to RHP.

²⁾ The requirements concerning the Fertiliser Ordinance must be taken into account.