Quality Parameters for Wood Fibres as Growing Media Constitutent (RAL-GZ 250/5-1)

	Quality parameters		Range of Values	
1	**Physical properties**			
1.1	Bulk density (dry)	[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 (KCl)	[g/l]	≤ 0.5	
2.3	Soluble main nutrients			
2.3.1	Nitrogen (NH_4-N+ NO_3-N)	[mg/l]	≤ 50	
2.3.2	Phosphorus (P_2O_5)	[mg/l]	≤ 50 (CAT extract)	≤ 100 (CAL extract)
2.3.3	Potassium (K_2O)	[mg/l]	≤ 100 (CAT extract)	≤ 150 (CAT extract)
2.4	Total contents of heavy metals			
2.4.1	Arsenic (As)	[mg/kg DM]	≤ 40	
2.4.2	Lead (Pb)	[mg/kg DM]	≤ 150	
2.4.3	Cadmium (Cd)	[mg/kg DM]	≤ 1.5	
2.4.4	Chromium (Cr)	[mg/kg DM]	≤ 300	
2.4.5	Nickel (Ni)	[mg/kg DM]	≤ 80	
2.4.6	Mercury (Hg)	[mg/kg DM]	≤ 1	
2.4.7	Thallium (Tl)	[mg/kg DM]	≤ 1	
3	**Biological properties**			
3.1	Nitrogen dynamic [1] (N immobilization / N mineralization)	[mg N/l]	Δ N ≤ 200 : Constituents for growing media **max. 20 vol. %**	
			Δ N ≤ 100 : Constituents for growing media **max. 40 vol. %**	
3.2	Plant damaging substances		no plant damaging effect	
3.3	Weed content		max. 1 seedlings or sprouting plant parts per litre of growing medium	
4	**Other requirements**			
4.1	Impurities > 2 mm (e.g. plastics, metal or glas)		none	
4.2	stones > 10 mm		none	
5	**On initiative by the Quality Committee**			
	Additional parameters that are not analysed frequently can be specified in a given case by the quality commission in consultation with the testing organisations involved.			
	Declaration [2]			
	Production plant			
	max. permissible fraction in the growing media		According to Table 5-1 number 3.1	

[1] The user is to be informed about the nitrogen dynamik and/or the resulting maximum percent by volume of wood fibre in the substrate.

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