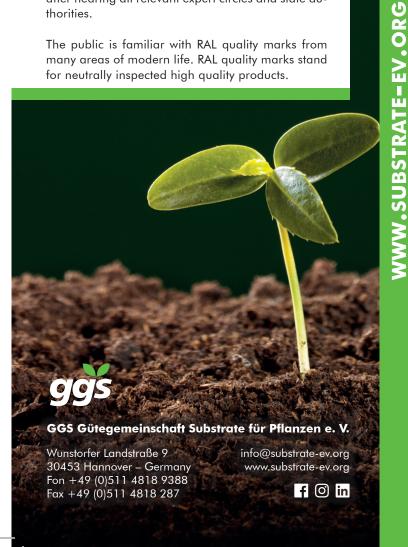


THE RAL QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAMME

The Gütegemeinschaft Substrate für Pflanzen e.V. (GGS) is one of more than 110 quality assurance associations organised in RAL German Institute for Quality Assurance and Certification. RAL is the provider of the quality mark system in Germany and approves quality assurance programmes exclusively after hearing all relevant expert circles and state authorities.

The public is familiar with RAL quality marks from many areas of modern life. RAL quality marks stand for neutrally inspected high quality products.







- We have more than 40 years' experience as a recognized centre for quality assurance in bark and growing media constituents, growing media and potting soils, expanded clay granules, substrates for green roofs and substrates for tree plantings.
- Our quality assurance programme reflects best current practice thanks to our close collaboration and intense communication with the sciences. We ourselves participate in numerous research projects on substrates, and we stay in touch with the final and intermediate results of a plethora of relevant research projects.
- In our committee work, we regularly contribute our own scientific know-how to the design and revision of regulatory frameworks.
- We maintain close contact with our some 60 members, including many well-known names in the substrate industry in Germany and abroad.

TAKING THE LEAD WITH RAL

The Substrate for Plants RAL quality mark gives you

- an impartial and neutral attestation of quality, combined with the high level of awareness for RAL quality marks
- transparent, openly accessible quality and testing regulations
- a set of quality standards that have been drawn up by quality commissions of capable scientists and industry experts with practical business experience, taking into account the latest research findings and practice requirements
- trustworthy quality monitoring due to a large number of samples per year: internal and external monitoring, including regular analyses of your products by accredited external laboratories and reference samples taken

RAL QUALITY ASSURANCES WITHIN GGS

RAL Quality Assurances are offered for

- Potting soils
- · Growing media
- Expanded clay granules for use as growing media
- Bark (bark mulch and bark humus)
- Growing media constituents (raised bog peat, wood fibre, coconut products, perlite)
- Substrates for green roofs
- · Substrates for tree planting