

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



Quality parameters	Range of Values
<b>1 Physical properties</b>	
1.1 Bulk density (dry) [g/l]	To be analysed
1.2 Dry matter [weight %]	To be analysed
<b>2 Chemical properties</b>	
2.1 pH value	≤ 6.5
2.2 Salinity (KCl) [g/l]	≤ 0.5
2.3 Soluble main nutrients	
2.3.1 Nitrogen (NH <sub>4</sub> -N+ NO <sub>3</sub> -N) [mg/l]	≤ 50
2.3.2 Phosphorus (P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> ) [mg/l]	≤ 50 (CAT extract) ≤ 100 (CAL extract)
2.3.3 Potassium (K <sub>2</sub> O) [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
<b>3 Biological properties</b>	
3.1 Nitrogen dynamic <sup>1)</sup> [mg N/l] (N immobilization / N mineralization)	$\Delta N \leq 200$ : Constituents for growing media <b>max. 20 vol. %</b> $\Delta N \leq 100$ : Constituents for growing media <b>max. 40 vol. %</b>
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
<b>4 Other requirements</b>	
4.1 Impurities > 2 mm (e.g. plastics, metal or glas)	none
4.2 stones > 10 mm	none
<b>5 On initiative by the Quality Committee</b>	
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.	
<b>Declaration <sup>2)</sup></b>	
Production plant	
max. permissible fraction in the growing media	According to Table 5-1 number 3.1

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

<sup>2)</sup> The requirements concerning the Fertiliser Ordinance must be taken into account.