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Forest Gold

Wood fibre optimized for horticulture
– for superior root growth

- Unique processing of responsibly sourced wood chips
- Excellent structural stability, consistent quality
- Allows better control of air capacity and drainage
- Improved water distribution throughout the root zone
- Approved by Ecocert for organic production
- More than 15 years of growing experience with Forest Gold



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PINDSTRUP



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Approved for organic production

To an increasing extent, customers require substrates that are approved for organic production. We are keen to support this development, and for several years we have designed substrates that are suitable for growing organic plants.



Forest Gold is suitable for use in organic agriculture conforming to regulations no. CEE 834/2007 and 889/2008 as well as the US National Program (NOP).

**What is Forest Gold?
From wood chips to substrate...**

Forest Gold is a natural, fibrous material stabilized with Pindstrup peat:

Responsibly sourced wood chips from softwood trees (FSC-certified) are heated to high temperatures and spun into well-defined fibres using high pressure steam – a process that ensures the material is free from weeds, diseases and harmful organisms.

The fibres are then carefully mixed with a small amount of fine-grade, high-quality Pindstrup peat, which ensures storage stability of the raw material. The end result is Forest Gold.

In Pindstrup's unique 1m³ batch mixing, Forest Gold is mixed with peat and other constituents for the substrate requested by the customer.



Improved physical characteristics

Most products in the Pindstrup Standard Substrates range contain Forest Gold – wood fibre mixed with fine-grade, high-quality Pindstrup peat.

Forest Gold has a positive influence on the chemical and physical characteristics of a substrate, and allows us to design even better substrates to suit your crops and growing conditions. Numerous high-end growers around the world use substrates with Forest Gold and report a number of key benefits for their plants:

Benefits

Consistent quality with structural stability

Raw material sourcing and production of Forest Gold is not reliant on weather conditions. This ensures a stable supply, as well as excellent consistency. The uniform structure of Forest Gold minimizes shrinking and compaction of the substrate during long-term growing.

Superior root growth

The improved physical structure of substrates with Forest Gold promotes enhanced root growth with more root hairs and better plant establishment.

Improved air/water ratio and drainage

The fibrous quality of Forest Gold leads to a substrate with a high air content without reducing the active rooting volume. The substrate provides the plant with a sufficient supply of water and nutrients while reducing the risk of over-watering sensitive plants.

Improved water distribution and dry surface

Due to the hydrophilic characteristics of wood fibre, Forest Gold allows the water to distribute quicker and more evenly throughout the substrate, giving you more uniform plant growth with safe and easy irrigation management.

Further, the surface is relatively dry, which reduces the growth of algae and liverwort, and generally helps disease management.

Lightweight substrate

Produced from wood fibre, Forest Gold makes substrates lighter. This means easier handling in production and a reduction of the total weight of the pots.

Recommended ratio in mixes

For products in our "Gold" range, we add Forest Gold at a rate of 30% to all general potting mixes and to most crop-specific mixes. To propagation mixes, we add Forest Gold at a rate of 15% as this offers a better flow in propagation trays.

Experience from thousands of trials across the globe have shown that these wood fibre/peat ratios ensure the best results for the majority of crops. However, your substrates can always be customized according to your specific requirements.

Specifications	
Density	70-90 g/l (CEN)
pH	5.0-5.5 (CEN, H ₂ O)
EC	11 µS/cm (CEN, H ₂ O)
Thickness	0.25-1.00 mm
Length	10-20 mm

How to achieve the best results with Forest Gold substrates

When starting to use the substrate, Pindstrup recommends that you

- loosen the substrate thoroughly and carefully while making sure the structure is not compromised,
- add water while loosening the substrate, in order to let it expand thoroughly to obtain optimum volume and air capacity, and to avoid compaction,
- check and adjust your tray filler or potting machine, to ensure optimum filling.

During the first growing periods with Forest Gold substrates, you should

- pay attention to irrigation – especially in ebb and flood systems – as water uptake is typically faster than with other types of substrates,
- fertigate from the beginning of the crop in order to secure optimum start-up. Note that calcium nitrate is added to substrates with Forest Gold to compensate for any possible nitrogen drawdown; however, we recommend monitoring of nitrogen levels.

Your Pindstrup consultant and technical advisor are always ready to help, should you have any questions about the use of Forest Gold in substrates.