



Coco-pith

“Coco-pith,
the perfect substrate,
the perfect additive!”



Popular growing medium:

Coco-pith is a growing medium which is in use since many years. The popularity is due to the remarkable good characteristics:

- Coco-pith has naturally a high air-porosity.
- Coco-pith absorbs water easily.
- Coco-pith is a stable material.
- Coco-pith is a 100% organic material.
- Coco-pith is easy in handling.
- Coco-pith can be transported in compressed form in different shapes.
- Coco-pith is a growing medium with proven experience.



The production of Coco-pith is the following:

The husk which grows around the hard coconut contains both fibres and fine materials. After most of the fibre has been removed we are left with the fine material, the Coco-pith.

When Dutch Plantin started with the production of Coco-pith, 20 years ago, big amounts of this fine pith were stored in the open field for many years.

This gave a product that was washed (after many monsoons) and stable (after staying there for so many years).

Nowadays this is different: those buffers are exhausted and if you want to be sure to have a reliable, stable and clean Coco-pith, it is necessary to change to a more professional and industrial way of working.

This is exactly what Dutch Plantin did and is still doing !

“Coco-pith, unique characteristics, excellent water/air ratio”

Aging:

To guarantee the stability of the Coco-pith, we “age” the Coco-pith before further treatment.

Although this is a quite expensive way of production, we do this to avoid problems with breaking down of the Coco-pith and to improve the stability and reliability of your growing medium.

Washing:

Many customers prefer to have a washed material because this fits better in their culture or way of working.

To avoid surprises with high EC's, Dutch Plantin washes the Coco-pith before sending it to the customer. The EC is washed down to less than 1,0 mS/cm in 1:1,5 dilution.

For this purpose, Dutch Plantin has access to clean water reserves.

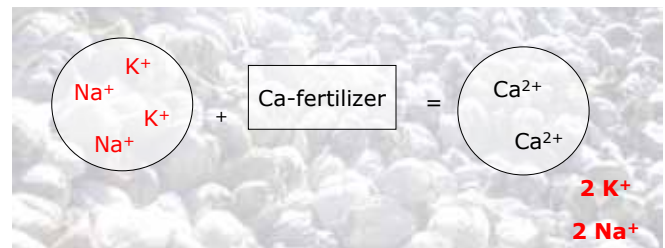
Buffering:

Because Coco-pith has a negatively charged complex, there are positively charged ions primarily consisting of sodium and potassium on this complex.

This doesn't cause many problems to start with, because these elements surround the complex (like iron to a magnet) and are bound and therefore not available to the plant root. The problem, however, begins after fertilising with calcium or magnesium (which elements are always used in cultivation). The calcium will push the sodium and potassium from the complex and take their place.

This all sounds very theoretical but it has real consequences for growers: although they feed the plants calcium, sodium and potassium will become available to the plant roots instead.

To prevent this from happening, Dutch Plantin has added another coco product to their range; besides washed coco we also offer buffered coco-pith.



In the buffered coco-pith the ions have been exchanged and the excess of sodium and potassium have been washed away...the time bomb has been deactivated!

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