

Product sheet	Date of issue: 01-01-2016		Tree soil
Fields of application			Landscaping



Tree soil

Tree soil is a substrate composed of organic matter, like raised bog peat, fen peat or compost and sand. Tree soil is applied on areas where trees and plants are planted for an unspecified period. The product sheet contains general requirements and product specific requirements for tree soil.

RAG process requirements for tree soil

RAG site

The properties of the site may not harm the purity and quality of the product. That is why a number of process requirements have been drawn up for the RAG site, that could prevent the matters below:

- Contamination by germinative weeds (zero tolerance)
- Mixing of products through tyres, loading shovels and other means of transport
- Contamination or mixing of the RAG product from surrounding areas
- Contamination due to a non clean storage site
- Mixing or contamination from or through the underground or surrounding materials

Transport

Transport must occur in such a way, that the purity and quality of the product remain within the general and specific product requirements. Previous to loading, the cargo space must be inspected if it is sufficiently clean. At each transport it must also demonstrably be known what the previous load of the vehicle was.

RAG quality mark

Only companies that have joined Stichting RHP can supply tree soil with the RAG quality mark. You can recognise the RAG certified tree soil by the RAG-logo on the invoice and/or delivery receipt. The RAG certificate gives quality guarantees of the substrate delivered.



Certified for
Landscaping

RHP Certification

Since 1963 RHP has been the European knowledge center for growing media for the professional horticulture and the consumer. For the professional tree nursery, gardener and public green spaces, RHP offers stable substrates, soil supply and soil improvers with guarantee on an optimal nutrient medium. An important activity of RHP is the development and management of quality marks that are related to these substrates.

The quality mark RAG Landscaping is directed to maintainers of public green spaces and gardeners. Tree sand, tree granules, tree soil, and garden soil for gardeners are products that can be RAG Landscaping certified. The quality mark is granted to producers, traders and importers of raw materials and substrates if strict requirements are demonstrably complied with. This unique quality assurance system is applied in the whole chain, which results in excluding risk factors at an early stage.

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RAG product specific requirements Tree soil

General requirements

Tree soil must comply with the environmental hygienic requirements for raw materials and substrates with an organic matter content less than 10% (Besluit Bodemkwaliteit). Companies that have been certified for RAG Landscaping, supply their product with a BRL 9335-4 certificate for composed soil products. With this, it is proved that the analysis results comply with the background values in enclosure B of the Regeling Bodemkwaliteit.

Chemical requirements tree soil

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EC, pH and other analyses		
Analyses	Method	Standards
EC (mS/m)	EN 13038	≤ 60
pH-KCl	EN 10390	4- 8
Calcium carbonate (CaCO ₃)	NEN-ISO 10693	< 1 (weight percents)
Cl (mg/l substrate)	EN 13652	≤ 300

The most important nutrient elements are determined in tree soil. An assessment per element is stated, conform table

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Assessment nutrient elements				
Assessment	Phosphate (P-Al)	Potassium (CAT)	Magnesium (CAT)	Nitrogen N-total
Method	EN 1189	EN 13651	EN 13651	EN 13654
	mg / 100g d.m.	mg / litre substrate	mg / litre substrate	mg/kg dry matter
Low	< 30	< 120	< 120	< 80
Good	30 - 60	120 - 300	120 - 360	80 - 160
High	> 60	300 - 475	> 360	> 160

Physical requirements tree soil

Depending on the properties, tree soil has to be classified in one of the following categories:

- Sandy tree soil
- Peaty tree soil
- Clayish tree soil

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Sandy Tree soil		
Analyses	Method	Requirements
Organic matter	EN 13039	6 -12 % (weight percents)
Lutum	NEN 5753	< 10 % (% of the mineral parts)
Bulk density/field capacity	NEN-EN 13040	600 - 1200 kg/m ³
Dry matter content	NEN-EN 13040	> 60%
M 50	NEN 5753	160 – 350 µm
D60/D10	NEN 5753	n.a.

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Peaty Tree soil		
Analyses	Method	Requirements
Organic matter	EN 13039	12 -20 % (weight percents)
Lutum	NEN 5753	2 -10 % (% of the mineral parts)
Bulk density/field capacity	NEN-EN 13040	600 - 1000 kg/m ³
Dry matter content	NEN-EN 13040	> 60%
M 50	NEN 5753	140 – 300 µm
D60/D10	NEN 5753	n.a.

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Clayish Tree soil		
Analyses	Method	Requirements
Organic matter	EN 13039	8 - 18 % (weight percents)
Lutum	NEN 5753	12 -24 % (% of the mineral parts)
Bulk density/field capacity	NEN-EN 13040	600 - 1200 kg/m ³
Dry matter content	NEN-EN 13040	> 60%
M 50	NEN 5753	140 – 300 µm
D60/D10	NEN 5753	n.a.

Phytosanitary requirements tree soil

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Weeds		
Type of weeds	Method	Requirements
Weeds score	RHP	< 50 per m ²