



Agriculture & Horticulture
DEVELOPMENT BOARD



New Project

CP 100

Tracking Peat Usage in Growing
Media

Project Number:	CP 100
Project Title:	Tracking Peat Usage in Growing Media
Project Leader:	David Denny
Contractor:	Contractor
Industry Representative:	N/A
Start Date:	01 August 2012
End Date:	31 August 2015
Project Cost (total project cost):	£12,835 (£43,671)

Project Summary:

This project tracks production of growing media and the changing proportion of peat used in different types of growing media for use in or export from the UK. The project will survey key growing media producers on the component ingredients (by volume) of the different types of growing media produced for amateur and professional use. Specifically it will collect data on the volume of peat used in these different types of products and its source. Over the duration of the project the changing composition of different types of growing media will be tracked, providing the industry with evidence on the extent of progress towards reducing the volume of peat used in growing media production,

Aims & Objectives:

Project aim(s):

The overall aim of the project is to provide objective information of benefit to multiple stakeholders on the use of peat in UK horticulture. We will measure the volume (cubic metres) of growing media (and associated volume of peat) produced for sale in the UK and for export from the UK. The project also aims to provide information on trends in this from 2011 to 2014.

Project objective(s):

Specific project objectives are:

- a. To provide objective information of importance to Government, trade and growers on the utilization of peat in UK horticulture. This will include analysis of the data detailed below to provide, industry averages (by sector where possible) and trends in volumes and sources.
- b. To collect trade data on the volume (cubic metres) of growing media produced in or imported into the UK for UK sale, or exported from the UK
 - i. To determine the composition of this growing media volume accounted for by peat and other bulky components by volume
 - ii. To determine the geographical sources, both UK and global, from which peat used in this growing media comes by volume
 - iii. To determine the above for both retail growing media and professional growing media
 - iv. To determine the volume of peat in growing media that is exported from the UK
- c. To track the measures specified in objective (b) between 2011 and 2014 inclusive

Benefits to industry

The project will provide objective information to industry on changes in peat use over time. It will enable the industry to inform and engage with DEFRA's Sustainable Growing Media Task Force (SGMTF) on progress towards targets of eliminating all peat use in retail horticulture by 2020 and professional horticulture by 2030. The provision of such information is critical to sustaining a dialogue with DEFRA on progress towards the current voluntary targets.

Disclaimer

AHDB, operating through its HDC division seeks to ensure that the information contained within this document is accurate at the time of printing. No warranty is given in respect thereof and, to the maximum extent permitted by law the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board accepts no liability for loss, damage or injury howsoever caused (including that caused by negligence) or suffered directly or indirectly in relation to information and opinions contained in or omitted from this document.

No part of this publication may be reproduced in any material form (including by photocopy or storage in any medium by electronic means) or any copy or adaptation stored, published or distributed (by physical, electronic or other means) without the prior permission in writing of the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board, other than by reproduction in an unmodified form for the sole purpose of use as an information resource when the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board or HDC is clearly acknowledged as the source, or in accordance with the provisions of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. All rights reserved.

AHDB (logo) is a registered trademark of the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board. HDC is a registered trademark of the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board, for use by its HDC division. All other trademarks, logos and brand names contained in this publication are the trademarks of their respective holders. No rights are granted without the prior written permission of the relevant owners.

Further information

Email the HDC office (hdc@hdc.ahdb.org.uk), quoting your HDC number, alternatively contact the HDC at the address below:

HDC
AHDB
Stoneleigh Park
Kenilworth
Warwickshire
CV8 2TL

Tel – 0247 669 2051

HDC is a division of the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board.