

Peat Laying

Peat laying is a method used for soil improvement in agricultural land. The technique is very flexible and can be performed at any time of year. It involves taking manure out of the field and leveling it with peat. The manure and peat are then layered in stacks using loaders. The finished stack is typically three to four meters wide at the base and two meters high. It can be as long as desired.

Process of harvesting peat moss

The harvesting process involves digging ditches and redistributing the peat over the soil. The process also involves adding a starter nutrient charge to the soil, which is necessary for plant growth. Pose De Tourbe In some cases, the peat from different sources is combined to form a more beneficial blend. In many cases, peat from older bog layers has a higher cation exchange capacity and is better at suppressing disease.

Peat moss harvesting is an important part of the peat industry. While peat supply has remained relatively stable in recent years, demand has risen. One contributing factor is the growing interest in gardening. Another factor is the impact of the covid pandemic, which forced people to stay at home more. Regardless, the industry expects peat demand to continue to grow through the next several years. To meet the demand, producers are hoping for stable weather and enough harvest days.

Characteristics of dried peat moss

Drying of peat moss has several effects on its properties, including its pore volume and water conductivity. The first effect is the removal of free water from the large pores in the peat. Then, as drying proceeds, the forces of capillary contraction increase. This process also squeezes out weakly bound intracellular and immobilized water. The removal of the mechanically bound water slows down the drying process, while removing the water from the physico-chemically bound form of the peat is the last phase.

The main mineral constituents of peat include calcium and silicon. These are often wind-blown minerals or washed-up sediments, and their concentrations vary considerably. Calcium is very high in eutrophic peats, where it is strongly adsorbed to the colloidal organic particles. Iron, aluminium and sulphur are also present in high concentrations in some peats.

Relative absorbency of dried peat moss board

Relative absorbency (IB) of dried peat moss boards varies depending on their density. For example, a panel with a low density can absorb up to 30 times its own weight in moisture. Another board with a high density can absorb up to 210 times its own weight in moisture.

Peat moss has a higher water holding capacity than other soils, such as clay. When mixed with soil, the peat-soil mix absorbs 40-60% more moisture than untreated soil. The value for untreated loamy soil was intermediate.

Problems associated with decomposing peat moss

Peat bogs are important ecosystems that act as global coolers by absorbing carbon dioxide from the air and locking it up in the plant's structure. They contain more carbon than tropical rainforests and are important carbon sinks. The extraction of peat moss can damage peat bogs. It can also contribute to global warming by releasing harmful gases into the atmosphere.

Peat moss can deplete vital nutrients, limiting the growth of plants and altering the soil's natural ecosystem. Peat moss also inhibits the movement of earthworms, reducing the aeration of the soil and decreasing plant growth. This will result in more compact soil that will hinder the growth of plant roots.