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Growing media - Determination of specific parameters

Supports de culture - Détermination des paramètres spécifiques

Kultursubstrate - Bestimmung spezifischer Parameter

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EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION
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CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels

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European foreword

This document (CEN/TS 17731:2022) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 223 “Soil improvers and growing media”, the secretariat of which is held by NEN.

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Introduction

Different product functions warrant different product safety, quality and quantity requirements adapted to their different intended uses. EU fertilizing products have therefore been divided into different product function categories (PFCs), which are subject to specific safety and quality requirements, as specified in the Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 [1].

Growing media have been classified as PFC 4, as specified in the Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 [1]. The specific safety, quality and quantity requirements in relation to some of the specific parameters (i.e. the electrical conductivity, the pH, dry matter, the nitrogen, P_2O_5 (phosphorus pentoxide) and K_2O (potassium oxide) content extractable by $CaCl_2$/DTPA, the total copper and zinc content and the quantity) are specified in this document, as well as normative references of the test methods to be used in order to measure the compliance with the related requirement.

1 Scope

This document provides an overview of relevant methods for the determination of specific parameters in growing media, including:

— the electrical conductivity;

— the pH;

— dry matter;

— the nitrogen, P_2O_5 (phosphorus pentoxide) and K_2O (potassium oxide) content extractable by $CaCl_2$/DTPA;

— the total copper and zinc content;

— the quantity.

This document is applicable to EU fertilizing products classified as PFC 4 and PFC 7 as long as the main function of the EU fertilizing product is classified as PFC 4 of Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 [1].

This document is not applicable to preformed materials such as mineral wool slabs and foam slabs.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

CEN/TS 17732:2022, *Soil improvers and growing media — Terminology*

CEN/TS 17733:2022, *Soil improvers and growing media — Sampling and sample preparation*

EN 12580:2013, *Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of a quantity*

EN 13037:2011, *Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of pH*

EN 13038:2011, *Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of electrical conductivity*

EN 13040:2007, *Soil improvers and growing media — Sample preparation for chemical and physical tests, determination of dry matter content, moisture content and laboratory compacted bulk density*

EN 13650:2001, *Soil improvers and growing media — Extraction of aqua regia soluble elements*

EN 13651:2001, *Soil improvers and growing media — Extraction of calcium chloride/DTPA (CAT) soluble nutrients*

EN 13652:2001, *Soil improvers and growing media — Extraction of water soluble nutrients and elements*

EN 15238:2006, *Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of quantity for materials with particle size greater than 60 mm*

EN 15761:2009, *Pre-shaped growing media — Determination of length, width, height, volume and bulk density*