

**Pre-shaped growing media - Determination of length,
width, height, volume and bulk density**

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EESTI STANDARDI EESSÕNA

NATIONAL FOREWORD

Käesolev Eesti standard EVS-EN 15761:2010 sisaldab Euroopa standardi EN 15761:2009 ingliskeelset teksti.

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ICS 65.080

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English Version

Pre-shaped growing media - Determination of length, width, height, volume and bulk density

Supports de culture préformés - Détermination de la longueur, de la largeur, de la hauteur, du volume et de la masse volumique apparente

Vorgeformte Kultursubstrate - Bestimmung von Länge, Breite, Dicke, Volumen und Schüttdichte

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 1 November 2009.

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Foreword

This document (EN 15761:2009) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 223 “Soil improvers and growing media”, the secretariat of which is held by BSI.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by June 2010, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by June 2010.

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Introduction

This European Standard has been produced so that there is a standard method to measure and weigh pre-shaped growing media and to calculate the volume and bulk density.

The volume of growing media is a useful attribute for growers and is critical for ensuring plants have sufficient growing media for their root system.

The bulk density is crucial as the reporting of all chemical analyses is expressed in units of weight per volume, and the volume is determined from the weight of the sample used for the chemical analyses.

Pre-shaped growing media is generally at present made from Stonewool or Rockwool or mineral wool. They are known by various names, typically:

- "plugs" are small blocks used for seedlings, which are generally cylindrical in shape and with a diameter from 20 mm; once the seed has germinated the seedling in the plug may then be placed into "blocks";
- "blocks" may have holes to take plugs and can vary in size from 40 mm × 40 mm × 40 mm up to 100 mm × 200 mm × 65 mm; they are generally used for propagation purposes;
- "slabs" are used for growing vegetables and range in size from 370 mm × 240 mm × 100 mm to 2 000 mm × 200 mm × 75 mm.

It is anticipated that this standard will be developed to encompass other new pre-shaped growing media in due course, e.g. coir blocks.

1 Scope

This European Standard describes a method of determination of length, width, height, volume and bulk density of rectangular pre-shaped growing media.

In this standard "pre-shaped growing media":

- includes solid, regular shaped, stable growing media sold, which are ready for use as a growing media, where the dimensions and corners are stable, and the surfaces and edges are perpendicular to each other – including mineral wool and polyurethane products;
- does not include solid growing media that has to be hydrated for it to form, varies in dimension with varying water content – for example coir or peat slabs or growing bags.

The minimum linear dimension (length, width or height) for blocks to which this standard applies is 40 mm, and the maximum dimension is 2 000 mm.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application 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.

CR 13456:1999, *Soil improvers and growing media — Labelling, specifications and product schedules*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in CR 13456:1999 and the following apply.

3.1

length

l

longer linear dimension of the major surface of the test specimen

3.2

width

w

shorter linear dimension of the major surface of the test specimen measured at right angles to the length

3.3

height

h

linear dimension measured perpendicularly to the length and the width planes

3.4

depth

d

linear dimension measuring how deep recess intrude into the media

3.5

bulk density

indication of how much 1 l of the product weighs, with the volume being determined in a standardized way

NOTE The bulk density is expressed in grams per litre (g/L) or in kilograms per cubic metre (kg/m³).