

Greenhouse production products and supplies

Product	Brand Names	Source	Purpose	Positives	Negatives	Alternatives	Avg. Price
Plug trays	Dillen, Kord,	Domestic & Canadian Plastic products	Plant propagation	Inexpensive, lightweight, multiple use	Non biodegradable, relatively short lived	Soil min-blocks, seeding open flats	.55 each
Carry trays	Dillen, Kord	Domestic & Canadian Plastic products	Carrying plugs, pots, or packs	Inexpensive, lightweight, multiple use, standard size	Non biodegradable, relatively short lived	Longer lived hard plastics, wood trays	.50 each
Plant trays	Perma-Nest	Plastic, source unknown	Carrying plugs, pots, or packs	Heavy duty, stable, long lasting	Non biodegradable	Wood trays	5.00 each
Plastic pots	Dillen, Kord	Domestic & Canadian Plastic products	Plant propagation and sales	Inexpensive, lightweight, multiple use	Non biodegradable, relatively short lived	Soil blocks, fiber pots, peat pots, clay pots, manure pots, recycled yogurt cups	4" .10 each
Fiber pots	FiberGrow by Kord	Canadian made recycled newspaper	Plant propagation and sales	Recycled, biodegradable, breathable	Don't always fit trays, begin to break down after a season of use.	Soil blocks, clay pots, peat pots, cow pots, recycled yogurt cups	4" .11 each
Fiber pots	Cow Pots, Freund's Farm Inc., Conn.	Cow manure digest solids which are composted, dried, and formed	Plant propagation and sales	Recycled, biodegradable, breathable, plantable	Expensive, inconsistent size, easily crushed	Soil blocks, clay pots, peat pots, fiber pots, recycled yogurt cups	4" .75 each
Fiber pots	Coconut Fiber Pots, Coir Pots, Star Fiber, SunCoir	Rubberized coconut coir fiber grown and processed in Indonesia and India	Plant propagation and sales	Recycled, biodegradable, breathable, plantable	Expensive, don't always fit in trays, crushable, shipped long distances	Soil blocks, clay pots, peat pots, fiber pots, recycled yogurt cups	4" .75 each

Peat pots	Jiffy	Canadian made sphagnum peat moss and wood pulp	Plant propagation and sales	Biodegradable, long-term renewable resource, soft sided, air-prune roots, plantable to reduce transplant shock	Peat moss not immediately renewable, easily crushed, not durable	Fiber pots, soil blocks, clay pots, cow pots, recycled yogurt cups	3" .12 each
Clay pots	Syracuse, Marshall	Domestic red clay	Plant propagation and sales	Biodegradable, very long lasting, attractive, breathable	Expensive, heavy, breakable	Fiber pots, soil blocks, peat pots, cow pots, recycled yogurt cups	4" 3.00 each
Plastic pot labels	Various	Domestic and foreign plastic	Plant identification	Long lasting, smooth, easy to write on, colors, can come pre-printed	Not biodegradable	Wood pot labels, writing on pots, strips of plastic yogurt containers	4" .05 each
Wood pot labels	Various	Usually domestically made hardwood	Plant identification	Biodegradable, can be used two seasons	Sometimes not smooth to write on, end in pot will rot	Plastic labels, writing on pots, strips of plastic yogurt containers	4" .03 each
Peat moss	Fafarb, Sun Gro, Premier	Decayed, compacted sphagnum moss harvested from 17,000 hectares of Canadian peat bogs. Other intl. sources	Soil conditioner to aerate heavy soils, improve drainage, hold and slow release moisture.	Biodegradable, very long term renewable resource, unlimited supply, produced domestically, easy to use	Destructive of peat bogs, releases stored carbon, dusty to use	Coco peat, green compost, cow manure digest	3.8 cu ft 11.00 bale
Coco peat	FiberDust, Coir, Coir pith, Ecopeat (Westpac)	Granular fraction that remains after extracting fiber from coco husks in India, Philippines, and Sri Lanka	Soil conditioner to aerate heavy soils, improve drainage, hold and slow release moisture.	Biodegradable, recycled waste product, holds water very well, easily wetted, not dusty, alkaline, Super compressed for shipping	Shipped long distances, can be high in sodium and potassium, must be wetted before using, shipping containers treated with methyl bromide	Peat moss, green compost, cow manure digest	4.5 cu ft (expanded) 16.99 bale

Dairy manure digest	RePeat (Organix Inc.)	Anaerobically composted solids from dairy manure slurry produced on an Oregon dairy complex milking 23,000 cows	Soil conditioner to aerate heavy soils, improve drainage, hold and slow release moisture.	Biodegradable, by-product of biogas production, Ph neutral, low sodium, good porosity and water holding	Supports large CAFO dairies, currently only available in the west	Peat moss, green compost, coco peat	Unknown
Green compost, leaf mold	Grover's	Static or active pile composted yard waste, leaves, grass clippings, wood chips, and sawdust	1.69N-.66P-.92K (varies), Soil conditioner to aerate heavy soils, improve drainage, hold and slow release moisture.	Farm-made, biodegradable, recycled, cheap, readily available, bulky, fibrous, decent moisture retention	Slow to make/breakdown due to lignin content, may contain pesticide/herbicide residues, may contain weed seeds and insect pests	Peat moss, coco peat, cow manure digest	40 lbs 9.00 Free if farm made
Blood meal	Various	Dried powdered slaughterhouse blood, domestic and foreign	12-0-0 Nitrogen source	Highest non-synthetic source of nitrogen, readily available	Slaughterhouse product, maybe route for BSE, not allowed by Demeter	Alfalfa meal, cottonseed meal, feather meal, fish meal, composted animal manure	50 lbs 38.00
Feather meal	Various	Hydrolyzed ground slaughterhouse feathers, domestic and foreign	12-0-0 Nitrogen source	Slow release source of nitrogen	Slaughterhouse product	Alfalfa meal, cottonseed meal, fish meal, composted animal manure	50 lbs 23.00
Fish meal	Various	Dried, ground whole fish or fish by-products, domestic & foreign	10-4-0 Nitrogen source	Balanced fertilizer	Fish by-product, nutrient analysis fluctuates	Alfalfa meal, cottonseed meal, composted animal manure	50 lbs 50.00
Bone meal	Various	Cooked, sterilized, crushed and ground slaughterhouse bones, domestic and foreign	4-12-0 Nitrogen and phosphorous source	Slow release fertilizer	Slaughterhouse product, may be route for BSE	Alfalfa meal, cottonseed meal, composted animal manure	50 lbs 30.00

Alfalfa meal	Various	Dried, ground alfalfa, domestic and foreign	2-0-0, 3-2-2, 2.5-1-1 Nitrogen source	Non-animal source of fertilizer and plant growth regulators (triacontanol), microbes in fermented meal activate soil life	Inconsistent nutrient analysis	Cottonseed meal, composted animal manure	50 lbs 18.00
Cottonseed meal	Various	Ground cotton seeds, domestic and foreign	6-2-1 Nitrogen, phosphorous, and potash source	Non-animal source of nutrients	Conventional cotton uses very large amounts of pesticides/herbicides	Composted animal manure	50 lbs 21.00
Composted animal manure	Vermont Compost, Living Acres Sup'r Green, Cranford's, New Era	Static or active aerobically composted animal manures, typically with carbon bedding (sawdust, straw)	2-1-3 (varies) 3-2-2 (with poultry manure), soil conditioner and nutrient source	Can be farm-made, recycled wastes, living compost improves soil life, completes animal/plant cycle	Relies on animal manures which can come from factory farms, nutrient analysis varies widely, may contain weed seeds and insect pests, can burn if not properly composted	Green compost	40 lbs Bagged 10.00
Lime, Aglime, agricultural lime, ground limestone	Various	Pulverized limestone or chalk mined in quarries across the US	Calcium carbonate, increases pH of acidic soils, provides calcium, improves water penetration of soils	Easy to use, benign material that improves soil pH and provides calcium	Quarried and transported with large machinery	Oyster shell lime, use more pH neutral soil conditioners	50 lbs Bagged 5-10.00

Oyster shell lime	Pacific Pearl Oyster Shell (Jerico Products)	Dried, crushed ancient oyster shell deposits mined from the bottom of San Francisco Bay	Calcium carbonate, increases pH of acidic soils, provides calcium, improves water penetration of soils	Easy to use, benign material that improves soil pH, provides calcium and other micro-nutrients	Not renewable, mined on the sea floor by large equipment and transported by barge	Use more pH neutral soil conditioners	50 lbs 9.00
Soft rock phosphate, Colloidal phosphate	Various	The mined skeletal remains of prehistoric animals. Domestic production in Florida and N. Carolina	27% phosphate & 33% elemental calcium.	Both immediately available and long-time, slow-release source of phosphorous	Not renewable, mined product	Bone meal	50 lbs 14.00
Greensand, Jersey Greensand	Various	Mined olive green sandstone deposited in ancient marine environments. Primarily mined in New Jersey and Arkansas	Soluble potash source of potassium, loosens clay soils, and provides 30 trace minerals	Natural source of potassium	Not renewable, mined product	Manure based compost	50 lbs 30.00
Perlite	Whittmore, Mass.	Domestically mined siliceous rock with 2-6 % water which is quickly heated to above 1600 degrees F until it “expands”	Soil conditioner	Provides aeration and optimum moisture retention	Unrenewable mined product which needs large amounts of power to produce	Sand, rice hulls	6 cu ft Super coarse 19.00
Vermiculite	Whittmore, Mass	Foreign and domestically mined mineral, which expands with the application of heat.	Soil conditioner	Provides aeration and optimum moisture retention	Unrenewable mined product which needs large amounts of power to produce, may contain asbestos	Sand, rice hulls	6 cu ft Fine domestic 18.00

For More information:

www.perlite.net

www.whittemore.com

www.vermiculite.com

www.ingredients101.com

www.fertrell.com

www.fiberdust.com

www.organix.us

www.cocopeat.com

www.peatmoss.com