

growing with

SylvaGrow[®]

ERICACEOUS COMPOST

1 The basics

SYLVAGROW[®] ERICACEOUS CONTAINER AND PLANTING

COMPOST is a unique blend of fine bark, wood fibre (bi-products of sustainably managed British forests) and coir (from a single, known source). It contains balanced nutrients sufficient for the first 4 - 6 weeks of growth. This professional-quality, 100% peat-free ericaceous compost is ideal for growing rhododendrons, azaleas, heathers, camellias and other lime-hating plants in tubs and containers and for planting out.

How to Use:

Potting on, containers, tubs and troughs

- Firstly ensure that the plant to be potted on has been well-watered. If it is dry, immerse the roots in a bucket of water (preferably rainwater) for half an hour
- Fill the pot, tub or other container with **SylvaGrow[®] Ericaceous**
- Make a hole large enough to accommodate the item to be potted and insert it, taking care that the growing medium is at about the same height on the stem as previously
- Gently firm the **SylvaGrow[®] Ericaceous** around the plant and water thoroughly
- Ensure that the **SylvaGrow[®] Ericaceous** is kept moist but not over-wet, at all times
- After four to six weeks, regularly apply a proprietary ericaceous liquid feed, following the manufacturer's instructions. Alternatively incorporate slow-release fertilizer granules according to the manufacturer's instructions, at the time of potting
- For a perfect finishing touch mulch the surface with **SylvaBark[®] Pine Bark Flakes** or **SylvaBark[®] Pine Mini Mulch**

Cuttings

- Ensure the mother plant is well-watered before taking cuttings
- Fill a deep seed tray or pot with **SylvaGrow[®] Ericaceous** and make a suitable hole with a dibber or pencil
- Prepare the stem cuttings according to type, ensuring that they are not allowed to dry out between cutting and inserting. Dip in hormone rooting powder/liquid if using
- Insert the cutting and gently firm the medium around it
- Stem cuttings need to be in a moist environment out of direct sunlight until they have rooted so either place in a cold frame, a covered propagator or cover with polythene, using supports to prevent the polythene from touching the cuttings.
- Once the cuttings are well-rooted they can be potted on according to the instructions above

Raised Beds

SylvaGrow[®] Ericaceous can be used as part of a raised bed medium for lime-hating plants.

- Simply mix 1 part **SylvaGrow[®] Ericaceous** thoroughly with 3 to 4 parts acidic garden soil to gain a valuable addition of organic matter and nutrients.
- Remember to supplementary feed as instructed above in 'Potting On'. If the soil used is not acidic, (which is not recommended for best results) use up to 1 part **SylvaGrow[®] Ericaceous** to 1 part soil and be particularly vigilant regarding supplementary feeding with an appropriate fertilizer for lime-hating plants.
- Keep the soil moist at all times particularly during the first year as the plants are becoming established

Planting Out

SylvaGrow[®] Ericaceous can be used as a planting medium for lime-hating plants in order to add

valuable organic matter and nutrients to acidic soils.

- Simply blend at 1 part to 4 parts of the back-fill soil.
- Always ensure that the plant is watered to capacity before planting out and if necessary, immerse the roots in a bucket of water (preferably rainwater) for half an hour prior to planting.
- Ensure that the planting pit is well-integrated with the wider soil with no smeared sides or other impediments to root exploration beyond the planting hole.
- If the soil is not acidic, (which is not recommended for best results) use up to 1 part **SylvaGrow[®] Ericaceous** to 2 parts soil and be particularly vigilant regarding supplementary feeding with an appropriate fertilizer for lime-hating plants.
- Keep the soil moist at all times particularly during the first year as the plants are becoming established

Other Advice

- Try always to use rainwater when watering lime-hating plants, particularly in hard water areas
- Use in a ventilated place and avoid breathing in dust
- Always wear gloves when gardening and wash hands after use
- Close bag after use to avoid drying out and to prevent contamination
- White mould: under certain conditions a white mould may appear on the surface of some of the particles in **SylvaGrow[®] Ericaceous Container and Planting Compost**. This is entirely normal and not harmful to humans, plants or pets.

Use by

- **SylvaGrow[®] Ericaceous Container and Planting Compost** is best used within the season of purchase. Longer storage can cause a nutrient imbalance.

The producers of SylvaGrow, Melcourt Industries, are active members of the following organisations:



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TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Main constituents	Nominal particle size range	Bulk Density	Moisture content by weight	Wetting Agent	Air-filled porosity
Coniferous bark, wood fibre, coir	0-6mm	420 grams per litre	50%	Yes	21%
pH	Nitrogen (N)	Phosphorus (P)	Potassium (K)	Electrical conductivity	Trace Elements
5.8	200mg/l	60mg/l	280mg/l	450µS/cm	Yes

All values given are typical. However, some variation may occur from time to time. Melcourt Industries Ltd reserves the right to alter the specification without notice for the purposes of product improvement.