**Product Description**

A fine, substantially dust free, matured pine bark designed for use in mixes with peat or suitable alternatives for the vegetative propagation of nursery stock and a wide range of other plants.

- Also an excellent pot mulch to suppress weed, moss and liverwort growth.
- Free-flowing and freely draining texture
- Particles predominantly 2 to 7 mm in size
- Long-lasting and resilient
- pH 4.5 - 5.5
- Negligible nutrient content
- Pest, weed and disease free
- Toxin free
- Approved by the Soil Association (SA)
- Certified by the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®)*
- Sold in 60 litre bags, maxi-bales, bulk bags and in loose bulk

**Typical Crop Applications**

- Pot mulching
- Propagation of nursery stock, alpines, herbaceous perennials, pot plants, micro propagation weaning, hardwood winter cuttings.
- Also suitable for seed composts, e.g. forest tree seeds and orchids

**User Benefits - Pot Mulching**

- The natural durability and stability of pine bark make it the ideal growers' bark
- Coarse enough to present a dry surface and allow free passage of irrigation

**User Benefits - as a growing media ingredient**

- Promotes strong, active rooting
- Considerably reduces winter losses caused by water logging
- Because most fines have been removed, the entire product contributes substantially to improving air-filled porosity
- Can be used on all types of standing out area, including sand beds, gravel and capillary matting
- Enables up to 40% less peat to be used in the mix
- Suitable for ericaceous and non-ericaceous subjects due to low pH
- Allows complete flexibility of fertilizer additions due to low inherent nutrient content
- Imparts long-lasting stability to compost
- The incorporation of Melcourt Propagating Bark™ can give a measure of pathogen suppression, as has been demonstrated in ADAS/HDC trials, where significant control of Fusarium wilt in cyclamen has been identified. Anecdotal evidence suggests that the phenomenon exists for other pathogens, including Botrytis and Pythium
- Ideal for use in direct sticking media
- Excellent as an additive to a wide range of peat alternatives
- phenomenon exists for other pathogens, including Botrytis and Pythium

**Technical Information**

*Product sold in loose bulk is FSC certified by special request only

This product is from FSC MIX Sources at a minimum of 70%, FSC certificate number CU-COC-806457.

Melcourt Industries Ltd • Boldridge Brake • Long Newnton • Tetbury • Gloucestershire GL8 8RT
Tel: 01666 502711 • mail@melcourt.co.uk • www.melcourt.co.uk
Melcourt Propagating Bark

How To Use

• Melcourt Propagating Bark™ can be used at 25 to 100% by volume in the mix. It is equally effective with peat, coir and other propagating materials.

• Melcourt Propagating Bark™ blends easily with other compost ingredients whether mixed by hand or machine. Particularly good results can be achieved if controlled release fertilizer is incorporated into the mix. Use according to the manufacturer’s recommendations.

• Supplementary nitrogen and lime are not required for propagating media based on Melcourt Propagating Bark

Crop Management

Propagating media containing Melcourt Propagating Bark™ are ideal for use with any type of management system, including mist, fog, and/or polythene. No changes to crop management should be necessary, although it is important to be aware that the medium may be more open than a peat/grit mix and may therefore require slightly more water.

Pot Mulching

• To suppress the incidence of moss, liverwort and weed growth, spread an even layer of Melcourt Propagating Bark™ at a depth of 1-3 cms depending on pot size, on the clean surface of the compost, just after potting.

• This product can also be used to improve the appearance of retail shrubs, when applied to the clean compost surface just prior to despatch.

• See Pot Mulch section for further details

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Specification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Main Constituent</td>
<td>Pine bark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nominal particle size range mm</td>
<td>2-7mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood content</td>
<td>&lt; 3 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dust and Fines &lt;1mm</td>
<td>&lt; 12%</td>
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<tr>
<td>pH</td>
<td>4.5-5.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Typical Bulk Density Range</td>
<td>290 - 340 kg/m³</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moisture Content by weight as received</td>
<td>50 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Air-Filled Porosity</td>
<td>58%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electrical Conductivity</td>
<td>100 µS/cm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plant Available Nutrient Content</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Requirement for Supplementary Nitrogen NO

Soil Association Approved YES

FSC Certified YES*

* Melcourt product sold in loose bulk is FSC certified by special request only

All values given in the Technical Specification 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 purpose of product improvement.

Product Applications

Pot Mulching

Propagation Open or Plug Trays

Direct Sticking

Hardwood Cuttings

Micro-propagation Weaning

Seed Composts

Liners

Peat Replacement

Organic Composts

Orchid Culture

Crop Types

Bedding Plants

Pot Plants

Nursery Stock

Conifers

Herbaceous Perennials

Alpines

Herbs

Ericaceous & Salt-sensitive

Vegetable & Forest Transplants

Orchids