

The Hills Lightweight Planter Box Mix



The Hills Lightweight Planter Box Mix is excellent for installation into the top 300 – 400 mm of a contained environment such as planter boxes and podiums. It has been developed in conjunction with the Hills B Horizon mix to work as the nutrient rich growing media layer of an engineered profile.

The Hills Lightweight Planter Box Mix is tested to the **Australian Standard 3743 Potting Mix** non specialist (Regular Grade). We test the Bulk Density to the **Australian Standard 4419: 2003 Soils for Landscaping and Garden Use – Organic Soil Analysis**. It is also tested with the **6 Point Hydraulic Conductivity Test**. The mix requirements are specific and don't fit into any one Australian Standard. We use the standards as a tool only.

TEST RESULTS:

DECEMBER 2019

Physical Properties	Unit	Target Range	Results	Comments	
Texture	n/a	Gravelly loamy sand to organic sandy loam	Loamy Sand	Acceptable	
Air-Filled porosity	%	≥ 5	12	Acceptable	
Water-holding capacity	%	≥ 45	52.7	Acceptable	
Saturated repacked Density	kg/L	< 2	1.17	Acceptable	
Large Particles	<2mm	% ww	30 - 50	54.5	High
	2 - 10mm	% ww	15 - 30	40.4	High
	10 - 20mm	% ww	5 - 10	5.04	Acceptable
	20 - 50mm	% ww	< 5	0	Acceptable
	>50mm	% ww	0	0	Acceptable
Organic matter content	% w/w	< 25	39	High (due to ash content)	
Permeability	mm/h	> 100	101	Acceptable	
Wettability (AS4419)	mins	≤ 2	0.56	Acceptable	
Dispersibility in water	Category	1 or 2 (AS 4419) category	3	Acceptable	
Chemical Properties	Unit	Target Range	Results	Comments	
pH in water (1:5)	pH units	5.4 - 6.8	7.15	High	
Electrical conductivity (1:5)	dS/m	< 2.2	1.31	Acceptable	
Chloride	mg/L	< 200	224	High	
Ammonium-N	mg/L	< 100	15.3	Acceptable	
Ammonium-N + Nitrate-N	mg/L	> 50	22	Low	
Nitrogen draw-down index	-	> 0.7	0.51	Low	
Bioassay	mm	> 70	98	Acceptable	
Phosphorus	mg/L	< 3 / 8 - 40	8.2	Acceptable	
Potassium	mg/L	50 - 250	153	Acceptable	
Sulphate	mg/L	> 40	57	Acceptable	
Calcium	mg/L	> 80	73	Low	
Magnesium	mg/L	> 15	23	Acceptable	
Ca:Mg Ratio	Ratio	1.5 - 10	3.2	Acceptable	
K:Mg Ratio	Ratio	1 - 7	6.7	Acceptable	
Sodium	mg/L	< 130	83	Acceptable	
Iron	mg/L	>35	13.1	Low	
Copper	mg/L	0.4 - 15	<0.3	Low	
Zinc	mg/L	0.3 - 10	3	Acceptable	
Manganese	mg/L	1 - 15	2.93	Acceptable	
Boron	mg/L	0.02 - 0.065	0.168	Acceptable	

Hydraulic Conductivity – after 32 drops (heavy compaction) – 2308mm/hr
Bulk Density = 0.53 kg/L. Saturated Bulk Density = 1.17 kg/L



The Hills Bark Blower® staff add a further Nitrogen source, Dolomite, Gypsum, and other nutrition where needed.

Further organic fertilisers and water holding products can be added upon request.