

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:

MARCH 2020

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	54.6	Acceptable
Saturated repacked Density	kg/L	< 2	1.23	Acceptable
Large Particles	<2mm	% ww	56.1	High
	2 - 10mm	% ww	37.7	High
	10 - 20mm	% ww	6.15	Acceptable
	20 - 50mm	% ww	0	Acceptable
	>50mm	% ww	0	Acceptable
Organic matter content	% w/w	< 25	23	Acceptable
Permeability	mm/h	> 100	425	Acceptable
Wettability (AS4419)	mins	≤ 2	0.64	Acceptable
Dispersibility in water	Category	1 or 2 (AS 4419) category	3	High
Chemical Properties	Unit	Target Range	Results	Comments
pH in water (1:5)	pH units	5.4 - 6.8	7.7	Acceptable
Electrical conductivity (1:5)	dS/m	< 2.2	4.22	High
Chloride	mg/L	< 200	1339	High
Ammonium-N	mg/L	< 100	88.2	Acceptable
Ammonium-N + Nitrate-N	mg/L	> 50	93	Acceptable
Nitrogen draw-down index	-	> 0.7	0.5	Low
Bioassay	mm	> 70	82	Acceptable
Phosphorus	mg/L	< 3 / 8 - 40	8.4	Acceptable
Potassium	mg/L	50 - 250	272	High
Sulphate	mg/L	> 40	170	Acceptable
Calcium	mg/L	> 80	156	Acceptable
Magnesium	mg/L	> 15	66.1	Acceptable
Ca:Mg Ratio	Ratio	1.5 - 10	2.4	Acceptable
K:Mg Ratio	Ratio	1 - 7	4.1	Acceptable
Sodium	mg/L	< 130	500	High
Iron	mg/L	>35	25.9	Low
Copper	mg/L	0.4 - 15	1.3	Acceptable
Zinc	mg/L	0.3 - 10	4.4	Acceptable
Manganese	mg/L	1 - 15	7.52	Acceptable
Boron	mg/L	0.02 - 0.065	0.47	Acceptable

Hydraulic Conductivity – after 32 drops (heavy compaction) – 2308mm/hr
Bulk Density = 0.56 kg/L. Saturated Bulk Density = 1.23 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.