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Enhancing Peat-Free Growing

The role of Water Analysis when growing in peat-free



Understanding the key benefits of performing a water analysis test helps optimise growing in peat-free growing media.

Understanding nutrient levels
Peat-free growing media can have different nutrient compositions compared to traditional peat-based media. A water analysis helps growers determine the nutrient levels present in their water source, ensuring plants receive the right balance for optimal growth.

pH management
The pH of water can influence the availability of nutrients in the soil. With peat-free growing media, which may have different pH-buffering capacities than peat-based media, water pH becomes even more critical. Analysing the water allows growers to take steps to adjust pH levels accordingly.

Managing salinity
High salt concentrations in water can be detrimental to plant growth. A water analysis can reveal elevated salt levels, allowing growers to take preventative measures. This is especially important in peat-free media, where salt interaction may vary compared with traditional media.

Identifying contaminants
Contaminants or harmful substances can sometimes be present in water sources. Conducting a water analysis enables growers to identify and mitigate potential issues, ensuring the health and safety of crops.

Optimising fertilisation
Knowing the mineral content of the water allows growers to adjust their fertilisation strategies. Nutrient inputs can be reduced or increased based on what is already present in the water, ensuring plants are neither overfed nor underfed.

Maintaining consistent water quality
Water quality can change throughout the year due to factors such as weather conditions, local agricultural activity, and industrial influences. Regular water analysis allows growers to monitor these changes and adjust cultivation practices as required.

Improving yield and crop quality
Plants grown in optimal conditions, with the right balance of nutrients, appropriate pH levels, and contaminant-free water, will naturally produce higher yields and improved crop quality. Water analysis helps growers provide the best possible environment for their plants, maximising the benefits of peat-free growing media.

Supporting sustainable growing
As the industry moves towards more sustainable practices, peat-free growing media is an environmentally responsible choice. Combining this with regular water analysis helps growers reduce their carbon footprint while using water resources efficiently and responsibly.

Author: Sean Whitworth, Fargro Senior Growing Media and Fertiliser Specialist

HEAD OFFICE 01903 726 100 ESSEX 01206 735 467 EMAIL ASK@FARGRO.CO.UK www.fargro.co.uk