FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How long is soil good for?

<u>We recommend using your potting mix within one calendar year</u> from date of purchase. After a year the soil does not go bad, however it is harder to guarantee the nutrient levels and biological activity of the mix due to variability of storage conditions on your farm.

WHAT IS THE BEST WAY TO STORE THE POTTING MIX?

Bulk totes should be stored out of the direct sunlight and rain exposure to avoid allowing the soil becoming oversaturated or dry out completely. While the bulk bags we use are water resistant, they will take on water over time. If the mix does dry out completely, re-water thoroughly before filling pots or containers.

How MUCH SHOULD I WATER COCO/COMPOST BASED MIXES?

<u>We recommend starting out at half your normal watering rate and increasing</u> <u>frequency once plants are established</u>. Coco coir-based soils actually dry out from the top down, meaning that the root-zone of the cell can be perfectly moist while the surface appears dry, for folks who are new to coco-based mixes this can lead to over watering.

IS THE POTTING MIX STERILIZED?

We do not sterilize any of our products during the manufacturing process and as a result it will contain a plethora of beneficial biology, which could include mites, fungus and microbes. Do not be alarmed if you see a flush of mold under the bag cover where condensation collects, this is nature at work.

MY SOIL IS HOT, CAN I USE IT RIGHT AWAY?

<u>Our soils are best used 2 weeks after date of blending</u>, this period is critical for the biology in living soil mixes to mineralize organic amendments. Soils may heat up before stabilizing temperature during this timeframe as well. Please order your soil with enough lead time to allow the product to mature before use.

All potting mixes that are rich in organic matter are at risk of fungus gnat infestations. While we do our best to keep anything unwanted to a minimum, because our products are intentionally not sterilized, we cannot guarantee it. Overwatering is the #1 cause of fungus gnats and the answer is always to allow media to dry out between waterings & make sure you have enough circulation moving air in your growing space.



HAVE MORE QUESTIONS?

GIVE US A CALL ANYTIME TO SPEAK WITH A SOIL EXPERT. 828-649-5161