



IS 17739 : 2022 (Raw Coir Pith — Specification)

Coir pith, which is also known as **coir dust** is the main byproduct from coir fibre extraction industries which is used for **agriculture/ horticulture** applications. The composition and properties of coir pith vary depending on **maturity of coconut, method of fibre extraction** and processing including environmental factors. Coir pith is normally dumped as agricultural waste and accumulates as heaps of coarse and fine dust. Coir pith is a recalcitrant agro-residue containing high amount of lignin and cellulose **resisting decomposition by microorganisms** under natural conditions. Coir pith has a **high water holding capacity** of 8 times of its weight. Nutrient content of coir pith varies with the location, method of extraction, rate of decomposition and storage conditions.

It is an **excellent soil conditioner** and is being extensively used as a **soil-less medium** for agricultural purposes. With its **moisture retention** qualities, coir pith is ideal for growing anthuriums and orchids. Available in raw form or converted into **organic manure**, Coir pith is a **multi-purpose growing substance** that can be used as a potting mix addition, soil-less medium, **hydroponics** grower, and more. It provides good **environmental friendly** support as an alternative to perlite media and rockwool.

The standard sets out specific requirements for the physical and chemical properties of coir pith. This includes **moisture content, pH levels, mineral and lignin content, water holding capacity, porosity** etc ensuring consistency and quality for its intended uses. In addition, the Coir pith should be free from adulterants such as sand, metallic pieces, weeds and seeds. This ensures that it is safe and effective for agricultural and horticultural purposes.