



# C & C Peat Co., Inc.

## Newsletter

NO. 9 – March 14, 2008

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To our friends and colleagues:

Much has changed since our last newsletter installment. We at **C&C Peat** hope that you have weathered this winter successfully and are prepared for a prosperous and encouraging spring season. Our company and staff are eager to do what we can as a partner in your future growing endeavors!

This newsletter installment will cover the following topics:

- A) **Tradeshow Giveaway Winners**
- B) **Coastal Springs Show**
- C) **New Products**
- D) **Organic Acids**
- E) **Environmental Benefits of Compost**
- F) **Site Info**

### **TRADESHOW GIVEAWAY WINNERS:**

Since our last newsletter we have participated in several **FNGLA** Tradeshows, two of which we held drawings for prizes. At the **FNATS** show we held a giveaway for an iPod Nano, which was won by Callie Davenport of Davenport Nursery. Recently, at the **TPIE** show in Ft. Lauderdale, C&C held a drawing for a Magellan GPS device, which was won by Terry at Croton Connection. Congratulations to both of these winners and thank you to all who entered! Remember to stop by our booth at future shows; it's quite possible that you might be our next winner!!!

### **COASTAL SPRINGS SHOW:**

On **April 15<sup>th</sup>** C&C Peat will be hosting a meeting for the Coastal Springs chapter of the **FNGLA**. Dinner and the scheduled presentation will take place at 6:15pm. Guests may arrive as early as 5:00 to receive tours of our facility and speak with our staff and other guests. The scheduled informative presentation is on irrigation practices, and staff from C&C Peat will also give a brief overview of our various processes, specifically our composting methods. If you would like to attend, you are more than welcome; we just ask that you *RSVP* by the 8<sup>th</sup> of April. Dinner is catered and Coastal Springs requests a donation of \$10 per person to defray the costs of the meal. For directions, please call our office.

### **NEW PRODUCTS:**

C&C Peat has been hard at work developing new products, as well as offering new amendment materials, for potting use. Our newest product, which we take great pride in offering, is **Nutri-Bark**: a soil amendment created by sending partially aged 3/8" pine bark through our refined composting process. The resulting product is more nutritionally stable than green bark, and has a higher water holding capability. In addition, **Nutri-Bark** can be used as a substitute for perlite and can increase aeration.

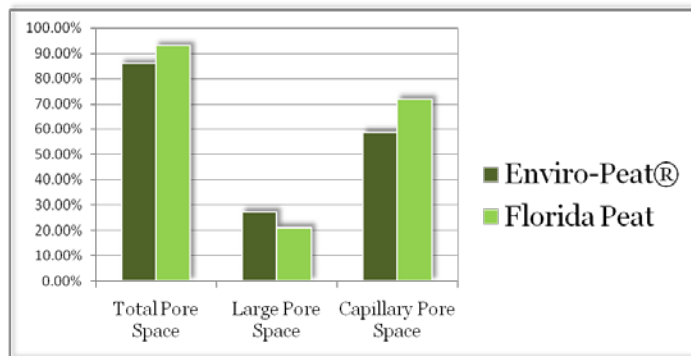
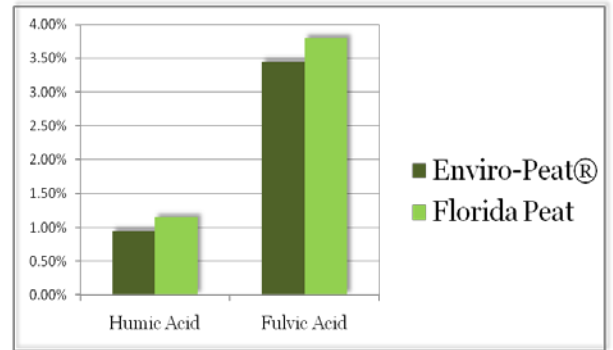


Recently, C&C Peat added a new potting media amendment to its inventory of quality products: food-grade **Rice Hulls**. Rice hulls are a byproduct of processing whole rice for human consumption, and are an economical substitute for vermiculite or perlite. We are pleased to offer rice hulls as an environmentally-friendly alternative to mined materials.

We at C&C Peat are continually performing research and development on new products to offer our customers. We hope to have one or more additional new products for your use by the fall season. If you are interested in any of these products, or would like to assist us in our research efforts, please contact Ray Busby at (352) 568-5824.

### ORGANIC ACIDS AND PORE SPACE:

In a recent analysis of our **Enviro-Peat**, C&C Peat found it to be rich in organic acid content - nearly indistinguishable from straight Florida Peat, mined from C&C Peat's rich deposits. **Humic and Fulvic Acids**, the two chief types of organic acids, are essential in chelating certain trace elements for plant up-take as well as the ability to solubilize certain hydrophobic materials. These acids are vitally important to plant growth and health. Our **Enviro-Peat** contributes more than adequate levels of organic acids for your nursery needs as is shown in the following graph:



In the same analysis, we compared the large and capillary pore space found in **Enviro-Peat** versus our mined **Florida Peat**. Overall total pore space was virtually indistinguishable between the two products. Large pore space, or “air-pore space”, is slightly higher in **Enviro-Peat**, while capillary pore space, which holds water, is higher by a small margin in our mined Florida Peat.

### ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS OF COMPOST:

Throughout the country we are unnecessarily filling up our landfills with organic matter that could otherwise be composted and used for our benefit, most especially the horticultural industry. A question that has been commonly asked, as to the overall benefit of responsibly composting versus landfill application, is how much better off are we in composting organics – or what’s the point? This question is especially true for green house gases, or **GHGs**. Un-managed composting, such as what happens in a landfill, produces Methane and Nitrous Oxide in high numbers, 23 times and 300 times (respectively) more potent GHGs than Carbon Dioxide. In a recent study, by Dr. Sally Brown of the University of Washington found that organics diverted from a landfill can be hauled 25,000 miles to be composted and *still* balance emissions. This is one of the reasons that **C&C Peat** is proud to be Florida’s leader in composting quality organics for nursery use and doing our part in preserving our environment!

### SITE INFO:

**C&C Peat** has operated out of its **Okahumpka facility** now for 9 months, and we are enjoying the increased space and operational efficiency. By building this facility we have the ability and space to conduct many experiments and other R&D effort. We are continuing to improve upon our products and processes, in order to provide our colleagues with the highest quality potting media available. If you would like to tour our facility, we would be happy to accommodate you and your staff at any time. Please call our office to set up a meeting.