



**Green Today. Greener tomorrow**

**PRESS RELEASE: Coco & Coir Composts**

**March 2022**

Southern Trident's Coco & Coir range of compressed coir composts and mulch are 100% peat free and are made exclusively from environmentally-responsible by-products and recycled raw materials.

Supplied as a compressed, dried, coir brick, this makes them lightweight and easy to carry. They also take up little storage room, making them perfect for gardeners who don't have a shed or other suitable storage space and for those living in small houses and flats. Available in three sizes, the 5kg size expands into 75-litres of compost, 15-litres for the 1kg size and 650g expanding to 9L

The range currently encompasses the following products.

Coco & Coir Coco Grow is 100% coir. It is perfect for use as a soil improver, planting medium and as a potting compost, or as a component of a potting compost. It provides the perfect balance of aeration, drainage and water retention. Thanks to its coir, it encourages beneficial micro-organisms and is pH and nutrient balanced.

Coco & Coir Coco Grow+ is based on coir but includes 20% perlite. It is perfect for seed sowing, for taking cuttings and potting up and growing on young plants. It promotes fast seed germination. It provides excellent aeration, drainage and water retention. It also encourages beneficial micro-organisms and is pH and nutrient balanced.

Coco & Coir Coco Boost is also 100% coir, but with added six-month, controlled-release fertiliser to ensure strong, steady plant growth. It is perfect for use as a multi-purpose compost for growing on plants and for filling all manner of pots, containers and hanging baskets.

Coco & Coir Coco Chip contains 100% coir chips and is perfect for use as a decorative mulching material, on beds, borders and as a pot topper, and also ideal for growing orchids.

Coco & Coir Coco Dots, containing 100% coir, are the perfect choice for sowing seeds and striking plant cuttings. The 30 and 40mm diameter coir pellets are convenient and easy to use. They ensure reliable, fast germination and improved root growth. Once the pellets are fully expanded, they make the perfect plug of compost, which is held together with a non-woven cloth mesh.

All Coco & Coir products are easy to re-wet, taking the 5kg brick around 20 minutes to fully expand when using tepid or warm water. We recommend using tepid or warm water as this speeds up the re-wetting, but you can also use cold water.

If gardeners don't wish to expand and use all the brick in one go, they can be cut into smaller pieces, using a saw, or serrated bread knife to produce as little or as much compost as they need.

New for 2022, is Coco Bloom, an already expanded, bagged 100% coir all-purpose compost with a balanced nutrient base including all trace elements for healthy plant growth.

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## Notes to Editors

Coir, like peat, can hold up to 20 times its own weight in moisture. Unlike other peat-free alternatives, coir has a pH range of 5.8-6.8, which is close to what the vast majority of plants need. It contains high levels of lignin and cellulose, so doesn't decompose, slump and compact in containers like some other alternative materials.

Thanks to the way we source and stringently treat the raw coir in all our products, we are confident that we have some of the best coir-based composts and other growing media on the market. To put this to the test, in 2021 we commissioned Stockbridge Technology Centre, the UK's premier horticultural growing and testing facility, to conduct extensive growing trials on two of our composts – Coco & Coir Coco Boost and Coco & Coir Coco Grow+. The results of the trials conclusively proved that Coco Boost outperforms every peat-free compost it was tested against, and performed equally as well as peat-based ones. Coco Grow+ produced better seed germination rates than all the competition, 15% better than the peat-based compost and three times better than the branded peat-free one.

The company's underlying mantra, which drives its core values, is Green Today, Greener Tomorrow. In 2021, Southern Trident strived to prove its sustainability and green credentials. To this end:

- We were awarded Soil Association accreditation for all of our responsibly-sourced, coir-based growing media products, meaning they can also be used with confidence by organic gardeners.
- The company is now carbon neutral across all areas of the business and has achieved PAS2060 accreditation, the internationally recognised specification for carbon neutrality.
- We won an International Green Apple Environment Award from The Green Organisation, and have become a Green World Ambassador – special people who demonstrate their environmental commitment by helping the organisation to achieve its prime target: to recognise, reward and promote environmental best practice around the world.
- At Glee 2021, we won the Sustainability Award and the Best New Growing Media Product 2021 for the new Harmony Gardens Multipurpose Compost.
- We became an inaugural accredited member of the new Responsible Sourcing Scheme for Growing Media (RSSGM), working with Defra, the RHS, NGO's like Plantlife, the HTA, retailers and other manufacturers.

Southern Trident is exhibiting at the Garden Press Event 2022. For further information, come and talk to us on stand H036.

If you would like samples of the Coco & Coir range, please contact Paula Parker at [paula@southerntrident.com](mailto:paula@southerntrident.com)

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