



Designation: D2944 – 22

Standard Practice of Sampling Processed Peat Materials for Horticultural Purposes¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D2944; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope*

1.1 This practice covers the procedure for obtaining a representative sample of processed peat material from compressed bales or bulk loose material sources. This procedure is applicable for sampling peat materials for horticultural purposes and produces a sample that is representative of peat materials that may be heterogeneous in nature. Producing a representative sample of a material is central to the validity of the results for any testing or analytical procedure which can be used to verify the grade of peat.

1.2 *Units*—The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as the standard. The values given in parentheses are provided for information only and are not considered standard.

1.3 All observed and calculated values shall confirm to the guidelines for significant digits and rounding established in Practice [D6026](#).

1.3.1 The procedures used to specify how data are collected/recorded or calculated in this standard are regarded as the industry standard. In addition, they are representative of the significant digits that generally should be retained. The procedures used do not consider material variation, purpose for obtaining the data, special purpose studies, or any considerations for the user's objectives; and it is common practice to increase or reduce significant digits of reported data to be commensurate with these considerations. It is beyond the scope of this standard to consider significant digits used in analysis methods for engineering design.

1.4 *This practice offers a set of instructions for performing one or more specific operations. This document cannot replace education or experience and should be used in conjunction with professional judgment. Not all aspects of this practice may be applicable in all circumstances. This ASTM standard is not intended to represent or replace the standard of care by which the adequacy of a given professional service must be judged, nor should this document be applied without consideration of*

a project's many unique aspects. The word "Standard" in the title of this document means only that the document has been approved through the ASTM consensus process.

1.5 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

1.6 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*²

[D653](#) Terminology Relating to Soil, Rock, and Contained Fluids

[D3740](#) Practice for Minimum Requirements for Agencies Engaged in Testing and/or Inspection of Soil and Rock as Used in Engineering Design and Construction

[D4753](#) Guide for Evaluating, Selecting, and Specifying Balances and Standard Masses for Use in Soil, Rock, and Construction Materials Testing

[D6026](#) Practice for Using Significant Digits and Data Records in Geotechnical Data

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions:*

3.1.1 For definitions of common technical terms used in this standard, refer to Terminology [D653](#).

4. Summary of Practice

4.1 For compressed peat bales, a slotted tube corer is used at multiple locations to obtain subsamples of material. For bulk stockpiles, a shovel is used at multiple locations to obtain

¹ This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee [D18](#) on Soil and Rock and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee [D18.22](#) on Media for Plant Growth.

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² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

*A Summary of Changes section appears at the end of this standard