peatless

Alternative substrates with **#LessPeat** to support the Green Transition in horticulture

What's PEATLESS purpose?

PEATLESS is an EU-funded project with 12 partners from 4 countries working to reduce peat use in horticulture. By promoting local, sustainable alternatives, it supports the EU's goals for a greener future.

Why Reduce Peat Use?

Peat is widely used for growing plants but harms the environment—causing emissions, biodiversity loss, and soil damage. With demand set to triple by 2050, switching to sustainable options is essential.

What are Alternative Substrates?

Materials like compost, wood fibres, and Sphagnum moss can replace peat. Yet challenges remain: technical issues, limited grower confidence, and high costs slow down their adoption.

How PEATLESS Helps

- Develops 18 peat-reduced substrate blends.
- Demonstrates them in mushrooms, seedlings, and ornamental systems across Spain, Italy, Belgium, and Switzerland.
- Engages growers through training, innovation, and Living Labs.
- Creates business models and policy recommendations to support adoption.

Expected Impact by 2050

- Significant peat savings and CO_2 reduction.
- Support for 5,000 horticultural businesses.
- Over 30 policy recommendations for sustainable growing media.

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