



PERLITE COMPANY

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RE: Perlite in Organic Soils

Expanded perlite is a mineral constituent of horticultural soils and is derived from naturally hydrated obsidian – a volcanic glass.

The raw perlite ore is mined in volcanic areas, crushed and screened into different sizes before being sent to a perlite expansion furnace. The crushed ore is then brought to a temperature (around 1,450 degrees F) where the glass softens, and the trapped water molecules turn into steam – making the small rock particle “expand” in the same manner that popcorn expands in an air-popper. The result is a particle that reveals itself under a microscope as a cluster of tiny, volcanic glass bubbles – both whole and broken.

Supreme Perlite sources our perlite ore from the Tucker Hill deposit in south central Oregon, near the town of Lakeview, OR. The Tucker Hill deposit is 357 miles from our expansion plant in Portland, OR.

The mineral is otherwise unchanged in composition, and is added to organic components like peat moss to aerate and provide drainage for resultant soils. No additives or coatings are employed in this process.

OMRI lists expanded perlite as an acceptable mineral component of horticultural soils.

For more details about perlite, please visit our website: www.perlite.com.

Jerry Mishler
General Manager
Supreme Perlite Company