

BIOGREEN

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Testing of Biogreen '10mm' peat product in turf sand

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A sample of the Biogreen peat product known as '10mm' was blended 10% by volume into a typical greens construction sand, and tested for drainage and porosity. A blank sample (the same sand unamended) was also tested, with the following results:

	Unamended Sand	Sand + 10% (v/v) Biogreen 10mm peat	Our recommendation
Infiltration Rate mm/hr	240	180	> 150
Bulk Density g/cc	1.67	1.48	< 1.6
Total Pore Space %	37.15	44.29	> 40
Capillary Pore Space %	20.7	23.5	15 - 25
Non-capillary Pore Space %	16.48	20.79	> 20
Moisture Retention (grav) %	12.41	15.92	10 - 16

Based on this test, the 10mm peat product reduced Bulk Density, increased total porosity and, most importantly, increased moisture retention. At the same time it reduced the Infiltration Rate, but it was still above our minimum.

My general opinion is that this material could be an excellent amendment material for turf construction sands. The peat material itself probably doesn't conform to USGA Specifications, so Turf Managers wishing to fully conform to this specification should probably look at other products. But where the Turf Manager is not bound to the USGA Specification, I feel the Biogreen 10mm product would be a suitable alternative. Any proposed construction materials, including any amendments, should be tested for each specific project.

This testing and opinion is offered completely independently. Anyone who wishes to discuss the testing method and results is invited to contact me directly.

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