

# MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

## PRODUCT NAME: RICHGRO POTTING MIXES

### SECTION 1: IDENTIFICATION OF THE MATERIAL AND SUPPLIER

**Product Name:** Richgro Premium and Regular Potting Mixes

**Other names:** Pro Mix, Native Soil Mix, Azalea, Camellia & Gardenia Mix, Vertical Garden Planting Mix and others.

**Recommended use:** General horticulture purpose.

**Company name:** Richgro Garden Products

**Address:** 203 Acourt Road, Jandakot                      **State:** WA                      **Postcode:** 6164

**Telephone number:** 08 9455 1323                      **Emergency Telephone No:** 1800 455 132

### SECTION 2: HAZARD IDENTIFICATION

**Hazard Classification, including a statement of overall hazardous nature**

#### HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE.

Potting Mixes are classified as hazardous according to NOHSC Australia criteria.

#### DANGEROUS GOODS.

Potting Mixes are not classified as dangerous goods according to the ADG code.

### SECTION 3: COMPOSITION / INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

Chemical identity of ingredients	Proportion of ingredients	CAS Number for ingredients
<b>Richgro Potting Mixes</b> (the products are blends of raw or and/or composted natural organic materials, with addition of mineral and fertiliser additives)	100 %	None allocated

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### SECTION 4: FIRST AID MEASURES

#### FIRST AID PROCEDURES FOR DEALING WITH THIS PRODUCT AND EXPOSURE TO IT

**1. Swallowed**

Wash out mouth with water. Seek medical attention.

**2. Eyes**

Irrigate immediately with plenty of lukewarm water for at least 15 minutes and if irritation persists seek medical attention.

**3. Skin**

Wash skin with soap and plenty of water. If irritation persists seek medical attention.

**4. Inhalation**

Remove affected person from exposure to a well ventilated area. If irritation persists seek medical attention.

**ADVICE TO DOCTOR.**

Treat symptomatically.

### SECTION 5: FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

**Product flammability**

Non-flammable.

**Suitable extinguishing media**

Water or Class A extinguishers for fire fighting if necessary.

**Hazard from combustion products**

No information available.

**Hazchem Code**

None allocated.

### SECTION 6: ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

**Methods and Materials for containment and clean up**

Wear full protective clothing and personal protection. Carefully and promptly clean up the spill and collect the material into suitable containers and hold for reuse/recycle or disposal in accordance with local authority guidelines. Prevent run-off into drains and waterways.

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### SECTION 7: HANDLING AND STORAGE

#### Precautions for safe handling

Avoid contact with eyes and skin. Avoid breathing dust and/or liquid mists (bioaerosols). Wash your hands carefully after handling this product. Wash work clothes regularly.

#### Conditions for safe storage, including any incompatibilities

Store in a cool, dry and well ventilated area. Keep away from food, drink and animal feeding stuffs. Clean up by wet sweeping and/or vacuuming.

### SECTION 8: EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

#### National exposure standards

There are no specific exposure standards have been allocated for potting mixes and soil products. General recommended exposure standards for dust not otherwise specified are:

- **Total inhalable dust:**  
10 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (National Occupational Health & Safety Commission, 2004, NOHSC).
- **Total respirable dust:**  
2 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (American Conference of Governmental Occupational Hygienists, 1986, ACGIH).

#### Biological Limit Values

None allocated

#### Engineering controls

Use in open or well ventilated areas. All work with this product should be carried out with precautions to avoid skin and eye contact and minimize exposure to dust.

#### Personal protective equipment

Wear suitable protective equipment: protective clothing, standard duty gloves (AS 2161) and safety shoes.

If exposed to product dust and/or liquid mists wear safety glasses with side shields (AS/NZS 1336) and dust mask – respirator (AS/NZS 1715 and 1716).

**Always wash your hands thoroughly after working with Potting mixes.**

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SECTION 9: PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES	
<b>Appearance (colour, physical form, shape):</b> Blend of natural organic and mineral materials, dark brown to black in colour.	
<b>Odour:</b> Earthy odour.	
<b>pH Value:</b> 5.3 – 6.5	
<b>Vapour pressure:</b> Not applicable.	
<b>Vapour density:</b> Not applicable.	
<b>Boiling point/range:</b> Not applicable.	<b>Freezing/melting point:</b> Not applicable.
<b>Solubility in water:</b> Not readily soluble.	
<b>Bulk density:</b> Varies according to composition and moisture content – approximately 1.3m <sup>3</sup> /t.	
<b>Flammability:</b> Non-flammable	

SECTION 10: STABILITY AND REACTIVITY	
<b>Chemical stability</b> Stable under normal conditions of storage and use.	
<b>Conditions to avoid</b> None known	
<b>Incompatible materials</b> None known	
<b>Hazardous decomposition products</b> None known	
<b>Hazardous reactions</b> None known	

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### SECTION 11: TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

#### HEALTH EFFECTS

##### Acute health effects

**Potting mix dust and liquid mist are recognised to be a potential health hazard.**

This material contains a variety of living organisms, including bacteria, fungi and protozoa.

People should handle these products with special care including use of all recommended protective equipment.

##### Chronic health effects:

Direct contact and repeated inhalation of dust and/or liquid mists from these products may cause skin irritation or infection, respiratory irritation, inflammation or sensitisation of the nose, throat and lungs resulting in illness ranging from hay fever, asthma, bronchitis to pneumonia or other pneumonia-like illnesses (e.g. **Legionnaire's disease**). Children, pregnant women, the elderly, people with pre-existing conditions or the immuno-compromised people may be at a particular risk from these illnesses if exposed to these products. All people working with these and other horticultural and landscaping products should safeguard themselves from tetanus.

##### Inhalation:

Inhalation of any amount of dust from this product may have an immediate or delayed effect to irritate, inflame or sensitise the nose, throat and lungs, and exacerbate pre-existing conditions such as asthma and bronchitis.

##### Skin:

Any level of skin contact with this product and/or its dust may lead to immediate or delayed skin irritation, and in susceptible people may cause skin sensitisation, dermatitis or skin infection.

##### Eye:

In the event that any dose of this material or the dust comes into contact with eyes it may have an immediate or delayed irritating effect resulting in redness and watering or an infection.

##### Swallowed:

Ingestion is unlikely through normal use. However, swallowing any amounts of this product may cause immediate or delayed abdominal discomfort and increase the risk of gastro-intestinal infections.

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### SECTION 12: ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

**Ecotoxicity**

No information available.

**Persistence/Degradability**

No information available.

**Mobility**

Only mobile in significant water and wind.

**Environment**

Do not allow product to contaminate drains, ponds, streams and other waterways.

### SECTION 13: DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

**Disposal methods**

Dispose of product by using totally or collect in containers for disposal as trade waste in accordance with local authority guidelines.

Clean up personnel should vacuum or wet sweep to avoid dust dispersal.

**Legislation**

Dispose of in accordance with relevant local legislation.

### SECTION 14: TRANSPORT INFORMATION

**UN Number**

None allocated.

**UN Proper shipping name**

None allocated.

**Class and subsidiary risk(s)**

None allocated.

**Packing group**

None allocated.

**Special precautions for user**

Trucks to use tarpaulin to cover the load (for bulk deliveries).

No other special storage or transport requirements necessary. Not classified as Dangerous Goods according to Australian Dangerous Goods Code.

**Hazchem code**

None allocated.

## PRODUCT NAME: RICHGRO POTTING MIXES

### SECTION 15: REGULATORY INFORMATION

#### Australian regulatory information

A Poison Schedule Number has not been allocated to this product using the criteria in the Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Drugs and Poisons (SUSDP).

### SECTION 16: OTHER INFORMATION

#### Key / legend to abbreviations and acronyms used in the MSDS

**NOHSC**  
**SUSDP**  
**ACGIH**

National Occupational Health and Safety Commission  
Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Drugs and Poisons  
American Conference of Government Industrial Hygienists

**t/m3**  
**mg/kg**  
**pH**

Tonnes per cubic metre  
Milligrams per kilogram  
Relates to hydrogen ion concentration - this value will relate to a scale of 0 - 14, where 0 is highly acidic and 14 is highly alkaline.

### IMPORTANT NOTES

1. To the best of our knowledge this document complies with the National Code of Practice for the Preparation of Material Safety Data Sheets 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition [NOHSC:2011 (2003)].
2. This material safety data sheet summarises our best knowledge of the health and safety hazard information of the product and how to safely handle and use the product in the workplace. Each user should read this material safety data sheet and consider the information in the context of how the product will be handled and used in the workplace, including in conjunction with other products.
3. If clarification or further information is needed to ensure that an appropriate risk assessment can be made, the user should contact the **Safety and Emergency Services Department, Richgro Garden Products on (08) 9455 1323 (Australia), +61 8 9455 1323 (Overseas)**.
4. Our responsibility for products sold, is subject to our terms and conditions, a copy of which is sent to our customers, and is also available on request.
5. **Richgro Garden Products** reserves the right to make change to material safety data sheets without notice.