

### 1.2.11 Good reasons for RPP certification

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Peat for Growing Media and Energy

*RPP certified peat, RPP Chain of Custody, RPP label, mainstream in Europe*

Foundation Responsibly Produced Peat, a multi-stakeholder organisation of peat industry, scientists NGOs, has been established in August 2013.

This 5 year anniversary is a good occasion to look back at the vision and mission of RPP, to take stock of where we are today, and draw a plan for the future.

When you think about it, it seems a crazy plan to distinguish and certify peat from responsibly managed peatlands from peat from other sources. You can't see any difference on the material itself. And how to make criteria that have to be applicable in all EU countries?

Nevertheless, several parties saw possibilities here and nowadays Foundation Responsibly Produced Peat (RPP) makes this happen by having completed the 'RPP Certification Scheme' with chapter 6, the Chain of Custody (from peat production, to processing, to retail).

RPP certification means that peat producers have delivered a great achievement with responsible peatland management. In doing so, they have taken into account many different aspects to minimize negative environmental impacts of operations. In addition they show commitment to take responsibility after production.

Why is this important again? To be sure about the long term availability of peat and a licence to operate!

Since the regulations for the chain of custody are defined and certified RPP Peat is (becoming) available on the market, the path is open to more recognition and exposure. RPP-certification of growing media is a valuable instrument to achieve this. Our goal is to achieve mainstream application of RPP certification in the European market. Therefor we need the support of all stakeholders!

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