

## SAFETY DATA SHEET

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

**Product Name:** Expert Gardener Vermiculite  
**Other Names:** Not applicable  
**Product Use:** Product is a Horticulture and Hydroponics media  
**Company Name:** Richgro Garden Products  
**Company Address:** 203 Acourt Road, Jandakot WA 6164  
**Telephone Number:** (08) 6258 7100 or Toll free 1800 455 132  
**Email:** customerservice@richgro.com.au  
**This version issued:** September 2021 and is valid for 5 years from this date.

### SECTION 2: HAZARD IDENTIFICATION

#### Statement of Hazardous Nature

This product is classified as: Not classified as hazardous according to the criteria of SWA.

Not a Dangerous Good according to Australian Dangerous Goods (ADG) Code, IATA or IMDG/IMSBC criteria.

**SUSMP Classification:** None allocated.

**ADG Classification:** None allocated. Not a Dangerous Good according to Australian Dangerous Goods (ADG) Code, IATA or IMDG/IMSBC criteria.

**UN Number:** None allocated

**GHS Signal word: NONE. Not hazardous.**

#### PREVENTION

- P102: Keep out of reach of children.
- P262: Do not get in eyes, on skin, or on clothing.
- P281: Use personal protective equipment as required.

#### RESPONSE

- P352: Wash with plenty of soap and water.
- P301+P330+P331: IF SWALLOWED: Rinse mouth. Do NOT induce vomiting.
- P370+P378: Not combustible. Use extinguishing media suited to burning materials.

#### STORAGE

- P402+P404: Store in a dry place. Store in a closed container.
- P403+P235: Store in a well-ventilated place. Keep cool.

#### DISPOSAL

- P501: Dispose of small quantities and empty containers by wrapping with paper and putting in garbage. For larger quantities, if recycling or reclaiming is not possible, use a commercial waste disposal service.

### SECTION 3: COMPOSITION / INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

Chemical identity of ingredients	Proportion of ingredients	CAS No
Vermiculite	99.9 – 100 %	1318-00-9
This product contains <0.1% crystalline silica		

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### SECTION 4: FIRST AID MEASURES

<b>Inhaled</b>	If inhaled, remove from contaminated area. Apply artificial respiration if not breathing. If symptoms develop seek medical attention
<b>Ingestion</b>	Do NOT induce vomiting. Wash out mouth with water and give plenty of water to drink. If symptoms develop seek medical attention.
<b>Skin</b>	Wash affected area thoroughly with soap and water. Remove contaminated clothing and wash before reuse or discard. If symptoms develop seek medical attention
<b>Eyes</b>	Flush gently with running water for at least 15 minutes lifting lower and upper eyelids occasionally. Seek medical attention if irritation develops

### SECTION 5: FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

<b>Product flammability</b>	Non-flammable
<b>Suitable extinguishing media</b>	Use appropriate fire extinguisher for surrounding environment
<b>Hazard from combustion products</b>	Non combustible material
<b>Hazchem Code</b>	None allocated

### SECTION 6: ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

#### Methods and Materials for containment and clean up

Dampen spilled material with water to avoid airborne dust, and then transfer material to a suitable container. Use absorbent paper dampened with water to pick up remaining material. Wash surfaces well with soap and water. Seal all wastes in vapour tight labeled plastic containers for eventual disposal. If this material enters the waterways contact the Environmental Protection Authority, or your local Waste Management Authority.

#### Emergency Procedures

Increase ventilation. Evacuate all unnecessary personnel. Wear respiratory protection as specified in the Protective Equipment section of this SDS.

### SECTION 7: HANDLING AND STORAGE

#### Precautions for safe handling

Avoid generating dust. Use smallest possible amounts in designated areas with adequate ventilation. Have emergency equipment (for fires, spills, leaks, etc.) readily available. Label containers. Keep containers closed when not in use. Wear appropriate protective equipment to prevent inhalation, skin and eye contact. Ensure a high level of personal hygiene is maintained when using this product - always wash hands before eating, drinking, smoking or using the toilet.

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

Store in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area, out of direct sunlight and moisture. Store in labelled containers. Keep containers tightly closed. Store away from water and incompatible materials. Have appropriate fire extinguishers available in and near the storage area.

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### SECTION 8: EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

#### National exposure standards

No exposure standards have been established for this material, however, the TWA National Occupational Health and Safety Commission (NOHSC) exposure standards for dust not otherwise specified is 10 mg/m<sup>3</sup>.

#### Biological Limit

No biological limit allocated

#### Engineering controls

Use with good general ventilation. If dusts are produced local exhaust ventilation should be used.

#### Personal protective equipment

##### Respirator Type

If engineering controls are not effective in controlling airborne exposure then respiratory protective equipment should be used suitable for protecting against airborne contaminants. Final choice of appropriate breathing protection is dependent upon actual airborne concentrations and the type of breathing protection required will vary according to individual circumstances. Reference should be made to Australian Standards AS/NZS 1715, Selection, Use and maintenance of Respiratory Protective Devices; and AS/NZS 1716, Respiratory Protective Devices.

##### Eye Protection

Safety glasses with side shields, goggles or full-face shield as appropriate recommended. Eye protection should conform with Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 1337 - Eye Protectors for Industrial Applications.

##### Hand Protection

Generally not required, however for industrial use, wear gloves of impervious material. Reference should be made to AS/NZS 2161.1: Occupational protective gloves - Selection, use and maintenance.

##### Body Protection

Suitable work wear should be worn to protect personal clothing. Industrial clothing should conform to the specifications detailed in AS/NZS 2919: Industrial clothing.

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### SECTION 9: PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Appearance (colour, physical form, shape):	Golden brown concertina-shaped granules, odourless
Melting point:	1300°C
Boiling point	Not available
Vapour pressure	Not available
Specific gravity	~2.5
Flash point	Not relevant
Flammability Limit LEL	Not relevant
Flammability Limit LEL	Not relevant
Bulk density	50 - 90 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
pH value	7 - 8 (10% concentration in water)

### SECTION 10: STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

Stability	Stable under normal conditions
Hazardous Polymerization	Not expected to occur

### SECTION 11: TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

#### HEALTH EFFECTS

Inhalation:	Inhalation of airborne dust may cause irritation to the mucous membrane and upper airways. Symptoms of exposure can include coughing, sneezing and breathing difficulties.
Skin:	Skin contact may cause mechanical irritation resulting in redness and itching.
Eye:	Eye contact may cause mechanical irritation. May result in mild abrasion.
Ingestion:	Ingestion of this product may irritate the gastric tract causing nausea and vomiting.
Chronic effects	Not expected to cause chronic health effects.

### SECTION 12: ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Ecotoxicity	No data is available for this material
Persistence /Degradability/	No data is available for this material
Mobility	No data is available for this material
Environ. Protection	Prevent this material entering waterways, drains and sewers

### SECTION 13: DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

**Disposal methods and containers:** Dispose of waste according to federal, EPA and state regulations.

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### SECTION 14: TRANSPORT INFORMATION

UN Number	None allocated
UN Proper shipping name	None allocated
Class and subsidiary risk	Not classified as a Dangerous Good, according to the Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road and Rail (6 <sup>th</sup> Edition).
Packing group	None allocated
DG Class	None allocated
Hazchem code	None allocated

### 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 Uniformed Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons (SUSMP).  
All chemicals listed on the Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances (AICS).

### SECTION 16: OTHER INFORMATION

**This SDS contains only safety-related information - for other data see Product Specification.**

#### Acronyms:

<b>GHS</b>	Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals
<b>ADG Code</b>	Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road and Rail, 7th Edition
<b>AICS</b>	Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances
<b>CAS Number</b>	Chemical Abstracts Service Registry Number
<b>Hazchem Code</b>	Emergency action code of numbers and letters that provide information to emergency services especially firefighters
<b>IARC</b>	International Agency for Research on Cancer
<b>NOS</b>	Not otherwise specified
<b>NTP</b>	National Toxicology Program (USA)
<b>TWA:</b>	Time Weighted Average
<b>pH</b>	Relates to hydrogen ion concentration – this value will relate to a scale of 0 – 14 where 0 is highly acidic and 14 is high alkaline
<b>t/m3</b>	Tonnes per cubic metre
<b>SUSMP</b>	Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines & Poisons
<b>SWA</b>	Safe Work Australia, formerly ASCC and NOHSC
<b>UN Number</b>	United Nations Number

THIS SDS SUMMARISES OUR BEST KNOWLEDGE OF THE HEALTH AND SAFETY HAZARD STATEMENT INFORMATION OF THE PRODUCT AND HOW TO SAFELY HANDLE AND USE THE PRODUCT IN THE WORKPLACE. EACH USER MUST REVIEW THIS SDS IN THE CONTEXT OF HOW THE PRODUCT WILL BE HANDLED AND USED IN THE WORKPLACE, INCLUDING IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER PRODUCTS.

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) 6258 7100 (AUSTRALIA), +61 8 6258 7100 (OVERSEAS)** SO WE CAN ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM OUR SUPPLIERS

OUR RESPONSIBILITY FOR PRODUCTS SOLD IS SUBJECT TO OUR STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS, A COPY OF WHICH IS SENT TO OUR CUSTOMERS AND IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON REQUEST.

RICHGRO GARDEN PRODUCTS RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MAKE CHANGES TO SAFETY DATA SHEETS WITHOUT NOTICE.

**This SDS is prepared in accordance with the Safe Work Australia document “Code of Practice for the Preparation of Safety Data Sheets for Hazardous Chemicals - December 2011”.**

**Please read all labels carefully before using product**