



THERM-O-ROCK WEST, INC.

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FOOD SAFETY DOCUMENT

VERMICULITE

Vermiculite is a naturally occurring laminar magnesium aluminum silicate mineral. It is mined around the world, separated from other minerals at the mine and graded. The graded ore is then shipped via truck, rail car, or container to Therm O Rock West in AZ.

At Therm O Rock West, the ore is heated to approx. 1400 degrees F, which causes the water within the layers to steam thus forcing the vermiculite to expand into a particle that is up to 30 times its original thickness. The lightweight expanded, sterile ore is then screened and cooled while conveyed to bagging stations where it is packaged into plastic bags of various sizes. Subsequent shipment to the customer or distributor is done via truck, railcar, or container.

Vermiculite is used in horticulture and agriculture, insulation, construction, and other industrial applications.

In horticulture and agriculture, vermiculite is used as an amendment in mixes and media to improve drainage and airspace, and to increase the water and nutrient holding abilities of the media. Vermiculite has an approximately neutral pH, is lightweight, sterile when packaged, and approved for organic use by OMRI.

Therm O Rock West vermiculite is sold without any additional components. It has no animal or biological additives and is a manure-free soil amendment.

Ronald J. Dobkin
President

