

# Spagmoss FAQs

## Frequently Asked Questions



# Spagmoss

Premium New Zealand Sphagnum Moss

### What is the Difference Between New Zealand, Chilean & Chinese Mosses?

| NEW ZEALAND | CHILE | CHINESE |
|-------------|-------|---------|
|-------------|-------|---------|

|                            |   |   |  |
|----------------------------|---|---|--|
| <b>Strands</b>             | Large, robust leaf and long stem                                      | Dense leaf but short strands  | Fragile leaf and short strands   |
| <b>Structure</b>           | Strong structure  | Reasonably strong structure   | Weak structure   |
| <b>Chemical Properties</b> | Natural pH, 4.8 with an EC of 0.1mS/cm.                               | Natural pH, 4.8 but inconsistent EC of between 0.1-0.5mS/cm.  | High pH and high EC  |
| <b>Salt Accumulation</b>   | Will hold onto nutrients for the plant but not accumulate harsh salts | Potential to accumulate salts when nutrients applied  | Can easily accumulate salts when nutrients are applied   |
| <b>AFP</b>                 | Strong structure means it won't become over compacted in the pot      | Dense leaf hugging stem means it may have lower AFP when compacted in the pot                       | Provides little air to the plant when compacted tightly in the pot   |
| <b>Contamination</b>       | Minimal amounts of contamination dependant on grade                   | Minimal amounts of contamination dependant on grade   | Can contain contaminants which break down quickly in the pot consuming nitrogen. Can effect plant growth and cause pathogenic problems |
| <b>Sterility</b>           | Sterile substrate, protecting plants from pathogens                   | Generally a sterile substrate but can harbour Sporotrichosis (fungal pathogen to humans)            | Unsterile substrate; sterilization is recommended before use due to a high level of contamination                                      |
| <b>Longevity in Pot</b>    | Robust nature allows it to last long time in the pot (4-5 years)      | Shorter, less robust strands and smaller leaf structure lessen the longevity in the pot (2-3 years) | Due to contamination and the fragility of the moss it can break down very quickly (9-12 months)  |

**FAQs continued...**



## FAQs

### What can Sphagnum Moss be used for apart from growing Orchids?

Sphagnum moss is often used by gardeners to line hanging baskets, make floral wreaths and fill topiary frames. Spagmoss can be used for growing carnivorous plants and bonsai and has also been used for reptile bedding. You can lay Spagmoss around the tops of houseplants to help retain moisture allowing more time between watering.

Does Orchidata accumulate salts and need flushing?

### What is the Easiest way to hydrate Spagmoss

To re-hydrate Spagmoss simply soak in water; use warm water for best results. The moss will increase in size slightly while absorbing. Gently squeeze out any excess water before use. It is best that you only hydrate as much moss as you need to use.

