PEAT

(Data in thousand metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Domestic Production and Use: The estimated free on board (f.o.b.) mine value of marketable peat sold by producers in the United States was $11 million in 2025. Peat was harvested and processed by 26 companies in 11 States. Three companies were idle in 2025. The top three producing States were Florida, Maine, and Michigan, which accounted for 84% of the quantity of peat sold. Reed-sedge peat accounted for approximately 94% of the total volume produced, followed by sphagnum moss with an estimated 5%. Domestic peat applications included earthworm culture medium, golf course construction, mixed fertilizers, mushroom culture, nurseries, packing for flowers and plants, seed inoculants, and vegetable cultivation. In the industrial sector, peat was used as an oil absorbent and as an efficient filtration medium for the removal of waterborne contaminants in mine waste streams, municipal storm drainage, and septic systems.

Salient Statistics—United States:	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025[e]
Production	324	343	329	[e]330	330
Sales by producers	386	497	498	[e]470	480
Imports for consumption	1,630	1,440	1,170	1,280	1,300
Exports	37	43	43	38	26
Consumption, apparent[1]	1,970	1,740	1,490	[e]1,550	1,700
Price, average unit value, f.o.b. mine, dollars per metric ton	38.52	26.58	23.02	[e]25	23
Stocks, producer, yearend	235	235	199	[e]220	160
Employment, mine and plant, number[e]	510	510	500	500	500
Net import reliance[2] as a percentage of apparent consumption	84	80	78	79	80

Recycling: None.

Import Sources (2021–24): Canada, 95%; and other, 5%.

Tariff: Item	Number	Normal Trade Relations 12–31–25
Peat	2703.00.0000	Free.

Depletion Allowance: 5% (domestic and foreign).

Government Stockpile: None.

Events, Trends, and Issues: Peat is an important component of plant-growing media, and the demand for peat generally follows that of horticultural applications. Imports in 2025 were estimated to be 1.3 million tons compared with 1.28 million tons in 2024, and exports were estimated to have decreased by 31% to an estimated 26,000 tons from 38,000 tons in 2024. In 2025, peat stocks were estimated to have decreased to 160,000 tons from 220,000 tons in 2024. The world's leading peat producers in 2025 were estimated to be, in descending order of production, Finland, Canada, Latvia, Belarus, Russia, and Sweden.

In 2025, Belarus opened a new peat briquet processing plant in the Krupki district of the Minsk region. The capacity was 32,500 tons per year but could be increased to 90,000 tons per year with additional production shifts. It was expected that the plant will export peat to China, Kazakhstan, Russia, and Turkey, as well as supply domestic needs. Contracts to supply peat to Chinese partners were signed in March 2025. The plant also was expected to begin shipping to Uzbekistan in 2026 under a distribution agreement.

Concerns about climate change prompted several countries to plan to decrease or eliminate the use of peat owing to peatland's ability to act as a carbon sink. Finland continued to work toward its goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2035. In December 2025, the Government of Finland approved two major climate policy plans—a medium-term climate plan and an energy and climate strategy—to help meet national and European Union climate targets. These include incentives for electric vehicles, carbon capture, and clean energy investments. According to Finland's Ministry of the Environment's 2025 Annual Climate Report, emissions from energy production fell sharply, coal use nearly halved, and peat use dropped by more than one-third.

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PEAT

World Mine Production and Reserves: Significant revisions were made to the 2024 production for Canada, Finland, Germany, and Russia based on company, Government, and industry reports. Reserves for countries that reported by volume only and had insufficient data for conversion to tonnage were combined and included with "Other countries."

	Mine production		Reserves[3]
	2024	2025[e]	
United States	[e]330	330	150,000
Belarus	[e]1,900	1,800	2,600,000
Canada	1,760	2,000	720,000
Estonia	1,260	1,100	570,000
Finland	2,590	2,500	6,000,000
Germany	990	830	([4])
Latvia	2,700	2,000	150,000
Lithuania	457	540	210,000
Poland	886	890	([4])
Russia	[e]2,000	1,800	1,000,000
Sweden	1,890	1,800	([4])
Ukraine	[e]450	450	([4])
Other countries[e]	790	960	1,400,000
World total (rounded)	18,000	17,000	13,000,000

World Resources:[3] Peat is a renewable resource, continuing to accumulate on 60% of global peatlands. However, the volume of global peatlands has been decreasing at a rate of 0.05% per year owing to harvesting and land development. Many countries evaluate peat resources based on volume or area because the variations in densities and thickness of peat deposits make it difficult to estimate tonnage. Volume data have been converted using the average bulk density of peat produced in each of those countries. More than 50% of the U.S. peat resources are located in undisturbed areas of Alaska.

Substitutes: Natural organic materials, such as composted yard waste and coir (coconut fiber), compete with peat in horticultural applications. Shredded paper and straw are used to hold moisture for some grass-seeding applications. The superior water-holding capacity and physiochemical properties of peat limit substitution alternatives in most applications.

[e]Estimated.

[1]Defined as production + imports – exports ± adjustments for industry stock changes.

[2]Defined as imports – exports ± adjustments for industry stock changes.

[3]See Appendix C for resource and reserve definitions and information concerning data sources.

[4]Included with "Other countries."