



Horticultural Products

C A M B R I D G E

06151035

TO: O. M. Favorito
DATE: November 8, 1978
FROM: M. DiBenedictis
CC: J. R. Becker, Jr.
E. M. Hagerman
W. R. Hanlon
D. M. Kirven

Recently, the Schundler Corporation, regional expanders of African grade vermiculite, while exhibiting at trade shows has alluded that Terra-Lite® Vermiculite contains an asbestos contaminant and the African grade is "asbestos free".

On display in the Schundler booth were various grade samples of expanded African vermiculite in shallow containers. Above each container was the caption, "vermiculite, no asbestos".

In addition, Schundler has displayed clippings from news articles; specifically an article where Peter Grace responded to questions on the vermiculite/asbestos issue saying that Grace "would divest itself of vermiculite interests" if asbestos became a major problem.

The highly visible samples, clippings and comments by Schundler has created confusion among distributors, their customers and our own sales force.

Until recently, the contaminant issue was low key. Suddenly, the posture of the African expander to focus attention to this problem is of immediate concern to us. Furthermore, their position is no longer regionalized, but is widespread as evidenced by the attached article.

The perplexity of the issue is predicated by our research through independent sources that a contaminant as defined by OSHA 1910.1001 is evident in deposits of African vermiculite. If they (African) are oblivious as to our conclusions, then some action necessitates apprising them of our findings.

Should you require any further assistance from me, please call.


M. DiBenedictis

MD:dpr

Attachment

Soiless mixture ready for market

KANSAS CITY, MO — Garden Spot Growing Mixture is a ways including improving soil in scientifically formulated soiless pots for seed germination, rooting mixture that will soon be available all types of plants, patching or for market. The soiless mixture replanting bare spots in lawns, and consists of Canadian sphagnum as a soil additive and planter mix. Peat Moss, sterilized African ver. This product contains no soil, sand, miculite, a wetting agent and a for asbestos fibers. Garden Spot Growing Mixture is a release fertilizer, plus other ingredients necessary for growth. distributed by: Garden Spot. The growing mixture is an all Varieties, Inc., 11311 Minor Drive, purpose planting mixture that Kansas City, MO.

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