

Corporate Sustainability
Report 2018



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At Evergreen Garden Care, we work as one global team, focused on providing customer and consumer excellence of products through our brands and our development initiatives. We aim to continually improve our approach to customer needs and market requirements, ensuring an excellent customers' purchasing and gardening experience, is at the core of everything we do.

During our financial year 2018, we have increased our focus on corporate responsibility and have placed it as a key component in our business strategy. I recognise across the business how well this has been embraced.

As a business, we operate in diverse worldwide markets and act with integrity as good corporate citizens in each of these.

We focus on employee safety, bringing fairness and consistency in each facility we operate in globally.

The organisation itself strives to be more environmentally responsible, with the introduction of environmental sourcing and manufacturing improvements globally, to ensure that our carbon footprint is as low as possible. By collaborating with customers and suppliers, by innovating new solutions to our packaging formats, we are working towards a control and reduction of our carbon footprint.

In this last year, the importance of this work has become even more evident. We have reached a watershed moment in public opinion on excessive use of plastic and we have continued to innovate in this area.

We are adapting as a business, but through this change there is one constant - the unique role that our employees play, challenging us to find solutions to address the issues that matter to them.

Throughout this report you will see examples of this, including how we support the wellbeing of our employees and communities, promote strong labour standards through our supply chain and innovate to reduce our use of finite natural resources. Also many colleagues will

have engaged and participated in community activities throughout the year. This is part of an overall corporate responsibility commitment for Evergreen Garden Care and how we run the business in a socially moral, environmentally aware and economically driven way.

We are facing complex issues and the solutions are not always clear cut, but we are determined to go further and ask ourselves tough questions as we seek to make a significant impact on the issues we face.

In the financial year 2019, we want to build on the good work from last year and continue to be more transparent in our approach to corporate responsibility. This report reviews where we are to date and also the key milestones for 2019.



Welcome to our first corporate and social responsibility report.

Karl Kahofer, CEO





# **Economy:** From sourcing to manufacturing, selling and growing with integrity

### Evergreen Garden Care is expanding worldwide :

In the last 12 months, the business has **integrated 3 new businesses** 

- Pokon Naturado<sup>®</sup> (based in the Netherlands)
- Roundup<sup>®</sup> (in Belgium)
- Tui<sup>®</sup> (in New Zealand)

We have audited 100% of our critical suppliers to improve their standards and support their performances from 1st production launch day to routine supply. Our supplier's questionnaire now includes questions on sustainability programmes and commitments.

For all our formulations, we continue to further improve our natural product offering and have increased again by 10% our natural portfolio offer last year.

In all we do, we aim to deliver more with less.

#### We have invested £1M in new equipment for energy efficiency.

We are measuring our  ${\bf CO_2}$  carbon foot-print across all our sites while setting **5% reduction** targets year on year.

### **Environment:** We deliver more with less.

We have reduced our Virgin Plastic by 420 tonnes in 2018, by incorporating post-industrial recycled films in our Growing Media films and by 44 tonnes by reducing the weight of some of our bottles.

We have saved 1100 tonnes of carton in 2018 by incorporating recycled paper fibres: 95% of our range is made of 100% recycled paper fibres for our flat and corrugated board folding boxes. 50% of recycled paper is also included in our outer cases.

We have increased our packaging recycling material by 30% in the last 12 months.



100% of our board is recycled.

By changing the bottle in our main
Miracle-Gro® range we have saved
40 tonnes of plastic/year.

Growing Media bags are recyclable depending on the local facilities and **we have reduced the thickness of our films** to a minimum.

The above initiatives have saved together in one year 2300 tonnes of  ${\rm Co_2}$ .

#### **Social:** We unlock potentials

In all the markets where we operate and have offices, to ensure we hear the voice of our employees, **we have run an employee survey** and we are working on the suggestions proposed by our teams.



Energy and waste reduction initiatives have been organised in our head-offices.

The initiatives are led locally and supported by employees to make everyday environmental improvements.

Also, sustainability has been **included in all employees' objectives for 2019** either, as a start, to **raise awareness** at work or to support the Evergreen Garden Care contribution to the United Nations goals.

We have issued or updated the following set of rules that we apply and expect our business partners to equally conform to:

- Our General Data Protection Regulation.
- Our Slavery & Human Trafficking statement.
- The Bribery Act.
- The Gender Pay Declaration has been set up and a gender pay gap survey has been organised in some of our markets.
- Our Corporate Criminal Offence Policy and Procedure is issued.
- Our Evergreen Garden Care Code of conduct is communicated.

To ensure we have solid foundations for our Growing Media sourcing programme, we requested an independent party audit for the "Responsible Sourcing Scheme", sponsored by the Horticultural Trade Association (HTA) and the Department for Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and have been successfully audited in Sept 2018.

Also more than 1000 LED bulbs have been installed. Nearly 220,000 kilowatt hours of electricity is reduced from our consumption in the UK. This corresponds to the annual electricity consumption of about 100 three-person households. This is a reduction of more than 60 tonnes of climate-damaging carbon dioxide.

All plastic, cardboard, paper, wood and metal is segregated and recycled.
All our UK, French and Dutch sites have a zero to landfill policy since 2003.

Training of employees on what sustainability means and how environmental protection can be achieved, is already organised in some of our sites.

We have shared and **brought more expertise** to our millions of consumers, gardeners and partners worldwide via our new website and catalogues.





#### The business

Evergreen Garden Care is the leading garden care company outside North America, producing high quality products designed to help people create their own green oasis amid the rush of modern life. We believe in the beauty of a green space - or oasis - whether it's a garden, a balcony or potted plants indoors and we want to inspire anyone, anywhere, to be able to create and maintain their own oasis.

Established in 2017, Evergreen Garden Care is a passionate 900-strong team, dedicated to ensuring that gardeners of all experience levels can easily grow and protect their lawn, plants, fruits or vegetables to make their own green oasis as beautiful as it can be. With market-leading brands like Miracle-Gro®, Roundup®, Fertiligene®, Substral®, Tui®, Pokon Naturado® or Scotts® we deliver a full range of garden care products to gardeners in our main markets which are UK, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, Austria, Poland, the Nordic countries, Australia and New Zealand. Our focus is on developing the best-known brands and launching the most exciting, consumer-relevant and sustainable innovations as we grow our new company.

#### https://www.linkedin.com/company/ evergreengardencare/

#### To view our country websites visit:

**DE** → www.evergreengardencare.de

 $\rightarrow$  www.liebedeinengarten.de

 $AT \rightarrow$  www.evergreengardencare.at

 $\rightarrow$  www.liebedeinengarten.at

AU ightarrow www.scottsaustralia.com.au

BE → www.ilovemygarden.be

FR → www.lapausejardin.fr

NL → www.pokonnaturado.nl

NZ → www.tuigarden.co.nz/

PL → www.substral.pl

 $\mathsf{UK} \to \mathsf{www.lovethegarden.com}$ 

#### Company details

• Headquarters Frimley, England

Year founded 2017

· Company type: Privately Held

• Company size: 501-1,000 employee

• Evergreen Garden Care operates in a majority of the European countries, Australia, New Zealand and South-Africa.



# Evergreen Garden Care in the news

- → www.hortweek.com/evergreen-gardencare-uk-outlines-plans-renamed-scotts-Miracle-Gro® -company/retail/ article/1487199
- → www.hortweek.com/scotts-Miracle-Gro® -changes-name-uk-evergreen-garden-care-uk/retail/article/1487025
- → www.gardenforum.co.uk/news/company/ scotts-in-uk-becomes-evergreen-gardencare/

## Evergreen Garden Care in Context

Here are the Garden Supply Market categories in which Evergreen operates in a competitive environment:

- Growing Media
- Lawn Fertilisers
- Grass Seeds
- Weed Control
- Hard Surface Cleaners
- Pest and Disease Solutions
- Plant Food
- Seeding Solutions

# The forces that shape our Garden world

Every business is impacted by macro forces, the trends and events that are shaping our world. We monitor these trends to make sure our strategy and plans are fit for the future and to assess their impact on our material issues. Our latest macro forces analysis shows four distinct, but overlapping shifts that will affect business and society over the next decade:

#### A complex world

Slow growth and volatility are creating a world where international growth and political leadership fragment. Income and political polarisation within countries is set to increase, threatening the progress of globalisation and free trade.

#### **Environment under stress**

The impact of water scarcity, biodiversity and climate change will be increasingly visible. Momentum for action will gather pace, building on the Paris Agreement.

#### Digital and technology revolution

The rapid development of new technologies – such as artificial intelligence (AI), robotics, voice technology and virtual reality – will open further opportunities for connection, automation and value creation, and pose new risks around security and privacy. Data and the Internet of Things will continue to disrupt traditional business models, using technologies such as blockchain and increasingly sophisticated smart devices.

#### Living differently

Societies are becoming more diverse with fragmented identities, changing lifestyles and new everyday behaviours. Millennials and Generation Z are having a powerful influence on cultural norms, such as diversity and gender. Older generations have a strong economic influence, and this will increase as the population ages. Migration is having a profound effect on national identity.



#### These are the principles we follow

- Integrated sustainability values, part of core business model / strategic approach
- Ambitious targets / policies / commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Communication / reporting / advocacy
- Long-term commitment
- Results / walk the talk
- Innovation / R&D
- Sustainable products / services / product lifecycle

# We have defined a clear Sustainability Strategy

We believe that sustainable and equitable growth is the only way to create long-term value for our stakeholders. That's why we have placed the Evergreen Garden Care Sustainable Strategy at the heart of our business model. Evergreen Garden Care has been a purpose-driven company from its origins. Today, our purpose is simple but clear: to make sustainable gardening commonplace.

Every day, millions of people use our products. We see first-hand, how people the world over are already affected by environmental and economic changes which pose new challenges for us. Fluctuating commodity prices, unstable markets, climate change and a shortage of sustainable raw materials, mean business as usual is no longer an option.

With change though, comes opportunity. The successful delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – which seek to tackle 17 the world most urgent challenges – will create market opportunities.

Businesses that thrive in the future will be those that serve society today. That's why we have committed to our sustainability plan which is helping us to drive more profitable growth for our brands, save costs, mitigate risk and build trust among our stakeholders.

We know that the biggest challenges facing the world cannot be addressed by one company alone. So we're also working to help transform the system in which business is done.

We have set a strategy and then a plan to measure, report and improve our product life cycle, from raw materials and packaging suppliers all the way to the gardeners.

# We have Governance and Policies

The Evergreen Garden Care Sustainability Oasis is our overarching goal which helps orientate the business. It is supported by four main pillars and underlying principles, which summarise the strategic actions to be taken.

#### The Aims are as follows:

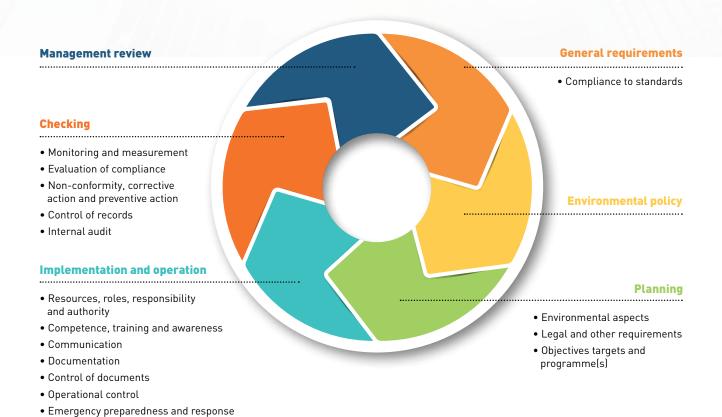
- 1) Drive down supply chain environmental impacts and risk.
- 2) Ensure our suppliers have the same sustainability values as us.
- 3) Lead our industry in the development of natural and environmentally friendly products and packaging.
- **4**) Empower all employees to be part of the sustainability agenda.



#### We have a Sustainability Corporate **Organisation**



#### These are our work principles



# We manage Risks and Change

Evergreen Garden Care manages existing and future risks, including strategic, operational, regulatory and economic risks related to all of our organisation's operations in the Corporate and Business Units Management reviews. It includes its impact on the environment, the economy and society at large.

# Contributing to Regulatory agenda and commitments in all our operating markets

With our product stewardship initiatives, we go beyond the legal requirements linked to the production, use and marketing of chemicals. Naturally, compliance with all of these various national and international regulations is a permanent obligation and an integral part of our operations. To this end, we can rely on our worldwide network of Regulatory experts.

We have an international Regulatory team that reviews our compliance with regulations and laws and fosters best practices across our company.

We practice an uncompromising policy: full compliance with any relevant law, including among others statutes, regulations, treaties and standards.

As a garden chemical company, we are required to comply with regulations and laws that apply to the entire life cycle of our products.

These include laws enacted to protect human health of employees and the public laws which regulate chemicals such as: classification, packaging and labelling, provision of health and safety information to users and employees in the form of a safety data sheet (SDS) or an equivalent document, registration of chemicals for sale in the relevant countries.

During product development, health, safety, environmental and regulatory issues are incorporated as an integral part of the product development process. We invest heavily in designing and developing products and processes that make minimal or no use of hazardous substances, while generating a minimum of hazardous by-products.

The European Chemicals Regulation REACH, which was introduced in the European Union for the registration, evaluation and approval of substances in the year 2007, can be considered the most comprehensive law on chemicals in the world. Our companies are in full compliance with the regulation and have completed registration of all the ingredients entering our formulations.

We carefully monitor, evaluate and communicate regulatory developments so that they are reflected in our strategies. To promote an effective regulatory system with respect to environmental sustainability, we:

- engage with regulators and other relevant stakeholders to foster environmentally efficient and effective laws and regulations;
- support internationally recognised standards and voluntary initiatives designed to protect the environment;
- oppose discriminatory measures;
- favour the harmonisation of environmental laws, regulations and standards in order to develop trade and help consumers' understanding.

Regulatory requirements have become increasingly strict throughout the world. We use the best and most economically viable technologies to comply with these requirements.

# Corporate Communication

Communication on the topic of environmental sustainability is an increasingly important part of our corporate communication strategy involving media relations and engagement with non-governmental organisations, special interest groups, governments and public authorities. Our local Evergreen Garden Care websites feature our activities on environmental sustainability. A strategic priority for us is to engage stakeholders and develop key partnerships. We also seek to nurture constructive relations with organisations critical of our industry's environmental performance.

# Expertise and work groups

Sustainability at Evergreen Garden Care is a long lasting way of working and employees have developed expertise and interest in specific topics. Evergreen Garden Care is ensuring the experts are given the full support of the business to research, lead and implement the actions that we have identified as critical for our consumers, for the environment and for us.



#### **Our Standards of Reference**

#### The United Nations 17 Global Goals.

2015 saw the launch of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These are 17 global goals with a vision to end poverty, hunger, inequality and protect the Earth's natural resources by 2030.

Evergreen Garden Care is serious about sustainability and we have made a public commitment to support the Global Goals.





LIFE BELOW MATER























#### Evergreen Garden Care's "Ambition 2030" goals include:

- Brands: Evergreen Garden Care's leadership brands including Roundup®, Miracle-Gro®, Pokon Naturado®, Substral®, Fertiligene®, KB®, Osmocote®, Lawn Builder® and Tui® will enable and inspire responsible consumption through packaging that is 100% recyclable or reusable, launching more sustainable innovations and building trust through transparency and sharing our safety science.
- Supply Chain: Evergreen Garden Care manufacturing sites will continually control and aim to reduce their carbon footprint.
- Society: Evergreen Garden Care will continue to create transformative partnerships that enable people, the planet and our business to thrive, including those partnerships that stem the flow of plastic into the world's ocean, protect and enhance forests and expand recycling solutions for gardening products.
- Employees: Evergreen Garden Care will engage, equip and reward employees for building Sustainability thinking and practices into their everyday work. We will reward progress and integrate recognition into performance assessments.

#### **Industry Roadmaps**

The chemicals industry has been looked-on as a major contributor towards achieving the UN's 2030 sustainable development goals since they were launched in 2015.

Chemical companies and trade associations have released individual strategies, such as the European chemical industry association, Cefic's charter (http://www.cefic.org/Responsible-Care) or the American Chemistry Council's (ACC https://www.americanchemistry.com/) sustainability principles.

Responsible Care is a voluntary initiative of the chemical industry. The objective is a continuous improvement in the areas of environmental protection, health and safety. Companies in the chemical industry and associations in more than 50 countries support this initiative.

As due diligence, Evergreen Garden Care follows the Responsible Care Global Charter guiding principles and to ensure we are aligned with the industry commitments, in every country where we operate.

# Awards, Certifications and Compliance

For some of our manufacturing sites, we ensure our standards are best in class and ISO certifications contributes to delivering excellent standards in everything we do. Our sites have already achieved, year on year, the following certifications:



# Evergreen Garden Care has a tradition of sustainability starting with The Scotts Miracle-Gro® Company.

Evergreen Garden Care is the former international business of the Scotts Miracle-Gro® Company, a US corporation with an enviable sustainability record.

**1868** Birth of Scotts, selling by mail

1946 the First Research division is created

1960 | Programme selling is started

1962 | Scotts Training Institute launched

1972 Consumer Helpline launched

1974 Dwight Scott Research Centre launched

1984 ) 4 Step Lawn Care Annual Programme launched, helping consumers to know what to do and when to do it.

1996 Advertising introduced: an awardwinning Miracle-Gro® ad campaign

**2005** World Class Organisation programme – Sustainability tracking and reporting

2015 | FORBES Top 100 most reputable companies

2017 | Evergreen Garden Care is born

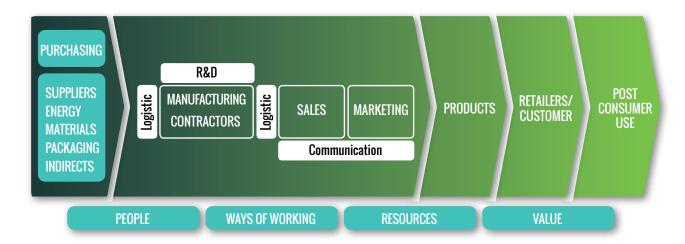
2018 Pokon Naturado®, Roundup® and Tui® join the business.

Placing sustainability at the heart of our business model strengthens our relationships. It helps us maintain our value and relevance to consumers, while inspiring Evergreen's current and future employees.



# The scope of sustainability at Evergreen

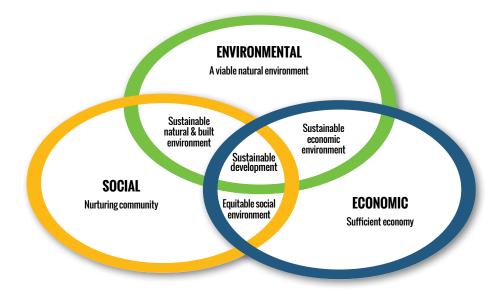
We apply a Product Life Cycle approach involving our partners from raw material suppliers to consumer use and post-consumer recycling.



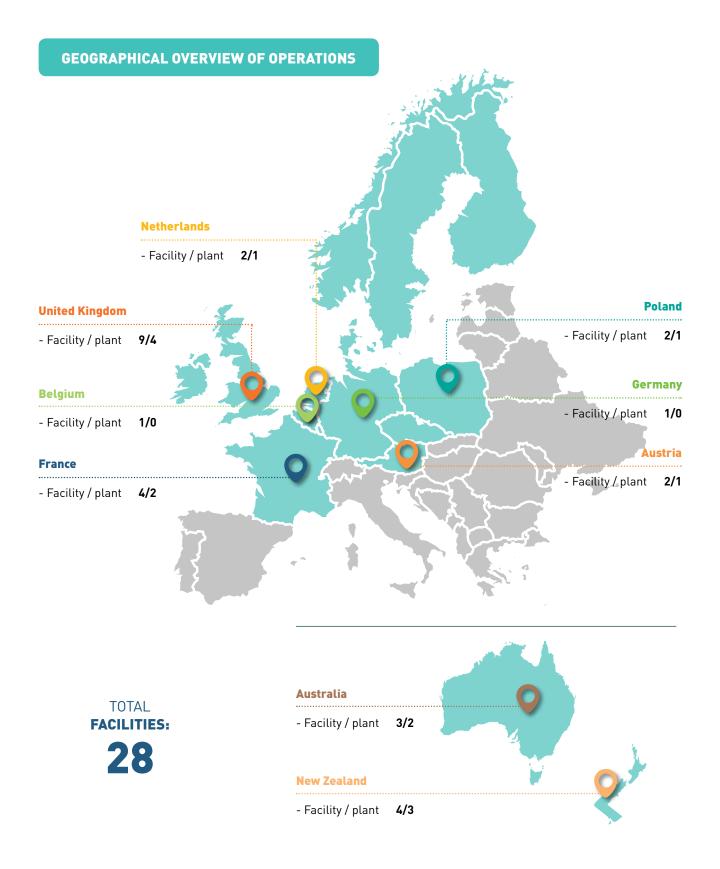
Specific to our business we focus on land preservation, natural resources efficiency, packaging reduction and recyclability, biodiversity conservation, air emissions reduction, climate change adaptation and zero waste.

Environmental, Social and Economic aspects are all addressed by action plans and agreed targets.

#### The Sustainability principles we follow:



#### We work internationally





Economic, Environmental and Social sustainable practices are engrained in everything we do. Our aim is to set best practices for us and for our industry, from suppliers to post consumer use product cycle.

#### Procurement Practices: Sourcing of Materials & Packaging

Evergreen Garden Care purchases goods and services worth nearly 200 MEuros from over 3000 suppliers in more than 200 MEuros. We regard it as one of our responsibilities to collaborate with suppliers that are as sustainability-minded as we are.

Thus, price and quality are not the only selection criteria for our suppliers; we also ensure that their ethical, social and ecological standards meet Evergreen Garden Care's Supplier Code of Conduct.

We aim to evaluate suppliers according to these standards as part of our targeted regular audits. If shortcomings emerge, our policy is not to immediately terminate collaboration but rather to offer assistance in achieving sustainable business practices, for example by means of training or technical and quality support.

Since July 2018 our supplier's questionnaire includes simple self-assessment questions on their sustainability programme and results. This feedback gives us an insight into their commitment and progress around this important topic. In the future this will become a tool to select suppliers. This is also a way for Evergreen Garden Care to build the knowledge sharing and partnership that enables us to be the leaders and experts in our industry.

The questionnaire also help us to take control of where our raw materials come from.

Raw materials are, where possible, responsibly sourced, utilised at point of manufacture, and recycled / reused, minimising waste generation. Packaging development includes recycled materials, balancing packaging needs with product requirements, regulatory approvals and consumer safety.

#### EXAMPLE OF OUR GROWING MEDIA PRODUCT RANGE

- Evergreen Garden Care started, more than 30 years ago, to investigate alternatives to peat for growing media. While our growing media contained 100% peat 10 years ago, it is now close to 50% peat, 50% alternative.
- To ensure we have a solid foundation for our Growing Media sourcing programme, we are participating in the third party audited "Responsible sourcing scheme", sponsored by HTA and Defra.
- Following the audit successfully carried out in December 2018, we will be participating in the launch of the "Responsible Sourcing Scheme" in 2019.
- Our current certification includes the Forest Stewardship Council for our wood fibre products.
- Evergreen Garden Care has taken the decision in 2003 to stop its peat extraction in England. At the same time, we have started to increase the proportion of green compost in our mixes so that an average 15% of our growing media is now green compost.



#### Our Peat policy describes our position



#### **Peat Policy**

Evergreen Garden Care is a manufacturer and supplier of horticultural products, including fertilisers, controls and growing media. The Company is committed to the protection of the environment and peatland habitats.

Evergreen Garden Care has undertaken not to work or seek to work, any areas classified in the top three categories in the governments National Peatland Resource Inventory. The Company's peatlands have operating permits and modern planning consents containing stringent environmental protection conditions. In addition The Company is committed to the aims and objectives of the Growing Media Association's Environmental Code of Practice. This includes co-operating with cross industry stakeholders (suppliers, growers, retailers, NGO's and DEFRA), to enable the industry to work towards the government peat reduction targets. Where required to supplement UK peat supplies, imported materials from Ireland and the Baltic's are specified by Evergreen Garden Care to be from documented, traceable peat bogs, which are not within designated conservation areas. This is achieved in part through the RHP Consumer Standard for raw materials. In doing so the Company imports materials from peat bogs with legally valid operating permits and defined after use programmes. This ensures that sites are managed to cause the least possible harm to the environment.

In recognition of the concern to conserve the peatland habitat for the future, initiatives by the Company resulted in the handover of 1,280 hectares of peatland to English Nature in 1994, which are now National Nature Reserves. A further handover of 1,526 hectares of peat moorland in Cumbria and South Yorkshire in 2002, has seen the creation of additional National Nature Reserves which are now designated as Special Areas of Conservation. In 2013 the Company partnered with Lancashire Wildlife Trust in the restoration of a 107 hectare peatland site.

Evergreen Garden Care is committed to peatland restoration. The company's freehold or former freehold properties have peatland restoration and nature conservation after use programmes, established in close collaboration with Natural England and Scottish Natural Heritage.

The company recognises that progressive dilution with other materials is the most realistic way of reducing peat use. Evergreen is already a leading supplier of reduced peat content and non-peat products. The Company is also committed to research and development for viable and sustainable, organic growing media products.

This policy will be subject to periodic review.

Mark Portman – General Manager UK & Ireland

May 2018



#### OUR RESPONSIBLY PRODUCED PEAT POSITION STATEMENT

#### From a UK perspective:

The Responsibly Produced Peat (RPP) criteria are based on the IPS (International Peat Society) guidelines for responsible peat-land management which is a global document, but does not have a certification scheme attached to it.

For our local peat production we follow these guidelines and, as the RPP requires, have an after-use plan and other measures in place as required in the UK by planning consents for peat harvesting.

In the UK, there has been a conscious decision to develop a scheme that can be used to determine how 'responsibly produced' any growing medium is. The same general guidelines are used in the Responsible Sourcing Scheme for Growing Media (RSSGM) when assessing any substrate. This has been jointly produced by Defra and the Growing Media Association (GMA) with input from Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and technical experts.

#### Sustainability by Research and Development design

#### EVERGREEN MAKES GREEN R&D A COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE

Without our R&D department, Evergreen could not have become the garden industry leader in naturals, controls, fertilisers and growing media.

Innovation has been at the heart of our company since its beginning.

We have the world's largest private garden research organisation, involving about 30 people located in around 5 R&D facilities worldwide.

#### **MORANCÉ**, France





LEVINGTON, UK





**LABORATORY** 





We also have a dynamic global network, working on scientific research and product development.

In 2018, we invested 10M Euros in R&D.

Science-based innovation has a significant role to play in the sustainability of the gardening industry. It can have economic benefits, aid environmental performance and help with social goals.

#### Examples include:

- improved technical efficiency with reductions in water.
- product waste and resource use,
- · improved working environments for employees,
- the development of new garden care products that meet gardeners' needs for a safe and high quality product offer, that contribute to a healthy and ecological gardening.

Behind every one of Evergreen Garden Care's products there is a team of scientists, engineers, gardeners, designers, regulatory specialists and consumer care representatives, dedicated to earn our consumers' trust with safe products of the highest quality: at Evergreen Garden Care, Safety and Quality are non-negotiable.

Whether it is in terms of efficiency, convenience or pleasure, we are able and committed to create trustworthy garden products, systems and services that contribute to improving the quality of gardeners' everyday enjoyment.

#### EXCELLENCE FROM LABORATORY TO THE FIELD AND THEN TO THE SHELF

#### Evergreen Garden Care R&D has two primary objectives:

- to create new products and processes and
- to improve those that already exist.

In order to have more environmentally sustainability products, we develop with Sustainability by Design in mind. We systematically assess and optimise the environmental performance across the entire value chain, at the earliest stage, in the development of new and renovated products.

R&D champions the continuous improvement of this programme across the different businesses and categories.

Our new products and recycling development and research projects are tailored to suit the communities and markets where we work, helping Local Authorities and industry across the world to provide sustainable services and effective communication with consumers.

All our innovations are based on key insights into what consumers want and need. We aim to develop products that have purpose, so that consumers choose them again and again.

We work on a wide portfolio of projects, combining the search for breakthrough technologies with the constant drive to respond to competitors, move into new markets, and make our products more sustainable.

The products we develop through innovation, whether by ourselves or through our extensive partnerships with leading scientists, academic institutions, suppliers and specialist businesses, play an essential role in our ambition to make a positive impact on the world around us. Many of the challenges of reducing environmental impact, improving well-being, will be met through science and technology – and we want to be at the forefront of this work.

Our innovation process goes through a solid Stage and Gate process from consumer insight to development, product launch and consumer service. A sustainability assessment is included in the typical development process.



#### R&D - INNOVATION AND PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP

Our processes and procedure follow the principles of product stewardship, as set by Responsible Care®, the global chemical industry's environmental, health and safety (EHS) initiative.

#### These principles include

- identifying environmental impacts and health concerns when developing products,
- testing and evaluation when purchasing raw materials.
- · an effective and safe production system,
- appropriate marking of product packaging while complying with legal requirements and adaptation to customer requirements,
- sales and marketing including training and qualification programmes,
- product's information manuals and technical support.

We support our customers in order to maximize the benefit from our products and to minimize adverse environmental impacts during use.



Product Stéwardship.
All stages of product life management, from development through to the end of the product life cycle.

We take our worldwide product stewardship responsibilities very seriously. We continuously work to ensure that our products pose no risk to people and the environment when used responsibly and in the intended manner.

#### **RESEARCH IN FORMULATION**

#### Main lines of work for positive impact on Life Cycle are

- Natural formulations versus synthetic formulations.
- Development of slow release fertilisers.
- Regulatory development for the safe use of controls.
- Consumer advice, information and instruction on safe use of products, storage and disposal.
- Regulatory controls on environmental emissions and storage, handling and safe use of materials through supply chain, including finished product storage & distribution.

#### We carry our Research at our world-class facilities

- Our main Research platforms are located in Levington (UK) and Morancé (France) and the teams there work on the science and technologies that can be applied to our product development process.
- We have a strong record for achieving breakthrough innovations – disruptive formulations and concepts that meet consumer needs better than any available alternatives, and which can make a big impact on improving gardening enjoyment.

Health, safety, environmental and regulatory issues are incorporated as an integral part of the product development process. We invest heavily in designing and developing products and processes that make minimal or no use of hazardous substances and generate a minimum of hazardous by-products.

#### **RESEARCH IN PACKAGING**

The packaging of our products is crucial to ensure safety, efficiency and correct dosing, as well as prevent waste, guarantee our high quality standards and inform our consumers. We strive to:

- optimise the weight and volume of our packaging;
- lead the development and use of materials from sustainably-managed renewable resources considering packaging and product performance requirements;
- support initiatives to recycle or recover energy from used packaging;
- use recycled materials where there is an environmental benefit and it is appropriate.

#### We apply our definition of sustainable packaging. Each packaging:

- Is beneficial, safe and healthy for individuals and communities throughout its life cycle.
- Meets market criteria for performance and cost.
- Is sourced, manufactured, transported and recycled using renewable energy.
- Optimizes the use of renewable or recycled source materials.
- Is manufactured using clean production technologies and best practices.
- Is made from materials healthy in all probable end-of-life scenarios.
- Is physically designed to optimize materials and energy.
- Is effectively recovered and utilized in biological and/or industrial closed loop cycles.

By 2025 our packaging will come from partial or 100% recycled source and will be widely recyclable or re-usable. Many improvements can already be seen in our product range.

From plastic to packaging, we're committed to finding new ways to reduce waste wherever we find it. We work on latest technologies and state of the art options with our packaging suppliers and a range of industry leaders.

We strive to reduce the environmental impact of our packaging while ensuring our packaging protects our users and our products effectively.

In considering the impact of packaging on the environment we look at several indicators including carbon footprint, water usage, non-renewable energy use and solid waste generation

#### Our packaging is sustainable by design

All our packaging are developed based on strong and defined eco-conception principles, meaning we only use the quantity of material we need and no more than is legally and technically required.

The skills of our Technical and Consumer Insight teams is to find the right balance between protecting our products during all the logistic chain and its shelf life (main role of the packaging) and not over-designing our packaging.

The specificity of our products is their long shelf life. Consumers can store Evergreen Garden Care products for long periods, where the temperature and humidity can fluctuate markedly. Thus the packaging needs to be designed to withstand all of this.



#### We have reduced the quantity of plastic we use by taking a range of decisions and actions:

- We have engineered a plastic weight reduction in some of our bottles and products offers.
- We have incorporated some recycled plastic into our packaging materials.
- We encourage consumers to recycle their plastic and re-incorporate this plastic as recycled material.
- We try to replace plastic by other materials whenever it is possible.
- Evergreen has been systematically reducing the weight of packaging since 2001, with a reduction of over 1000 tonnes to date.

As a responsible manufacturer that market products round the world, we take into account the requirements of local legislation, in each one of our markets.

- For all registered products (plant protection and biocidal products), the material and packaging is part of the registration.
- For all non-registered products, we have implemented safe and sustainable alternatives.

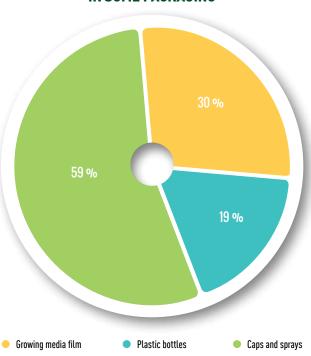
#### When possible, those alternatives are:

- Glass: though glass has a good image in the consumers mind, breakage risk and heavy transport weight does not put glass as the best alternative option.
- Paper / carton: recyclability is well managed for those, but all products cannot be packed into paper because of their properties (paper) absorbs humidity so it is not suitable for outside storage in shops nor for consumer storage for 2/3 years in their garden shed or garage.

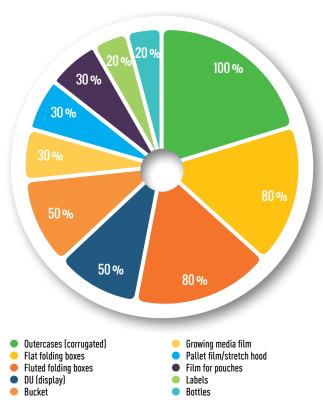
In our printing processes, we have rationalised our artwork colour management.

We ensure that all our new products and launches have integrated the optimum packaging appropriate to the local legislation and the needs of our customers and consumers. We offer a recyclable material every time it is technically possible and approved by the regulation bodies.

#### VIRGIN MATERIAL REDUCTION IN SOME PACKAGING



#### WHICH % OF OUR PORTFOLIO RANGE IS RECYCLABE?



IN R&D AND AS A BUSINESS, WE PARTNER WITH EXPERTS IN ALL RELEVANT FIELDS



#### Manufacturing



We are contributing actively to delivering the UN 17 sustainable global goals and below are listed some of the actions we have committed-to, delivered or are in the process of delivering:

#### **OUR STANDARDS**

Manufacturing comprises all processes that are necessary to transform raw materials and packaging into safe and value-added garden products for consumers.

For our factories, either building on the ISO 9001, 14001, 18001 and 45001 certification or our own Evergreen Garden Care internal schemes, we aim to do more with less by eliminating all types of waste, with a key focus on what is valuable for both the environment and our consumers: for example, some of our sites have a ISO 14001 Environmental Management Certification since 2011 and we have a plan for extension in coming years.

We thus improve our overall efficiency, quality and environmental performance. We aim to use the most efficient technologies and apply best practices in order to further optimise energy and water consumption, minimise waste generation, utilise sustainably managed renewable energy sources, recover value from by-products and control and eliminate emissions, including greenhouse gases. We incorporate environmental sustainability objectives when we build, construct and renovate facilities.

#### **OUR GENERAL TARGETS**

Supply chain aims for a 5% reduction of  ${\rm CO}_2$  contribution year on year, driven by some major globally driven projects and smaller local initiatives: In general, our production sites have a long tradition of environmental projects for the sustainability of the processes and products offered to our end users.

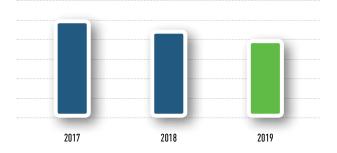
### ENERGY: CONTROLLING OUR ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION FROM LIGHTING TO EQUIPMENT

#### We have invested £1M in new equipment for energy efficiency.

1000 LED bulbs were installed. Nearly 220,000 kilowatt hours of electricity is reduced from our consumption in UK. This corresponds to the annual electricity consumption of about 100 three-person households. This is a reduction of more than 60 tonnes of climate-damaging carbon dioxide.

We are measuring and reporting our energy consumption and delivered a reduction for our major sites in the last year.

#### KWh Consumption per tonne produced



#### **EXAMPLES OF ENERGY REDUCTION**

- LED lights have now been installed in most if our sites and warehouses with steps being taken for installation in remaining sites reducing our CO<sub>2</sub> production.
- We phase equipment improvements, replacing when possible with energy-efficient models
- We concentrate and evaporate some of our liquid waste;
- We use heat exchangers to capture the heat from our boilers:
- When possible, conversion of our waste in biogas (methanisation) is carried out;
- We carefully manage our solvent usage;
- We control, monitor and reduce leaks.



#### ENERGY REDUCTION DRIVEN BY BETTER CONTROL

#### We enhance sites' revenues through more accurate metering and billing and we use technology to help:

- Reduce our energy consumption and decrease carbon footprint
- Reduce our time for repair
- Improve our decision making about asset replacement
- Improve our network efficiency

We have comprehensive energy assessments across our main locations.

Our Supply Chain Capital improvement projects build-in energy efficiency opportunities.

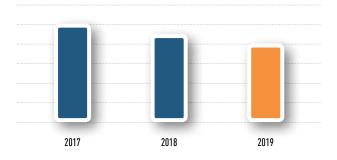
#### CO, TRACKING

An important prerequisite for developing effective carbon efficiency measures is transparency with regard to the type and amount of greenhouse gas emissions.

We calculate our greenhouse gas emissions based on widely-accepted international standards including the Greenhouse Gas Protocol (GHG Protocol) standards, the Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard, as well as the Corporate Value Chain Accounting and Reporting Standard.

We comply and anticipate Regulatory controls on environmental emissions and storage, handling and safe use of materials through supply chain, including finished product storage & distribution.

#### **Absolute Emission per Tonne**



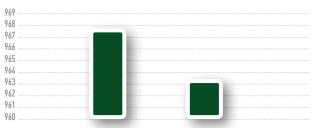
#### **WASTE REDUCTION AT EVERY STEP**

- Our major sites achieved a zero to landfill policy for the last 5 years.
- Our raw materials are responsibly sourced, utilised at point of manufacture, and every time it is possible, recycled, reused, minimising waste generation.
- Our packaging development includes recycled materials, balancing packaging needs with product and consumer safety.
- All our plastic, cardboard, paper, wood and metal are segregated and recycled.
- We propose peat free & peat reduced Growing Media alternatives, with sustainable materials, green compost, barks and organic alternatives.
- We support Peatland restoration projects with Natural England and Lancashire Wildlife Trust, Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designations.

#### General reduction of Waste



#### Reduction of waste not recyled



Not recycled - Burnt 2017 Not recycled - Burnt 2018

#### **WATER MANAGEMENT**

#### We use technology to help:

- Increase the security of water supply.
- Enhance revenues through more accurate metering and billing.
- Improving water network operations and usage.

We deal with the daily challenges of all aspects of wastewater treatment while protecting the local environment. By using practical technologies and many years of hands-on experience, we ensure efficient, compliant and cost-effective quality operations.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT

Environmental regulations demand we regularly inspect and clean our subsurface infrastructure, but this in itself presents significant environmental risks. With increasingly stringent environmental permit requirements, monitoring

and maintaining our underground drains, pipes and sewers is becoming even more important and we are ensuring that our systems are protecting the environment.

In a proactive way, we record and monitor the integrity of our drainage and pipeline systems. We tackle blockages before they cause a problem and we ensure we are complying fully with environmental, safety and quality standards.

#### **GOOD AND SAFE USE OF OUR PRODUCTS**

We develop slow release fertilisers while working on Regulatory development for the safe use of controls. Our plant protection and biocidal products go through registration process and we have to show that the proposed uses are safe for humans and the environment. We carry out a range of safety test to meet the necessary requirements in the relevant juridictions.

We provide Consumer advice, information and instruction on safe use of products, storage and disposal.



#### THE MANUFACTURING ENVIRONMENT

Our European sites carry a very active policy of limitation of nuisance to the social / community structure around the factory: noise, safety alarms, transport and logistic impact on the surroundings of the site are controlled and monitored for continuous improvement as part of the site HSE governance.

In our main sites, employees have access to the Company Occupational Health Doctor and Nurse, annual medical screening, drop in and open door policy.

We are OHSAS 18001 Occupational Health & Safety certified in the UK Supply Chain (manufacturing).

We commit to many other projects where we review progress on an on-going basis. Improvements are tracked, recorded and knowledge is shared for continuous improvement between operating sites.

# Intellectual property rights

We have patents for our equipment and know-how.

#### **Certifications**

Evergreen Garden Care UK Ltd is FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) registered. This enables our sites to handle FSC materials and produce FSC labelled products.

Depending on our sites we are also ISO 9001, ISO 14001, and ISO 18001 Certified.

# Logistic and Distribution

Delivering the products in highest quality and on time from the factory to customer is a vital part of our business. To continuously enhance efficiency and environmental performance in distribution, we:

- optimise distribution networks and route planning across all our operations;
- explore opportunities to improve transportation, e.g. use sea and rail instead of road;
- explore opportunities for optimal warehouse storage (location, size)

We work with our logistic partners to monitor and reduce our carbon footprint on all our network.

Our transporters data is collected and processed in accordance with the requirements of EU standards, either the European Emissions Trading System (EU-ETS) or EN 16258 and ISO 14064 standards.

# Reaching our consumers: Product labelling

In accordance with our sustainability programme, we are committed to providing science-based, meaningful and verifiable environmental information about our products and activities.





Evergreen Garden Care employs around 900 people around the world. We are aiming to help people develop new skills, new ways of working and new entrepreneurial leadership qualities within a culture that values diversity in all its forms. In turn this helps us attract and retain the best talent which is vital to accelerate long-term sustainability actions.

#### **Employee practices**

Evergreen Garden Care has a self-assessment practice to ensure we comply with the below mandatory principles:

| Labour Practices                         | Decent Work                                      | Human Rights Society                           | Product Responsibility |
|--|--|--|------------------------|
| Employment                               | Investment<br>Non-discrimination                 | Local Communities                              | Customer Health and    |
| Labour/Management                        | Non-aiscillillianon                              | Anti-corruption                                | Safety                 |
| Relations                                | Freedom of Association and Collective Bargaining | Public Policy                                  | Product and Service    |
| Occupational Health and Safety           | Child Labour                                     | Anti-competitive<br>Behaviour                  | Labelling              |
| Testistics and Education                 |  | Canaliana                                      | Marketing              |
| Training and Education                   | Forced or Compulsory<br>Labour                   | Compliance                                     | Communications         |
| Diversity and Equal                      | Luboui   | Supplier Assessment for                        | COMMUNICATIONS         |
| Opportunity                              | Security Practices                               | Impacts on Society                             | Customer Privacy       |
| Equal Remuneration for Women and Men     | Indigenous Rights<br>Assessment                  | Grievance Mechanisms<br>for Impacts on Society | Compliance             |
| Supplier Assessment for Labour Practices | Supplier Human Rights<br>Assessment              |  |                        |
| Labour Practices                         | Human Rights                                     |  |                        |
| Grievance Mechanisms                     | Grievance Mechanisms                             |  |                        |

Evergreen Garden Care offers employee benefits, including health care, employee assist, pension and flexible holidays and flexible working opportunities.

# Green Training and awareness

We educate all employees to understand what sustainability means at home and at work, in simple way and simple terms:

- All employees from shop floor to offices have been given the opportunity to contribute or be informed of the commitment the business is making and how we go about it;
- We aim to create conducive workplace conditions that help all employees take personal responsibility for protecting the environment, by promoting application of this policy to day-to-day activities at the workplace, as well as at home:
- We ensure environmental sustainability is covered as part of relevant training, workshops and meetings to raise commitment of our employees, suppliers, business partners and the community at large;
- We promote corporate and personal responsible behaviour towards the environment

through publishing success stories and recognising positive initiatives to embed these practices within Evergreen Garden Care and the local community.

# Green recruitment and selection

Candidate's green awareness is important for Evergreen Garden Care: Employees who have environmental values, have been found to actively enhance their environmental knowledge in the operational process, which in turn enhances the environmental performance of our business.

Evergreen Garden Care attracts and selects candidates with green awareness, to ensure that all employees are positive about environmental issues.



#### **Equity**

Recent movements calling for resolution on pay equity, sexual harassment in the workplace, workforce inclusion and diversity are just a few examples of how sustainability concerns have increased in importance. In the wake of these shifts, Evergreen Garden Care sustainability teams ensure we are performing above standards when it comes to providing good jobs and meaningful diversity and inclusion programs. Addressing these challenges, which are deeply rooted in workplace culture, requires close partnership with our human resources (HR) team.

#### **Health and Safety**

Group Facilities and Health, Safety & Environment (HSE) is a fundamental priority within Evergreen Garden Care, ensuring that our facilities and employee wellbeing standards are world class. This is illustrated in the initial design of our manufacturing sites, warehouses and working areas, which includes providing agile and productive work spaces that promote safety, continual team engagement and collaboration.

These high HSE standards are emulated throughout all Evergreen Garden Care facilities to enable efficient global compliance in every territory. We strive to have the Evergreen Garden Care brand linked to high standards of HSE and we have a consistent visual identity around the world at all our facilities.



#### Our Evergreen Environment, Health and Safety strategy policy

#### **Environment, Health and Safety Vision & Strategy**



#### **Our Policy**

Evergreen Garden Care is committed to operating the business without causing harm or ill health to any of our employee's, partners, members of the public or the environment.

This commitment extends to working with other parties and stakeholders for the overall protection of people and the environment and to achieving continuous improvement throughout the company and the domestic gardening industry.

We will become leaders in safety, health and environment through initiatives and programs created on the core foundations of *ownership*, *accountability*, *commitment* and *communication*. We will connect with all employees and in doing so achieve our aim of delivering a strong safety culture throughout the business.

#### **Our Vision**

Evergreen Garden Care will provide a safe place of work where accidents are unlikely to happen and the wellbeing of employees is safeguarded.

We will operate the business responsibly, with no environmental incidents and target a continuous improvement in our carbon footprint.

All employees across the organisation will be engaged in the safety, health and environmental philosophy and take pride in the business being held up as a benchmark of excellence.

#### **Our Strategy**

See accidents before they happen: We actively look for hazards and risks as an integral part of what we do, so we can prevent people from being harmed or the environment damaged.

**People understand the hazards & risks in the workplace**: All employees are provided with the information and training they need to make the right decisions at the right time for their safety and the safety of others.

**Make people accountable:** Management teams and employees across the business have EHS objectives, are responsible and are held accountable for driving positive changes in safety, health and environmental performance.

**Driving continual improvement:** The safety, health and environmental performance of the company shall be reviewed by the board to ensure our management processes are efficient and robust.

When things go wrong we fix them: When we see things that aren't right in the workplace, we will take corrective actions make them safe and hold people accountable.

Signed:

Date:

Karl Kahofer, CEO

Version 1 March 2018



Industrial production and the chemical industry, in particular, require taking special precautionary measures to maintain a safe and healthy work environment. Some of Evergreen Garden Care products, raw materials and production processes represent a high risk to anyone who deviates from the required, professional safety standards or from the mandatory means of safety.

We have a goal of zero work accidents for our operations throughout the world. To ensure the safety of workers and others in its plants, Evergreen Garden Care complies with strict occupational safety and health standards prescribed by local and international laws and standards.

Evergreen Garden Care invests resources for training and mentoring, as well as other safety measures, in order to continually improve occupational safety and health and prevent accidents. We aim for a reduction of incidents year on year and some sites report zero Lost Times accidents.

To ensure a continuous focus on safety, each of our business segments implements a safety

and health enforcement plan and regularly holds internal and external audits to ensure compliance with the law and internal regulations.

#### Evergreen Garden Care policy in the field of hygiene, occupational health and safety, include:

- Creating a high level of safety and health awareness among our employees, service providers and visitors to our plants, as well as the Company's suppliers, transporters, and customers.
- Implementing advanced procedures for safety, maintaining accreditation, implementing processes for training and preventing accidents, including ISO 14001 and OHSAS 18001.
- Monitoring environmental health in work areas at all of our factories worldwide.
- Assessing high health risks and preventing exposure of employees to dangerous products and processes at our plants.
- Providing periodic medical examinations for employees, as well as occupational medicine and preventative medical services at our plants, in cooperation with hospitals and experts in the field.



#### **Child Labour**

Evergreen Garden Care strictly rejects child labour. We ensure that the sourcing of our raw material does not involve child labour.

#### **Culture & Ethos**

At Evergreen Garden Care, we believe in developing and supporting initiatives aimed at increasing the sustainability of our planet. It is an integral part of who we are. We 'live' by virtue of nature and the world around us and want to continue to do so. For this reason, we are launching initiatives designed to ease the burden on our environment and reduce  ${\rm CO_2}$  emissions. We also consider a pleasant and safe working environment in which people can develop their talents to be paramount.

# Employees' engagement on sustainability

Underpinning Evergreen Garden Care's successes are our people. By investing in their wellbeing and development, we strive to differentiate ourselves as an employer of choice. To help the engagement of our employees we:

#### Lead by example

It's vital that our CEO and senior management demonstrate their commitment to change and are actively involved in engaging employees with sustainability.

#### Inform

We don't implement a load of new changes without letting people know first. We share information about the benefits (e.g. reduced costs, healthier, happier lives or protecting wildlife) in engaging ways and invite questions.

#### Engage

We help our employees feel ownership of new initiatives – ask for ideas and feedback.

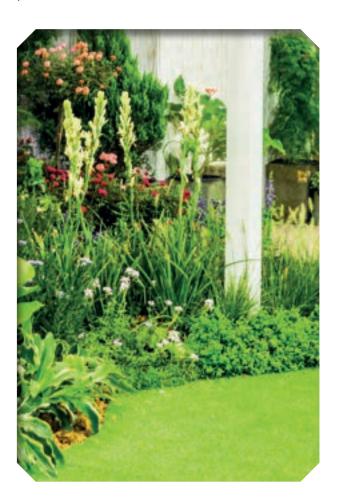
#### Make it easy

We can achieve so many 'quick wins' by making sustainable options the status quo. Some examples are buying Fairtrade tea, coffee and sugar, setting our printer to double-sided, using recycled paper, and swapping to local suppliers.

#### Say thank you

Change can be hard. We let our colleagues know we appreciate their efforts. As time goes on, we identify 'champions' – people who are leading the change and always going one step further. We capture their stories to inspire others and consider ways to recognise them.

An employment engagement survey is prepared for 2018/2019 for the whole business.



## Our Customer Relations

Evergreen Garden Care takes the view that our strategic service is not just about how an individual representative reacts to an individual customer; it's about how the company as a whole reacts to its customers.

## We listen and take action and we are always putting outstanding service first. We strive to:

- Understand and resolve customers' problems at minimum cost to customers
- Create a company-wide culture of empathy
- Empathize with and give decision-making power to frontline employees so they can focus on generating excellent customer service
- View the frontline as a driver of customer service innovation
- By implementing a company-wide, holistic approach to customer service, we want to become renowned for great customer service.
- We nurture long-term customer relationships that set us apart from our competitors

### WE COMMUNICATE AND EDUCATE OUR CUSTOMERS AND CONSUMERS VIA OUR MARKETING & SPONSOR ACTIVITIES

We share and bring expertise to all our retail partners in the markets we operate and to millions of consumers, gardeners and partners round the world.

Our Evergreen Garden Care Marketing's most fundamental commitment is to ensure the best possible gardening experience, every day, everywhere, thereby building trust. As part of building trust, we:

- integrate environmental sustainability into our products, and brand communication where applicable;
- help consumers make informed choices through credible, substantiated communication;

- leverage relevant contact points (e.g. digital, packaging and point-of-sale) to inform consumers of environmental improvements, as well as action they can take when using our products and handling used packaging;
- support and shape the development of environmental communication best practices and standards, working in collaboration with industry, government and public forums.





#### Some examples of our activities in our worldwide markets include:

#### In the Nature Protection category:

- Bees protection schemes
- Butterfly counting and protection schemes
- Water Saving Grass Seed development for growing climates with hot and dry periods.

#### In the Education category

- Our Garden Academy
- Schools gardening programmes
- Kinder gardening Facebook competitions with rewards for sustainable gardening activities like growing seeds and vegetables.
- Partnership with Sustainability NGOs
- Educating new gardeners to the 100% natural ingredients in our whole range with natural solutions.
- We bring Expertise in maintaining Peat bogs in UK and we strive to help support develop new techniques to restore the environment.

#### We supply information to our gardeners either in the stores, on pack or online. We provide:

- Technical Advice to gardeners for sustainable gardening and
- Technical Advice for plastic bottles & containers recycling

# Catalogues to retailers / customers / consumers

We ensure we communicate clearly to our customer what we are doing and how we are committed to sustainability.

# We communicate our sustainability initiatives and progress via the Consumer web pages

Our webpage gives an update to our customers and consumer about what we are doing on sustainability, globally and in each of their markets.



#### We work with the Trade to develop our knowledge sharing

Evergreen Garden Care contributes and participate to the GLEE annual exhibition and other equivalents in different countries. We are working with external research partners to leverage our expertise with current science developments.

Trade associations we work with or that we benchmark for a sustainable future and best practices.

#### Horticultural Trades Association (HTA)

The HTA is a modern, leading edge trade association representing the UK garden industry. The HTA promotes the profitable growth of its retail and grower members through a comprehensive range of business support initiatives.

#### Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP)

WRAP is a not for profit company created in 2000 as part of the Government's waste strategies across the United Kingdom. Its initial mission, and the focus of its first three year Business Plan, was to create new markets for the additional materials which would be collected and recycled as part of the drive to reduce the volume of waste which was sent to landfill.

#### Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)

Defra (the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) works for the essentials of life - food, air, land, water, people, animals and plants. Their remit is the pursuit of sustainable development - weaving together economic, social and environmental concerns.

#### International Peat Society (IPS)

The International Peat Society (IPS) is an international, non-governmental and non-profit organisation with approximately 1,400 members from 37 countries. It is dedicated to fostering the advancement, exchange and communication of scientific, technical and social knowledge and understanding for the wise use of peat-lands and peat.

#### Growing Media Association

The GMA is concerned with the development, production, marketing and sale of growing media and soil improvers in the UK and Ireland and the ingredients used to manufacture these products.

The objectives of the Association are: To promote and be a source of sound advice and information about the use of growing media. To foster and encourage the development of effective, safe and environmentally sound growing media in the UK and Ireland. To establish and maintain safety and quality standards for growing media in the UK and Ireland. To represent the interests of the growing media industry to Government, Government bodies, consumers and other organisations.

#### • Garden Industry Manufacturers Association (GIMA).

GIMA is a membership organisation representing the majority share of suppliers and manufacturers operating within the UK gardening industry. Formed over 15 years ago, its goal is to promote the commercial, trading and industrial interests of its members.





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