



Jeff Greef <kaptarian@gmail.com>

Re: Growth trials- wood fiber substrate- Plumas Wood Fiber

1 message

BRIAN DAWES <info@thepottedplumeria.com>

Tue, Aug 18, 2026 at
8:42 AM

To: Jeff Greef <kaptarian@gmail.com>

Hi Jeff,

Thanks for following up, and again, I really appreciate the effort you put into getting the wood fiber out to me. I know shipping that amount of material from the West Coast to South Florida couldn't have been inexpensive. I also apologize for not being more responsive. I know how much you've put into this project, and I should have gotten back to you sooner.

I do want to be upfront that I didn't conduct as structured a trial as I originally intended, so I don't have the comparative photos, measurements or control data outlined in your brochure. I did, however, use the material and came away with a positive impression.

The primary reason I originally reached out was moisture management. Some of my larger container-grown plumerias can dry down very quickly during extended periods of South Florida summer heat and limited rainfall. I had already been experimenting with coconut coir pith and chunks for this reason, so the moisture-retentive properties of the wood fiber interested me.

I incorporated approximately 20% Plumas Wood Fiber into my existing Pro-Mix BK and used it with roughly six established plumerias in 15- to 25-gallon containers. Since the BK already provides the aeration and porosity I need, my interest was specifically whether the wood fiber could help retain moisture and slow dry-down.

In that regard, I was impressed. The wood fiber made a noticeable difference in the moisture-retentive characteristics of the mix during some particularly hot and dry stretches. I didn't formally measure irrigation intervals, so I can't assign a specific percentage or time extension to the effect, but it was noticeable from a grower's

standpoint. The plants performed well, and I observed no issues that I would attribute to the wood fiber.

I didn't expand the trial further primarily because of geography and economics. Once I considered the freight involved in getting the material from the West Coast to South Florida on a production basis, I realized it would be difficult for an operation of my size to use regularly. That isn't a reflection on the material's performance. If I were purchasing custom bulk media locally and had the option of incorporating a locally sourced wood-fiber component, it is something I would seriously consider based on my experience.

While I don't have the documentation to present this as a formal trial, I wanted to give you an accurate account of what I observed rather than try to reconstruct data after the fact. If these observations are useful for your project or website, you're certainly welcome to use them.

Thanks again, Jeff. I appreciate the opportunity to work with the material and wish you continued success with the project.

Best,

Brian

The Potted Plumeria

Fort Lauderdale, Florida

