

Announcement : Hemp Fibers Now Used in New *PAPERPOT*™ Used in Growing Seedlings for Transplanting

Mr. Tsukasa Emoto, president of the Nippon Beet Sugar Manufacturing Co.,Ltd. (“Nitten”), located in Mita, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan is announcing the introduction of a new type of *PAPERPOT*™ with updated raw materials using hemp fibers. *PAPERPOT*™ are used for the raising and transplanting of seedlings.

Reason for the Update

In recent years, there has been an increasing awareness of the *PAPERPOT*™ system in countries outside of Japan, particularly in the United States. As a result, there has also been a rapid growth in vegetable production utilizing the easy-to-use transplanter and associated *CHAINPOT*™ (paper pots which are linked together), which together make up the *PAPERPOT*™ transplanting system.

Simultaneously, as more and more consumers around the world are demanding safe, fresh produce in which they can feel confident, the number of *PAPERPOT*™ system users expressing an interest in environmentally-friendly product is also growing, particularly in the United States, Europe.

As a result, Nitten moved to develop a more eco-friendly *CHAINPOT*™ using naturally sourced hemp fibers.

Typically, growing seedlings involves the use of plastic trays, which contributes to the growing plastic problem in the world. Nitten, committed to actively working to combat environmental destruction, sees its development and production of the more environmentally-friendly hemp fiber *CHAINPOT*™ as part of the solution to the worldwide over-reliance on plastic.

The Release of the *HEMP CHAINPOT*™

Nitten plans to start selling the *HEMP CHAINPOT*™ in markets abroad from October, 2020. It will bolster sales by working with Sankou Kagaku Co., Ltd., which supported Nitten in the development of the *HEMP CHAINPOT*™ and which will act as a sole agent. Sankou Kagaku Co., Ltd. is located in Chuo-ku, Sapporo-shi, Hokkaido, Japan and is led by company president Mr. Tamitsugu Watanabe.

Because it utilizes naturally sourced materials, Nitten believes that the *HEMP CHAINPOT*™ will be suitable for use on organic farms, and will aim to secure permission for the product to be used on such farms in the United States. Products that can be used for organics have also garnered attention in Europe, so Nitten will also weigh its release there.



HEMP CHAINPOT™, which include hemp fibers.



The easy-to-use *Hippari-kun*™ Transplanter, specially designed to be used with *CHAINPOT*™, in action. The condition of the transplanting process, as well as post-transplant seedlings, are visible.

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