

The drying of peat is an operation requiring a careful study of local conditions, such as climate, and the cost of fuel and labour.

The first part of the drying is usually done by exposing the peat to the action of the sun and wind and is known as air-drying. The percentage of water is lowered to about 40 or 50. This is followed by drying by means of heated mechanical driers, or the process of air-drying may be allowed to continue until the peat is dried to the desired degree.

The drying of peat for fuel is usually done by air-drying alone.

There are a number of reports on peat, published by the Mines Branch, which contain much information on the preparation of peat, as well as reports on the available deposits of the country. Articles dealing with the use of peat for fertilizer purposes have appeared in the Journal of the American Peat Society.¹

Amount of peat used in the manufacturing industries, as reported by the consumers:—

Location	No. of firms reporting consumption	Domestic	Imported
		Tons	Tons
Maritime Provinces.....	—	—	—
Quebec.....	1	—	1000
Ontario.....	—	—	—
Prairie Provinces.....	—	—	—
British Columbia.....	—	—	—
Canada (Total).....	1	—	1000

¹ President's address, Boston meeting, Vol. II, No. 4. Peat as a Fertilizer and some Methods of Drying and Preparing it, page 173, Vol. III, Nos. 3 and 4.