

Table S1. Physical, physico-chemical and chemical characteristics of the substrates studied analysed with ANOVA and post-hoc Tukey-b test.

Substrates	pH	EC (dS m ⁻¹)	TPS (% vol)	BD (g cm ³)	TWHC (mL L ⁻¹)	Shrinkage (% vol)	AC (% vol)	OM (%)	TN (%)	WSK (mg L ⁻¹)	WSNa (mg L ⁻¹)	NO ₃ ⁻ (mg L ⁻¹)	SO ₄ ²⁻ (mg L ⁻¹)	Cl ⁻ (mg L ⁻¹)
Coir fibre (100%)	6.71cde	0.33a	95.2klm	0.072b	520k	14.3def	43.2d	93.3mn	0.76a	357a	268a	5.16a	60.3a	199a
PL (20%)	6.11a	0.64ab	94.1jkl	0.088c	423fg	15.1efg	51.8f	93.7mn	0.81ab	717b	327ab	4.32a	187ab	484ab
PL (40%)	6.11a	0.95abc	95.1klm	0.073b	369c	11.6bcd	58.2g	94.1mn	0.95bc	1020bc	516b	7.51a	225ab	793bcd
PL (60%)	6.17ab	1.10bc	95.0klm	0.075b	314c	7.44a	63.6h	93.4mn	1.04c	1322c	529b	5.47a	228ab	872cd
PL (80%)	6.25abcd	1.23bc	95.3lm	0.070b	251b	7.98a	70.2i	92.8lm	1.18d	1787d	554b	5.25a	168ab	746bcd
PL (100%)	6.34abcde	1.21bc	96.2m	0.057a	140a	7.30a	82.3j	91.9l	1.34e	1347c	397ab	4.59a	236ab	1057def
PT (20%)	7.49i	0.98abc	93.8ijk	0.095c	479ij	12.9cde	45.8de	88.3j	0.74a	1145c	529b	6.19a	260ab	522abc
PT (40%)	7.23fghi	1.35cd	92.0gh	0.121d	465i	10.2abc	45.5de	89.4k	0.95bc	1385c	554b	18.1a	441bc	904de
PT (60%)	7.29hi	1.90de	90.4ef	0.150e	421fg	11.7bcd	48.2e	84.8hi	0.98c	2417ef	780c	124a	662cd	1429g
PT (80%)	7.23fghi	2.24ef	89.3de	0.168fg	408ef	9.24ab	48.5e	84.1h	1.00c	2291e	806c	154a	867cd	1838h
PT (100%)	7.28ghi	2.61fg	87.5c	0.195h	393e	7.70a	48.1e	85.2i	1.27de	2694fg	818c	200a	1073e	2386ij
LC (20%)	6.27abcd	2.30ef	93.7ijk	0.100c	456hi	17.4fgh	48.1e	72.2g	2.40i	1158c	541b	2209bc	2018g	724bcd
LC (40%)	6.14a	3.83h	92.6hi	0.127d	437gh	17.7fgh	48.9e	66.1f	2.69j	1938d	856c	5516d	3722j	1552gh
LC (60%)	6.22abc	5.24i	90.9fg	0.158ef	424fg	181gh	48.5e	62.7e	3.31k	2341ef	793c	9382f	3818j	2357i
LC (80%)	6.10a	6.42k	89.7def	0.180g	411ef	18.4gh	48.6e	62.1de	3.49l	3046g	1284d	11675g	3289i	2637ij
LC (100%)	6.05a	5.57ij	88.7cd	0.200h	404ef	17.3fgh	48.2e	60.1c	3.35kl	3575h	1649e	13717h	3764j	2898jk
TC (20%)	6.83efg	2.27ef	92.9hij	0.123d	494j	18.4gh	43.4d	65.9f	1.48f	1737d	1473de	1603b	1548f	939de
TC (40%)	6.80efg	3.04g	90.3ef	0.171g	558l	17.1fgh	34.4c	61.2d	1.67g	2341ef	1309d	2554bc	2360h	1245efg
TC (60%)	6.65bcde	4.35h	87.9cd	0.222i	616m	20.5hi	26.3b	54.0b	1.84h	2870g	1561e	2848c	2563h	1310fg
TC (80%)	6.73de	5.96jk	85.3b	0.282j	660n	22.7ij	19.4a	45.7a	1.87h	4129h	2241f	6730e	3707j	3045k
TC (100%)	6.77ef	6.51k	84.1a	0.301k	657n	24.4j	18.3a	46.3a	1.87h	3046g	1636e	8783f	3781j	4011l
ANOVA	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***

Mean values (n =4) in columns followed by the same letter are not statistically significant according to the Tukey-b test. ***: significant at $p < 0.001$.

Table S2. Germination and morphological characteristics of lettuce seedlings grown in the substrates studied analysed with ANOVA and post-hoc Tukey-b test.

Substrates	GI (%)	H (cm)	AFW (g)	ADW (g)	RFW (g)	RDW (g)
Coir fibre (100%)	99.5c	2.70i	0.293ef	0.030gh	0.283h	0.029j
PL (20%)	99.7c	1.83fg	0.105abc	0.011bc	0.112c	0.011de
PL (40%)	99.4c	1.30bc	0.070ab	0.006ab	0.063b	0.008bc
PL (60%)	99.4c	1.03a	0.046a	0.004a	0.049ab	0.004a
PL (80%)	98.5c	0.88a	0.049a	0.004a	0.061b	0.008bc
PL (100%)	98.7c	0.87a	0.037a	0.003a	0.032a	0.005ab
PT (20%)	98.1c	1.93g	0.257def	0.025fg	0.242f	0.025i
PT (40%)	99.4c	2.30h	0.290def	0.030gh	0.262fgh	0.030j
PT (60%)	97.9c	1.91g	0.263def	0.027gh	0.190e	0.020fg
PT (80%)	96.2c	1.58de	0.211cde	0.021ef	0.170de	0.019f
PT (100%)	94.3c	1.26bc	0.187cde	0.018de	0.170de	0.022fgh
LC (20%)	99.7c	4.49l	0.941i	0.060k	0.380i	0.031j
LC (40%)	98.2c	3.35j	0.595g	0.046i	0.441j	0.039k
LC (60%)	97.9c	2.18h	0.554g	0.032h	0.275gh	0.023ghi
LC (80%)	74.6b	1.57de	0.251def	0.016de	0.156d	0.009cd
LC (100%)	21.1a	1.37cd	0.203cde	0.012cd	0.080b	0.007abc
TC (20%)	99.4c	3.82k	0.737h	0.051j	0.390i	0.032j
TC (40%)	98.8c	2.73i	0.613g	0.043i	0.262fgh	0.021fgh
TC (60%)	98.4c	2.37h	0.357f	0.025fg	0.247fg	0.024hi
TC (80%)	68.9b	1.64ef	0.294ef	0.017de	0.149d	0.013e
TC (100%)	21.7a	1.08ab	0.172bcd	0.010bc	0.064b	0.005ab
<i>ANOVA</i>	***	***	***	***	***	***

Mean values (n =4) in columns followed by the same letter are not statistically significant according to the Tukey-b test. ***: significant at $p < 0.001$.