



Class A Compost User's Guide

APPLICATION

The following application rates are only a guide, and we recommend that you consult an expert, such as a horticultural professional or a representative from the URI Cooperative Extension, before adding Class compost to your project. Good agricultural practices should be followed, and you should avoid adding more compost than is called for in the following suggested uses.

APPLICATION	RATE & METHOD
TURF ESTABLISHMENT SOD INSTALLATION SOIL RENOVATION	Mix 1 to 3 inches of compost into top 4 to 6 inches of soil (3 – 9 cy per 1,000 sqft). Use higher rate for less fertile soil.
TURF MAINTENANCE TOP DRESSING	Spread 1/3 inch of compost (approx. 1 cy per 1,000 sqft) on established turf and rake in. For best results aerate soil prior to topdressing.
FLOWER & PLANTING BEDS	Mix or rototill 1 to 3 inches of compost into soil prior to planting.
TREE & SHRUB PLANTING	Uniformly mix compost with existing soil and use at a rate of 25% compost to 75% soil and use as backfill for trees and shrubs.
ORNAMENTAL MULCH	Spread compost 1 to 2 inches thick over planting areas.
POTTING MEDIA CONTAINER PLANTS	Custom blend compost (1/10 to 1/4 by volume) with traditional potting media. Water thoroughly before planting.
GOLF COURSES: Tee and Green Construction GOLF COURSES: Topdressing	Blend 10-20% compost with 80-90% USGA specific sand, mix thoroughly, seed or sod. (Screen compost to ¼ prior to blending) Spread ¼ inch of compost on fairway, green or tee and rake/sweep off any debris. Topdressing after core aeration is most effective.

The rates listed above are general recommendations for use. Existing soil should be tested and a horticultural professional or extension agent consulted for specific uses.

REGULATORY SAMPLING AND TESTING REQUIREMENTS

Parameter Set #	Average Compost Produced	Frequency of Analysis*
#1	>10 dry ton per day	monthly
#2	>10 dry ton per day	quarterly

All analysis shall be performed on a composite of no less than (3) grab samples.

#1 : Heavy metals (arsenic, cadmium, chromium, copper, lead, mercury, molybdenum, nickel, selenium, and zinc); Total solids; Total volatile solids; Total Kjeldahl nitrogen; Ammonia nitrogen; Nitrate; Nitrite; Total phosphorus; Total potassium; pH

#2: Total PCB; % Foreign matter; Particle size distribution; Electrical conductivity (soluble salts); Product stability (°C reheat or other approved measure)

Last updated: 12/07/2017; visit www.rirrc.org for most up-to-date version.

Resource Recovery has tested the individual windrows prior to final screening to ensure compliance with the Class “A” analytical standards. Product specific analytical testing for the material is available upon request.

COMPOST QUALITY STANDARDS

It is required by Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) that all compost product that is sold or given to public and/or private agencies and residents must comply with Class “A” Compost standards. The following Class “A” Regulatory standards are provided below, along with typical Resource Recovery analytical ranges. Product-specific analytical testing for the material is available upon request.

<u>Heavy Metals</u> (dry)	<u>DEM Limit, mg/kg</u> (dry)	<u>Resource Recovery Typical Level, mg/kg</u>
Arsenic	41	4.0 – 5.5
Cadmium	39	0.52 – 0.95
Chromium (total)	1200	10 – 12
Copper	1500	30 – 60
Lead	300	65 – 105
Mercury	17	ND – 0.1
Molybdenum	75	ND – 1.4
Nickel	420	5.5 – 6.4
Selenium	36	Not Detected
Zinc	2800	128 – 181
Toxic organics (mg/kg) (Total PCB):		1.0
Foreign Matter (% dry weight):		1%
Particle Size Distribution:		100% < 10mm (0.39”) particle size
Electrical Conductivity (maximum soluble salts):		0.5 – 4.5 mmhos/cm
pH:		5.5 – 8.5

MATURITY AND STABILITY: Brown to Black in color with reduction in organic matter of at least 60% as measured by reduction in volatile solids. Stable such that it does not reheat upon standing greater than 20° C above ambient temperature.

TRANSPORTATION: This product should be transported in vehicles which are properly covered, such as pick-up trucks with a tarp or a tarp-covered trailer, in order to prevent losing the material while in transit.

ODOR CONTROL: Like many composts, this product may cause odors if stored for long periods of time. Odors are a violation of the Department of Environmental Management’s Division of Air Resources Air Pollution Control Regulation 17. Therefore, arrangements should be made to use this product as soon as possible.

DISTRIBUTION: A person may not distribute this product to other persons without prior approval from the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management Division of Waste Management.

WARNINGS: WARNING! Keep out of reach of children.

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