



PAS100 Certified Compost

Material Change has over seven composting sites in the Midlands and 15 years' experience in producing green and green/food composts sold into agriculture and horticultural growing media markets. Kirby Lodge Compost facility is a purpose built in-vessel site, located behind the Rockingham Raceway, just off Gretton Road, Corby, Northamptonshire, NN17 3AS.

The site processes around 30,000 tonnes per annum of mixed source segregated food and green waste and is compliant with ABPR (Animal By-products Regulations).

In-vessel composting occurs in five tunnels of 1,000m³ capacity each, which accept approximately 400 tonnes of compost (compost volume approximately 800m³). The Composting time in the tunnels is typically between one and two weeks, until the ABPR sanitisation temperature of 70°C is achieved. The compost then continues its stabilisation and maturation in open windrows on site. Material is screened on the maturation pad to 15mm. Any contamination is landfilled or recovered by alternative means.

This site operates to BSI PAS:100 and the Compost Quality Protocol and all material produced can be sold as product.

Value

Material Change Corby green/food compost is a soil improver and an excellent source of major nutrients such as phosphate, potash, magnesium, manganese, small amounts of nitrogen and trace elements.

	Total Nitrogen (N)	NO ₃ -N & NH ₄ -N	Total phosphate (P ₂ O ₅)	Total Potash (K ₂ O)	Total Magnesium (MgO)	Total Sulphur (SO ₃)
Total Kg/t	11	1.2	4.6	9.0	4.1	4.2
22.7 t/ha	250	27	105	205	93	96

Estimated N:P:K fertiliser replacement value:

	Nitrogen (N)	Phosphate (P ₂ O ₅)	Potash (K ₂ O)
Market price of fertilisers £/kg*	0.67	0.59	0.44
Total nutrients Kg/t	11	4.6	9.0
Total Phosphate & Potash Value £/t		£2.71	£3.96
Estimated crop available Year 1	5%	50%	80%
Estimated crop available £/t	£0.37	£1.36	£3.17

*Fertiliser prices based on £230/t AN, £270/t TSP and £265/t MOP (Spring 2017)

Each tonne of Corby PAS100 compost is worth **£7.04/t** in crop available nitrogen, total phosphate, and total potash. An application of 22.7 t/ha will supply around £160/ha of tangible value; but the true value to soils is gained from the 6.9t/ha of longer lasting organic matter added.

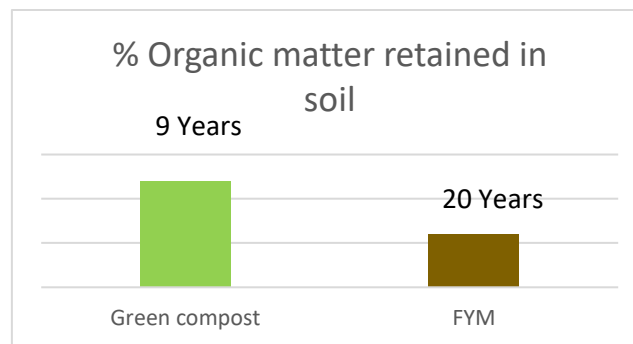


Organic Matter

Soil organic matter is the organic fraction of soil, consisting of three primary parts: small (fresh) plant residues and small living soil organisms, decomposing (active) organic matter, and stable organic matter (humus). Soil organic matter is important to soil fertility and crop productivity and building and maintaining it is vital for sustainable soil management. The amount of organic matter in soils depends on soil texture, climate, the inputs of organic materials and their rate of decomposition, the rate at which existing organic matter is mineralised, and the type of farming system used.

In the Defra/WRAP funded DC-Agri field experiments although 9 years of green compost applications applied only half the organic matter that has been supplied by almost 20 years of FYM it produced a comparable increase in soil organic matter levels.

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Source: Digestate & Compost in Agriculture, Bulletin 8

This suggests the green compost is more resistant to decomposition, which is further supported by the lignin content analysed within both materials where green compost contained c.70% lignin and FYM c.55%.

The true value of compost comes from increases in microbial biomass, earthworm numbers and nutrient supply (both the overall topsoil nutrient status of nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, magnesium, and sulphur, as well as cation exchange capacity and potentially mineralisable N), and improvements in soil structure, moisture holding capacity and improved workability.

Safe and reliable to use - The Corby compost contains some food waste which is subject to Animal by Product Regulations. It is processed initially within enclosed systems, at set temperatures, and strictly monitored to ensure all the material is sanitised. These Regulations also cover the transport and application of the material. PAS100 pathogen test results for the Corby green/food compost are E. coli <10 cfu/g and Salmonella absent, indicating it is a fully sanitised material. Physical contaminants are well below the 0.25% of total sample and well below the 0.12% w/w plastics.

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