

**Specifying United States Composting Council Seal of Testing Assurance Compost**

1. **Soil Amendments – Compost**

*Compost* is a product manufactured through the controlled aerobic, biological decomposition of biodegradable materials. The product has undergone mesophilic and thermophilic temperatures, which significantly reduces the viability of pathogens and weed seeds, and stabilizes the carbon such that it is beneficial to plant growth. It should meet or exceed all New York State Department of Environmental Conservation standards, and come from a facility that is registered and or permitted by said department.

**Physical/Chemical Requirements Property Test Method Requirements for Compost Specifications**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required Ranges</th>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Test Method**</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.0 to 8.0</td>
<td>pH</td>
<td>TMECC 04.11-A</td>
<td>pH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 6.00</td>
<td>Soluble Salts</td>
<td>TMECC 04.10-A</td>
<td>dS/m (mmhos/cm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-50%</td>
<td>Moisture Content</td>
<td>TMECC 03.09-A</td>
<td>% Wet Weight Basis</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt; 60%</td>
<td>Organic Matter Content</td>
<td>TMECC 05.07-A</td>
<td>% Dry Weight Basis</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Emergence:
- > 90% Maturity
  - TMECC 05.05-A
  - % Relative to Positive Control

Vigor:
- > 85% Maturity
  - TMECC 05.05-A
  - % Relative to Positive Control

"Stable or Very Stable" Stability
- TMECC 05.08-B
  - mg CO2-C/g OM per day

> 90% Particle Size\(^\text{**}\)
- TMECC 02.02-B
  - % Dry Weight Basis

Pass
- Pathogen
  - TMECC 07.01-B
  - Pass/Fail

Pass
- Trace Metals
  - TMECC 04.06
  - Pass/Fail

< 0.50 % Foreign Material
- TMECC 03.08-A
  - % by Weight

\(^\text{**}\)All methods are from the Test Methods for the Evaluation of Compost and Composting (TMECC).

\(^\text{**}\) Particle size is based on passing a 9.5 mm screen roughly 3/8" 95% plus passing is common

**Standard of Compost Quality:**

1. Standard of quality shall be Naturcycle Compost\(\text{TM}\) as distributed by:
   - Naturcycle, LLC PO Box 97, Plainville, NY 13137
   - www.naturcycle.com or 315-707-8955

   Or Architect/Engineer approved equal.

2. Approved compost must demonstrate involvement in the US Composting Seal of Testing Assurance (STA) Program via a certified independent analysis as provided by a laboratory participating in STA Program. Along with being a participant in good standing and the ability to produce the required annual test reports. A recent (within 90 days of project start) STA Technical Data Sheet is required to be submitted prior to shipment of compost.