

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

Required Ranges	Test	Test Method**	Units
6.0 to 8.0	pH	TMECC 04.11-A	pH
< 6.00	Soluble Salts	TMECC 04.10-A	dS/m (mmhos/cm)
20-50%	Moisture Content	TMECC 03.09-A	% Wet Weight Basis
> 60%	Organic Matter Content	TMECC 05.07-A	% Dry Weight Basis
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” > 90%	Stability Particle Size^^	TMECC 05.08-B TMECC 02.02-B	mg CO ₂ -C/g OM per day % 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

**All methods are from the Test Methods for the Evaluation of Compost and Composting (TMECC).

^^ Particle size is based on passing a 9.5 mm screen roughly 3/8” 95% plus passing is common

Standard of Compost Quality:

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

Or Architect/Engineer approved equal.

- 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.