
THE VALUE OF COMPOST

A CALU DEVELOPMENT FARM FACTSHEET

February 2011



Compost

Composting is the purposeful biodegradation of organic materials. It is a complex process where billions of bacteria, fungi and other micro-organisms progressively break down the organic material. During this process heat, gases (including carbon dioxide) and water are given off and the organic matter changes to form a stable humus with reduced volume which becomes an ideal soil conditioner.

Benefits of Applying Compost to Soil

- Increases organic matter
- Improved soil structure with more stable and larger aggregates.
- Reduced risk of compaction (due to improved structure).
- Improved water infiltration and water holding capacity.
- Increased biological activity in the soil
- Can add a small amount of slow release crop nutrients including phosphate, potash, magnesium and sulphur

If you plan to produce compost for commercial use you will need to apply to the Environment Agency for a permit and meet industry standards (<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/topics/permitting/117226.aspx>)

Financial Value of Compost

- Compost contains valuable nutrients. There are a few “standard values” so laboratory analyses of compost can give a useful guide to the nutrients applied to the land from compost.

The financial value of compost as a substitute for artificial fertiliser can be calculated using the WRAP compost calculator:

http://www.wrap.org.uk/farming_growing_and_landscaping/compost_calculator.html

GWERTH COMPOST

TAFLEN WYBODAETH CALU

Chwefror 2011



Compost

Proses fiolegol yw compostio lle mae deunyddiau bioddiraddadwy yn cael eu troi a'u hawyru i annog microbau i ddadelfennu deunydd organig. Mae'r deunyddiau wedyn yn pydru'n araf gan ollwng gwres, carbon deuocsid a dŵr, gan newid i roi hwmws sefydlog cywasgedig sy'n ddelfrydol i wella cyflwr pridd.

Manteision Ychwanegu Compost At Bridd

- Cynyddu deunydd organig
- Gwella strwythur y pridd gydag agregau mwy sefydlog a mwy o faint, gan leihau perygl cywasgu
- Galluogi dŵr i dreiddio'n well drwy'r pridd a dal gafael ar leithder yn y pridd
- Cynyddu gweithgaredd biolegol yn y pridd
- Gall ychwanegu swm bychan o faetholion cynydau, yn cynnwys ffosffad, potash, magnesiwm a sylffwr, sy'n cael eu rhyddhau'n araf

Os bwriadwch gynhyrchu compost i'w ddefnyddio'n fasnachol bydd angen i chi wneud cais am drwydded i Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd a chyrraedd safonau'r diwydiant (<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/topics/permitting/117226.aspx>)

Gwerth Ariannol Compost

- Mae compost yn cynnwys maetholion gwerthfawr. Ceir ychydig 'werthoedd safonol', felly gall dadansoddiadau compost mewn labordy roi canllawiau defnyddiol ar y maetholion a roddir i'r tir o'r compost
- Gellir cyfrifo gwerth ariannol compost fel rhywbeth yn lle gwrtaithe artiffisial drwy ddefnyddio cyfrifiannell gompost WRAP; http://www.wrap.org.uk/farming_growing_and_landscaping/compost_calculator.html



Cronfa Amaethyddol Ewrop ar gyfer Datblygu
Gwledig Ewrop yn Buddsoddi
mewn Ardaloedd Gwledig
The European Agricultural Fund for
Rural Development: Europe Investing in
Rural Areas



Centre for Alternative Land Use
Canolfan Ddefnydd Tir Amgen



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government