

Compost Classification Definitions

Minimum Stability Indicator (respirometry)	LMg CO ₂ -C/g MO/day and mgCO ₂ -C/g TS/day - Product will rate Very Stable, Stable, Moderately Unstable, Unstable, or Very Unstable.
Soluble Salts	(Conductivity) Expressed as mmhos/cm or dS/m.
Ag Index	Ratio of Nutrients to Sodium and Chloride. A rating of above 10 results in a build-up of nutrients to optimum for plant growth without a concern of a toxic build-up of sodium and/or chloride from the compost.
Maturity Indicator as expressed as percentage of Germination / Vigor	Test using salt tolerant plant grown in high concentration of test compost and a salt sensitive plant grown in compost diluted with potting mix. Emergence (relative to control) and Relative Seeding Vigor are compared.
Bulk Density	The average weight per cubic yard is to be reported.
Testing and Test Submittal Requirement	STA indicates a tested using the STA requirements for individual samples.
Organic Matter per Cubic Yard	Expressed as a percentage with requirement that a minimum number of pounds per cubic yard is obtained.
Carbon to Nitrogen Ratio	A maturity indicator. Addition of nitrogen to obtain a favorable carbon to nitrogen ratio is not allowed.
Chemical Contaminants	Results of test to indicate that the product meets or exceeds those levels noted.
Pathogens	Results of test to indicate that the product meets or exceeds those levels noted.
Minimum Manufacturing / Production Requirement	<p>LEVEL 1</p> <p>Produced by a Class I facility, or if exempt from CDPH&E permitting requirements, or if Class II as a result of volume or feedstock type, a facility that certifies it is operating under Class I operational requirements for production of material meeting.</p> <p><i>EPA 503.13 requirements for Class A material for unrestricted use and distribution.</i></p> <p>LEVEL 2</p> <p>Produced by a Class I or II facility, or if exempt from CDPH&E permitting requirements, or if Class III as a result of volume or feedstock type, a facility that certifies it is operating under Class I operational requirements for production of material meeting.</p> <p><i>EPA 503.13 requirements for unrestricted use and distribution.</i></p> <p>LEVEL 3</p> <p>Produced by a Class I, II, or III facility, if exempt from CDPH&E permitting requirements certifies it is operating under Class I, II, or III operational requirements.</p>

Risk Factor

The risk factor indicates the risk to plant growth sustainability that the product poses when used as large percentage of the growing medium.

Tested for Clopyralid

Tested for Clopyralid (chemically or germination test) with results reported in testing documents.

STA

Test Methods for the Examination of Composting and Compost (TMECC, The US Composting Council).
