



COMPOSTING ASSOCIATION
of IRELAND

NEWS LETTER

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Minister Of The Environment Announces Composting Association of Ireland 2nd Annual Seminar .

The people of Ireland are starting to *change their ways*. Composting is one solution to handling Ireland's waste.

Cré, The Composting Association of Ireland, were pleased to welcome Mr. Noel Dempsey, T.D., Minister of the Environment to help announce its second annual seminar at Buxwell's Hotel, Moleworth Street, Dublin at 12 midday on 28 March 2002.



Mr. Noel Dempsey, T.D., Minister of the Environment with Paul van der Werf announcing the 2nd Annual Cré Composting Seminar

Coinciding with International Composting Awareness Week (28 April – 4 May) this event takes place on 1 May 2002 at the Stand House Hotel, The Curragh, Co. Kildare.

With stakeholders including Local Authorities, Government Bodies, Companies and Academic Institutions the Association's mission statement is "To promote composting and compost utilisation in Ireland. The Association's function is to infuse best practices into the development of an industry; promote public awareness; and to promote research and the development of an information storehouse on composting and compost utilisation."

The Seminar and Exhibition will feature presentations from the leaders of Irish composting. Topics will span new compost project updates, monitoring of the composting process, and updates on relevant regulations. The day is designed to inform and provide information from which the Irish composting industry can continue to build.

For more information contact :

Cre e-mail address : info@compostireland.ie

INTERNATIONAL COMPOSTING AWARENESS WEEK

28th April – 4th May 2002



This year ICAW is running from the 28th April to 4th May 2002. This Awareness week was initiated by the Composting Council of Canada initially to have a week to promote composting in Canada. In recent years this has been expanded to include the UK and Ireland.

Cré's 2nd Annual Seminar is being held on the 1st May 2002 in the Stand House Hotel , The Curragh , Co. Kildare

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CRÉ - The First Year

The first year of the Composting Association of Ireland is coming to a close. It is a year that has seen some slow but steady growth in the composting industry.

Our members, now 42, consist of local authorities, regulatory bodies and companies. The aim of this group has been very simple - follow our mission statement:

To promote composting and compost utilisation in Ireland. The Association's function is to infuse best practices into the development of an industry; promote public awareness; and to promote research and the development of an information storehouse on composting and compost utilisation

Composting is not rocket science (mind you rocket science isn't composting either).

Let's make sure that if we are going to compost, whether through a home composting program or a centralised facility, that we "do it right".

Let's make sure the general public is aware of composting and that their view is that it is a good thing to do - that it is in fact one solution to help us with the waste management problem that currently besets Ireland.

Let's develop some Ireland specific information on composting and compost utilization.

All this been inculcated with a dose of pragmatism. Just as we don't need to learn about rockets we don't need to go through the whole process of inventing wheels either.

There are many examples beyond our borders of composting activities and high quality sources of information. Let's assemble and use what we can. Our resources will be best used to fill any Ireland specific gaps and to get a high quality and consistent message out to Ireland.

To that end the first year of CRÉ has included regular meetings to articulate our mission statement.

Deliverables for our members have included:

- The **Public Relations Committee** has produced and maintained a web page (www.compostireland.ie) and a newsletter
- The **Technical Committee** provided responses to the Draft EU Biowaste Regulations and the Draft Animal Byproducts Regulations. They are in the process of developing "Fact Sheets" for various composting matters for distribution to members (e.g. bioaerosols).
- Development of an **Annual Seminar** in conjunction with International Composting Awareness Week (28 April-4 May)

Finally, remember that all of this has been done on a voluntary basis - we have no staff. A good team with a wide range of expertise has helped make this organization successful.

To our members I say thank-you for your hard work and making this first year a success.

Paul van der Werf , Chairman Cré

We are always on the look-out for more members and expertise to join our team and help us meet our mission statement. Information is available in this newsletter and on our web-page (www.compostireland.ie)

Come and help us make our 2nd year even more successful than our first.

CTO Environmental Solutions Ltd.

Currently CTO Environmental Solutions are operating two composting sites, one at Rostellan, Co. Cork, and the other at Ballboe, Ballypatrick, Clonmel Co. Tipperary. At both these sites a wide range of organic materials are accepted for composting and timber is accepted for recovery. The directors expect the company to be operating on three more sites in the very near future.

The composting process currently in operation is the windrow system. An investment of over €900,000 has been made in the latest mobile technology in order to ensure the efficient operation of the composting process on these sites. A Sandberger sf370 compost turner was imported from Austria. This compost turner has the capacity to turn 2000 cu. Mts of compost in 1 hour. It also has facilities to cover/uncover the windrows as they are being turned and to irrigate the compost if moisture content is low. A Jenz AZ55 shredder was purchased in Germany. The capacity of this shredder is about 100 tonnes per hour.



Animal By-Products Draft Regulation Conor Mc Govern, Celtic Waste

The document is available at <http://register.consilium.eu.int/pdf/en/01/st10/10408-r1en1.pdf>

Introduction

As a response to recent severe animal disease outbreaks, the European commission have published a proposed animal by-product Regulation that lays down health rules concerning handling of animal by-products.

The Regulation should come into force in Ireland by November 2002.

The proposed Regulation proposes conditions for the disposal, processing and use of animal by-products including catering wastes and manure. The proposed Regulation will have implications for the composting industry.

Categories of waste and required treatment

Animal by-products would be classified into three categories, each requiring different grades of treatment. The three classes are briefly outlined.

WASTES	MINIMUM TREATMENT
Category 1	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• BSE animals and their by-products• Catering waste from international transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Incineration or co-incineration• Rendering followed disposal
Category 2	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manure/gut content• Products containing drug residues• Animal Products from outside EU• Fallen & Culled Animals• Animal by-products not falling into categories 1 or	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manure and gut contents may be used directly in a biogas or compost plant or land spread• Rendering followed by disposal• Rendering then used in biogas / compost plant
Category 3	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Catering waste not of international origin if destined for consumption• These are generally foodstuffs of animal origin, once fit for human consumption	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Biogas or compost production• Petfood or technical production• Rendering followed by disposal• Incineration or co-

Manure

Although the proposal lists unprocessed manure and gut contents as Category 2 material, **these products would generally not be controlled unless they were used in a biogas or composting plant** or if "suspected of being capable of spreading a serious transmissible disease". The Commission probably intend to control such material only in a notifiable disease situation.

Once processed, manure and gut contents, **will** fall under this Regulation.

Treatment conditions / standards / disposal.

Catering wastes are exempt from Annex II, which

specifies collection, transport and identification procedures. Category 3 material used as raw material in a composting plant must meet the following minimum requirements:

- Size reduction before entering the composting reactor: **12 mm**;
- **60 minutes** in the reactor at 70°C (all material)

The competent authority may, when catering waste is the only animal by-product in a composting plant, authorise the use of other standards guaranteeing equivalent pathogen reduction. Manure may be allowed a similar derogation. Samples of compost taken upon withdrawal from storage at the composting plant must be free of Salmonella in 25g and free of Enterobacteriae in 300g.

The proposed Regulation would prohibit application of compost (of animal by-product origin) to **pasture land**.

Approval of composting plants.

The Regulation would require approval for most premises on which these products are processed or disposed. The requirements that must be met include the following;

1. Composting plants must be equipped with a closed composting reactor, which cannot be by-passed, with installations for continuously monitoring temperature against time and a system to prevent insufficient heating;
2. Only Category 3 material, Category 2 material after rendering and Manure / gut content may be transformed in a composting plant.

Cré Position

Points of concern for Cré about the impact upon the composting industry include;

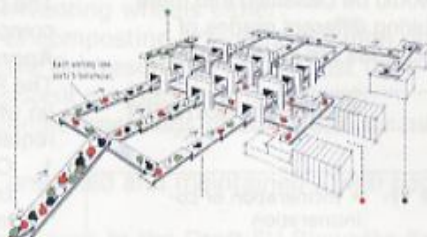
- A requirement to shred catering wastes and other category 3 materials to 12 mm particle size would prove difficult and expensive. Furthermore, shredding feedstock decreases material porosity, making aeration difficult.
- The 70°C temperature requirement for 1 hour is too high for effective composting.
- The prohibition on spreading compost and digestion residues to **pasture land** would impact disposal of slurries from co-digestors and producers of composts. This is especially so in Ireland where over 90 per cent of farmland is pastureland.
- A strict requirement to use in-vessel systems precludes windrow composting of wastes with incidental quantities of animal wastes..
- Cré is also concerned that the layer of approval by the "competent authority", should streamline with approval for waste activities required by other bodies – eg EPA licences, permits, EIS and planning approvals. The approval process should not exclude composting processes at the smaller end of the market.
- If the proposed Regulation were effected without amendment, it would have the effect of diverting biodegradable waste to landfill.

Cré feels that parts of this Regulation would impact severely upon the composting industry. Cré have made a submission to the European Commission in this regard .

SFL Group have many years experience in providing mechanical solutions to the waste industry. The company's experienced engineers and project managers will provide design proposals and layout drawings, and offer advice on layout and space requirements. The company also has strategic alliances with waste specialists in USA, Canada, UK and Germany, and can incorporate their technology and equipment where appropriate, ensuring the client the best solution. The company has extensive manufacturing facilities and can offer on-site installation, after sales service, spare parts and



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Compost Production from Liquid Waste Treatment

SITA Recycling Ltd. is currently contracted to supply the BEOFS Anaerobic Digestion facility with waste for recycling. The facility, based in Co. Kilkenny, is currently digesting bulk liquid wastes from the food industry, together with local agricultural wastes, and producing a liquid fertiliser and a quality compost, which is sold locally. The process also generates biogas, which is being used to heat and power the local Camphill Community in Ballytobin. For further information on this waste recycling solution, please contact the facility manager, Mark Dwan at markdwan@camphill.ie or Sheena Lambert of SITA Recycling at 01 294 7975.

Your News & Views :

We would be delighted to hear from our members . If you have any relevant information or views , please send them to us and we will be happy to include them in future issues . Please send your articles to : Emer O'Callaghan , Parks Department , Recreation Amenity & Culture , Abbeycourt House , George's Quay , Cork . Or e-mail to : info@compostireland.ie

We're on the Web :
www.compostireland.ie

A Conference entitled "Composting Animal by-products & catering wastes" will be held June 7 in London. This event, produced by The Composting Association in conjunction with DEFRA, aims to assist all composters and producers of catering wastes in overcoming the obstacles currently facing the industry & to debate what the future holds. Further information may be had at : www.animalbyproducts.com.

Institute of Wastes Management in Ireland

The Republic of Ireland Centre of the Institute of Wastes Management will be holding a seminar on Emerging Technologies for Waste Treatment on the 16th May next in Tullamore. For further information, please contact the centre secretary, Sheena Lambert, at glynns@gsholdings.ie

