



cré

Newsletter 4— June 2003

COMPOSTING ASSOCIATION
of IRELAND

EPA report on outlets for compost produced from municipal waste

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has released a programme to develop outlets for compost derived from household and commercial waste. The report finds that organic waste is a significant cause of problems associated with landfilling including leachate generation (seepage), landfill and greenhouse gas production, odours, vermin, birds etc. Diversion of organic waste away from landfills will significantly reduce these problems. Composting will be one method used to biotreat an annual 300,000 tonnes of biowaste.

Promotion and education will be necessary to ensure that high quality compost is produced and that consumers will understand that it can be used in a productive way. The report reviews existing outlets for such compost and identifies new market and non-market outlets. It concludes that stable markets are required if people are to begin and continue composting. Use for horticulture, crops, land remediation, etc., should create sufficient demand and the production of compost should be stabilised if it is given some value and if production meets demand.

The report was completed under the EPA's Environmental Research Technological Development and Innovation Programme which is funded by the Irish government under the National Development Plan 2000-2006. The report is available at www.compostireland.ie. The photograph at right shows Cormac MacGearailt, EPA and Paul Van Der Werf – ERM at the launch of the report.



Bioaerosol document prepared by Cré



The bioaerosol document was compiled by Dr. Munoo Prasad of Bord na Móna who chairs the Technical Committee. The report was sent to the EPA who returned it with comments and outlined any changes which had to be made. It has since been re-submitted to the EPA who assure us that it is near completion, and would hope to have it published soon.

Other composting events

In March 2003 Munoo Prasad and Dearbháil Ní Chualain were invited by the Tipperary Institute of Technology as guest lecturers as part of the 'Waste management in the Community' course. Topics covered in this talk included the composting process, testing and applications of the final product. Dearbháil Ní Chualáin gave a practical guide to compost testing.

Munoo Prasad and Dearbháil Ní Chualain submitted a presentation to the seminar 'Pathways to a Sustainable Future' organised by Environmental Protection Agency, titled 'Heavy Metals and Compost in Irish Compost'. The photograph at right shows Dearbháil at the Cré annual seminar.



Compost Training Course organised by Cré

Cré will deliver a two day composting training course in mid October 2003. The course will be taught by Paul van der Werf, from Environment & Resource Management Ltd. and Dr. Munoo Prasad from Bord Na Mona. It will also feature a number guest speakers. Course topics include:

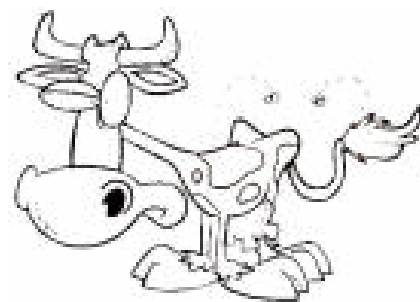
- Science of composting
- Managing the composting process
- Monitoring and measuring composting process
- Review of technologies
- Review of pertinent legislation
- Compost utilization

The course will be taught through lectures and hands-on activities and is ideal for local authority and private sector individuals who are or may become involved in composting programs for household, commercial, industrial and agricultural organic wastes.

Final details on the Course will be available towards the end of the summer and will be available on the Cré Website. www.compostireland.ie

Animal By-Products news

The Animal By-Products Regulation was transposed into law May 2003. The process of putting it into effect is in train at the moment. Details are still being ironed out at this stage. Stay in contact with Cré for updates.



Composting in receipt of funding from Government

Cré welcomes the capital grants scheme, provided for in the Regional Operational Programme (2000-2006) and targeted at recycling infrastructure to reflect the waste hierarchy. According to Environment Minister Martin Cullen "These grant allocations are directed primarily at recycling infrastructure that will be visible at local level, that will help raise awareness and allow the general public to make a more significant contribution to our national recycling effort", the Minister stated

In April the Minister announced a 55 million environmental expenditure programme under the Environment Fund for 2003. The Environment Fund was established with the revenues obtained from the **Plastic Bag Levy** introduced in March 2002 and the **Landfill Levy** introduced in July 2002. Grants announced relating to composting are outlined below. Cré welcomes this significant funding.

Galway City Carrowbrowne Composting Facility	1,714,000
Laois CoCo. Mountmellick Composting Facility	91,000
Clare CoCo. Inagh Composting Facility	500,000
Limerick Coco Gortnadroma Compost Facility	424,000
Waterford CoCo. Tramore Composting Facility	128,000
Waterford CoCo. Dungarvan Compost Facility	128,000
Waterford CoCo. Lismore Composting Facility	103,000
<u>Kildare Co Silliot Hill Compost Facility</u>	<u>522,000</u>
Total	3,610,000



Research Project Underway.

Cré members have recently been contacted by Lorraine Herity (right), a Masters student in **Environmental Engineering** at Queens University Belfast. Lorraine is compiling data on the quality of Irish Compost. This information will prove very useful as the composting industry develops in Ireland. The results of Lorraine's thesis will be available to all Cré members.

Lorraine's project is co-funded by Cré and by MCOS Consulting Engineers. We look forward to co-operation from all facility operators. Lorraine's may be contacted at the MCOS office in Dun Laoghaire or on the e-mail address

lherity@dunlaoghaire.mcos.ie

Galway City advances its new Composting Facility

Garry O'Loughlann and his team at Galway City Council are among the leading lights for separate collection and composting of household biowaste. Phase 1 of their new facility at Carrowbrowne on the outskirts of the City is almost complete. The modular VAR technology employed at the existing Sandy Road facility will be moved to Carrowbrowne enabling continued composting capacity for the 5,000 tpa generated by the city householders. In Phase 2, a waste acceptance and processing building will be erected enabling improved operations and compliance with current and future legislative requirements. The project was approved by the DOELG for grant aid under the Regional Operational Programmes 2000-2006.



Cré considers the merits of an Irish Compost Quality Standard

At the recent Cré AGM held at Bewley Hotel, Newlands Cross on June 12th 2003, a lively discussion took place regarding the merits of Cré advancing a quality mark for Irish compost. Chairman Fiacra Quinn outlined the advantages of such a development from a 'market development' perspective. The UK composting industry has developed along these lines and the new PAS 100 standard has recently been introduced. The UK standard could equally be used as a benchmark for compost produced in Ireland, as opposed to developing an indigenous standard.

It was agreed that Cré would take the first move by undertaking a feasibility study into the cost and requirements for establishing a national certification procedure for Irish compost. Delegates suggested that the Environment Fund held by the DOELG might be used to support the initiative. The Chairman will report back to the next CRé meeting.

Deklarationsparameter*					
	Nährstoffgehalt gesamt (% Trockengehalt)		Nährstoffgehalt Melch (mg/Liter)		
Rohdichte	761 g/Liter	Stickstoff N	1,1	Stickstoff N	257,5
Salzgehalt	4,45 g/Liter	Phosphat P ₂ O ₅	0,475	Phosphat P ₂ O ₅	928,5
pH-Wert	8,0	Kalium K ₂ O	0,9	Kalium K ₂ O	
Glühverlust (Trockensubstanz)	29,75%	Magnesium MgO	0,495		
		Calcium CaO	2,485		

unterliegen natürlichen Schwankungen

Other Cré news

- * At the **AGM**, officer positions were filled. It was agreed that Fiacra Quinn of Greenstreets will continue as Chair and Conor McGovern of greenstar will continue as Treasurer. **Percy Foster** of IT Sligo, **Secretary for Cré** over the last 12 months has decided to step down. We thank Percy for his sterling efforts over the last year. We now look to the task of finding a replacement. Please contact Fiacra at info@compostireland.ie if interested in this position. To facilitate members, dates have been set for Cré meetings for the next year. These are October 9 2003, Jan 15 2004, Mar 11 2004, and June 10 2004.
- * **The Cré website** www.compostireland.ie has been updated recently. The library of composting links is online and news articles are on the News page. Send news articles to Conor McGovern at *greenstar*, 6 Ballyogan Business Park, Sandyford, Dublin 18 or info@compostireland.ie
- * **Cré Composting Map Updated.** Members should be aware that a map of all active composting sites in the Country is available on the Cré website. The map is periodically updated and any members that **wish** to update the information should contact us via the website.
- * **Cré Committee for 2003** The incoming committee for 2003 was agreed at the AGM of June 2003. Cré is now an **incorporated** body under the name Cré – the Composting Association of Ireland. The budget for the part-time secretarial position will be extended to €6,000 per annum and Cré is seeking a motivated Member who would be in a position to take over the administrative and promotional duties fulfilled by Percy Foster during 2002. The committee for 2003 is: Chairman – Fiacra Quinn, Treasurer – Conor Mc Govern, Secretary – position to be filled, Technical Committee Chairperson – Munoo Prasaad, Public Relations Committee – Conor Mc Govern, Conall Boland, Craig Benton, Jackie Keaney

Other composting activities

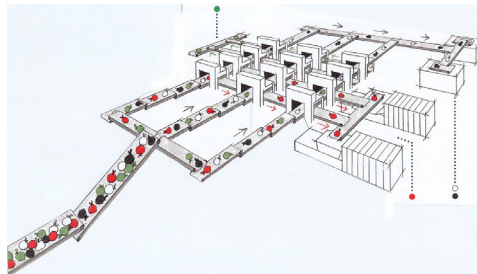
- * December 2002 Munoo Prasad presented a talk on 'On-Farm Composting' addressing on farm composting process, testing of compost and various applications of the final product. An article appeared in January's Farmers Journal.
- * Munoo Prasad and Michael Maher presented a paper on 'The Effect of Adding Composted Green Waste to Peat on the Physical Stability of Growing Media' at the 2002 International Symposium Composting and Compost Utilisation.

COMPOSTING PROCESS FOR MSW & GREEN WASTE

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 technical back-up.

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Cré annual seminar May 1 2003 - a big success with large attendance

The third annual Cré seminar was held in Tullamore 1 May. Attendance of over 120 reflecting ongoing interest. Speakers were

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| • Cormac MacGearailt – EPA | • Munoo Prasad – Bord na Móna |
| • Damien Lawlor – <i>greenstar</i> | • Paul Van Der Werf – ERM |
| • Craig Benton – CCS | • Josef Barth – ECN |
| • Louise Hollingworth – WRAP | • Sabdh O'Neill – Kilkenny County Council |

Copies of presentations will be available on www.compostireland.ie Exhibitors included;

- | | |
|---|---|
| • <i>greenstar</i> www.greenstar.ie | • Bord Na Mona www.bnm.ie |
| • Orrtec/VCU www.vcutechonology.com | • NWP, Caolan Woods. |
| • GOC technologies—Bernard Ryan, | • SFL Engineering, |
| • Biotreat / UCC, Donal Mulkerrens | • Carbery Plastics of Clonakilty |

The sponsors were; Greenstar who were our main seminar sponsors. Indaver who sponsored the seminar room, MCOS and TES who jointly sponsored the webpage and delegate pack and SFL who sponsored this newsletter. LK Shields Solicitors also sponsored the seminar. Cré thanks speakers and exhibitors, sponsors and delegates for making the event a success



Photograph shows, from left, Cormac MacGearailt – Environmental Protection Agency, Fiacra Quinn, Cré and Paul Van Der Werf – ERM