
**Specifications for composted
materials**

PREVIEW

ICS 71.100.40



**Mauritius Standards Bureau
Moka**

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Foreword

This Mauritian Standard was drawn by the **Chemicals Standards Committee (CSC)** through its Subcommittee on **Composts** and approved by the **Standards Council** on 15 April 2010. It was notified in the Government Gazette on **08 May 2010***

Acknowledgement

MSB wishes to acknowledge the valuable assistance derived from the following publications

BSI PAS 100:2005 *Specification for composted materials*

AS 4454:2003 *Composts, soil conditioners and mulches*

Subcommittee report on National Compost Standards for Mauritius, 2006 – Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development

*** General Notice No 898 of 2010.**

Introduction

Composts that are reliably safe, effective, available in sufficient quantity and that represent value for money are used in agricultural, horticultural, land restoration, soft landscaping, sports recreation, and other markets. According to their particle size grade and other properties, composts are supplied for use as soil improvers and mulches, as partial substrates in growing media, and as a significant ingredient in manufactured topsoils and turf dressings.

The objective of this standard is to provide manufacturers, suppliers and local government bodies, with the minimum requirements for composted materials, in order to facilitate the beneficial recycling and use of compostable organic materials with minimal adverse impact on environmental and public health, and give users assurance of quality.

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Specifications for composted materials

1 Scope

This Mauritian Standard specifies the requirements for composted materials that have been derived from organic materials.

This standard applies to organic products or mixtures of organic products that are to be used to amend the physical and chemical properties of natural or artificial soils and growing media.

This standard is not applicable to home composting end products for self-use, nor does it apply to organic fertilizers derived from blood and bone. Also excluded are liquid organic wastes, sewage sludge, seaweed extracts, non-organic mulches (e.g gravel), non-compostable organic materials (e.g plastics) and materials variously described as 'compost starters' and 'activators'.

Vermi-composting is within the scope of this standard where it follows a sanitization step of thermophilic, aerobic composting.

2 Normative references

The following documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 565	<i>Test sieves – Metal wire cloth, perforated metal plate and electroformed sheet – Nominal sizes or openings.</i>
ISO 6579	<i>Microbiology of food and animal feeding stuffs -- Horizontal method for the detection of Salmonella spp.</i>
ISO 10694	<i>Soil Quality – Determination of organic and total carbon after dry combustion (elementary analysis)</i>
ISO 11866-2	<i>Milk and milk products -- Enumeration of presumptive Escherichia coli -- Part 2: Colony-count technique at 44 degrees C using membranes</i>
ISO 16772	<i>Soil quality -- Determination of mercury in aqua regia soil extracts with cold-vapour atomic spectrometry or cold-vapour atomic fluorescence spectrometry</i>
EN 12579	<i>Soil improvers and growing media. - Sampling</i>
EN 13037	<i>Soil improvers and growing media – Determination of pH</i>
EN 13038	<i>Soil improvers and growing media - Determination of electrical conductivity</i>