



# Colorado Composting Council COMPOST CLASSIFICATIONS



*There is no implied warranty or product performance guarantee associated with this Classification System.  
Applicable to Certified Compost Products as defined by the United States Composting Council  
STA Program and the testing requirements associated with that program.  
See <http://compostingcouncil.org/seal-of-testing-assurance/> for additional details.*

	<b>Class I</b> USCC Certified STA Compost	<b>CLASS II</b> Fully composted, stable mature Compost
<b>Minimum Manufacturing, Production, and Analytical Requirements</b>	Compost to be <b>verified by Manufacturer</b> as to having been manufactured in compliance with all local and state regulatory standards, to include required operational permitting as required by USCC Certified STA Contract. <b>Producer shall supply a current STA analytical data report as requested by specifier.</b>	
<b>Basis of Testing Protocol</b>	Test Methods for the Evaluation of Compost and Composting (TMECC).	
<b>Variations in Test Results</b>	Minor variations in standards and testing results to be justified in writing by the compost manufacturer and approved by specifier	
<b>Minimum Stability Indicator (Respirometry)</b>	Stable to Very Stable	Stable
<b>Stability - mg CO<sub>2</sub>-C per g OM per day</b>	< 2	< 4
<b>Maturity Indicator Expressed as Ammonia N / Nitrate N Ratio</b>	< 4	< 6
<b>Maturity Indicator Expressed as Carbon to Nitrogen Ratio</b>	< 12	< 18
<b>Maturity Indicator Expressed as Percentage of Germination / Vigor – Cucumber Bioassay @ 1:1 (compost vermiculite blend)</b>	80+ / 80+	N/A - due to normally higher nutrient and or sodium/chloride levels contained in Class II Manure based compost
<b>pH – Acceptable Range (1:5 by weight) - TMECC</b>	5.0 - 8.4	5.0 – 9.0
<b>Soluble Salts – Acceptable Range (1:5 by weight) - TMECC</b>	Maximum of 5	Maximum of 15
<b>Metals</b>	Meet or exceed US EPA Class A standard, 40 CFR 503.13, Tables 1 & 3 levels	
<b>Pathogens – Verification of Regulatory Compliance to be available upon request.</b>	Meet or exceed US EPA Class A standard, 40 CFR 503.32(a) levels – Salmonella or Fecal Coliform	
<b>Bulk Density; % Inorganics; % Moisture; % Organic Matter, Particle Size Distribution, Primary, Secondary Nutrients; Trace Elements.</b>	Compost Producer is Required to supply a current STA Analysis to include these items at a minimum.	
<b>Application</b> Applications or uses noted are intended for general consideration. The actual use or application is subjective depending on the receiving soil characteristics, volume of compost applied, and the method and percentage of incorporation.	Certified – Stable – and regulatory compliant compost provides a wide plethora of benefits to soil and plant health, water conservation, and the environment. Uses include general soil amending related to Horticultural, Nursery, Container Mixes, Turf, Sod, Seed Bed Preparation, Raised Garden, Vegetable Gardens, Top Soil Blends, Backfill, and Erosion Control. Information related to how much compost to use should be provided by the compost manufacturer.	