

# Composting and Quality Assurance in Germany

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Kompost e.V.



# Outline

## Part 1

- **Composting and Digestion Plants in Germany**
- **Legal Specifications**

## Part 2

- **Quality Assurance and Production of Compost and Digestates in Germany**

## Part 3

- **Sample Taking in Practice**



# Composting and Quality Assurance in Germany

## Part 1: Composting and digestion plants in Germany

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Kompost e.V.



# BGK and RAL

**Bundesgütegemeinschaft Kompost e.V. (BGK) is a self-obligatory measurement of the industry and is recognised by the responsible legal authorities.**

**BGK was founded in 1989.**

**The RAL quality assurance for compost was established in Germany in 1991.**

**RAL-quality labels identify a standardised and regularly checked product.**



# Examples for RAL Quality Labels



RAL mark butter  
and cheese



RAL-RG 180  
Wine label



RAL-GZ 164  
Quality mark



RAL-GZ 252  
Growing media



RAL-RG 183  
Wine cropping region



RAL-RG 163/1  
Holiday on farms



# State of Quality Assurance in Germany



RAL - GZ 251  
433 plants



RAL - GZ 245  
99 plants



RAL - GZ 246  
8 plants



RAL - GZ 258  
14 plants



# Compost from Biodegradable Waste

**Biowaste is defined as any vegetable or animal waste destined for utilisation that can be degraded by micro-organisms, soil organisms or enzymes.**

**Treated biowaste shall mean**

- **biowaste from an aerobic treatment process  $\Rightarrow$  compost**
- **biowaste from an anaerobic treatment process  $\Rightarrow$  digestate products**





# Management of Biodegradable Waste

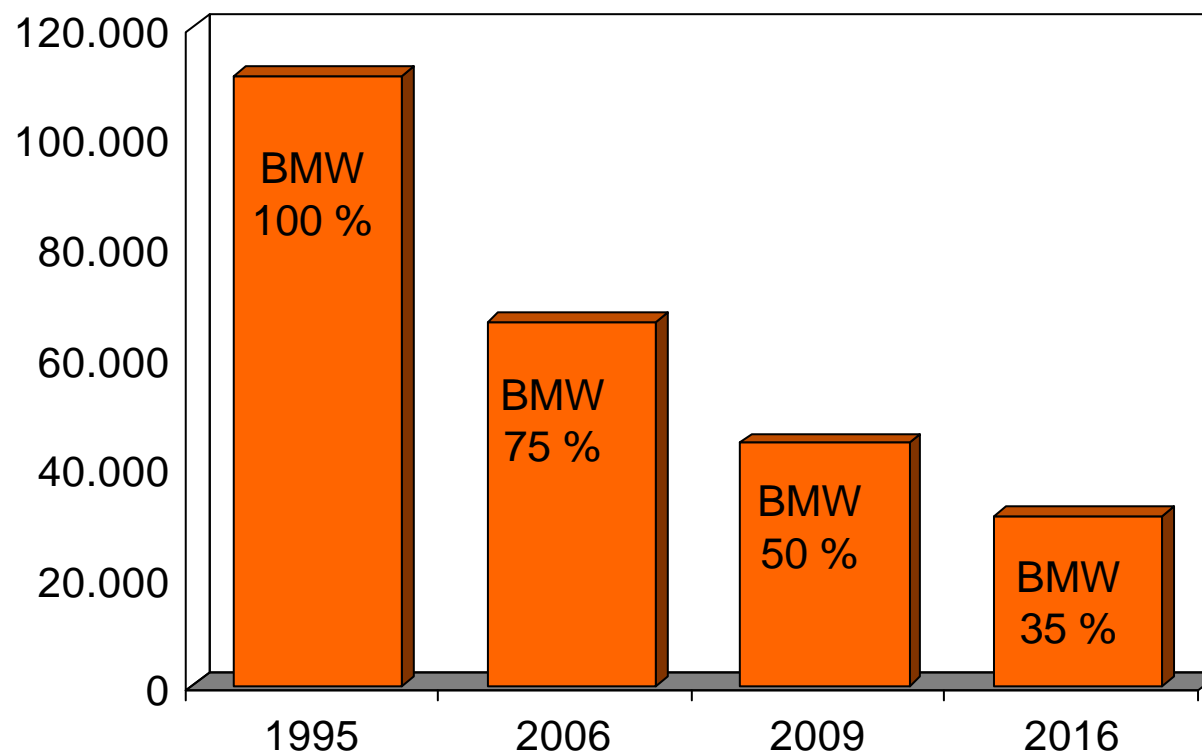
- Biowaste is a source for organic fertilising (humus and nutrients).
- Biowaste can be used as raw material for biogas production combined with the production of organic fertiliser (power, heat and compost).
- The use of biowaste gives a good opportunity for CO<sub>2</sub> reduction.
- A separate way for biowastes recycling offers the reduction of landfill consumption.





# Emissions of CO<sub>2</sub>-Equivalents from Landfills

Mio. t CO<sub>2</sub>-Equivalents

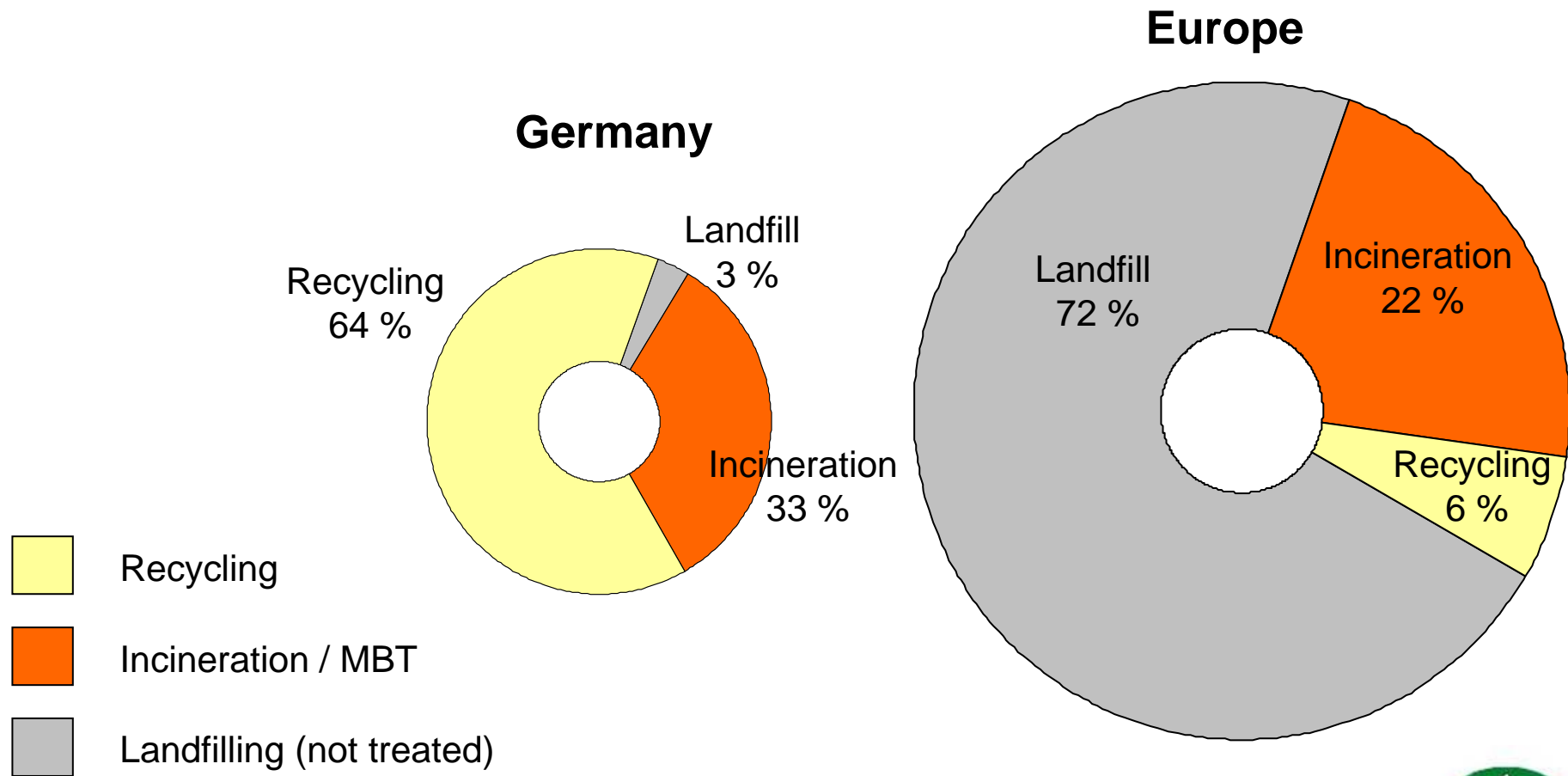


Content of biologically degradable material for landfilling (BMW)

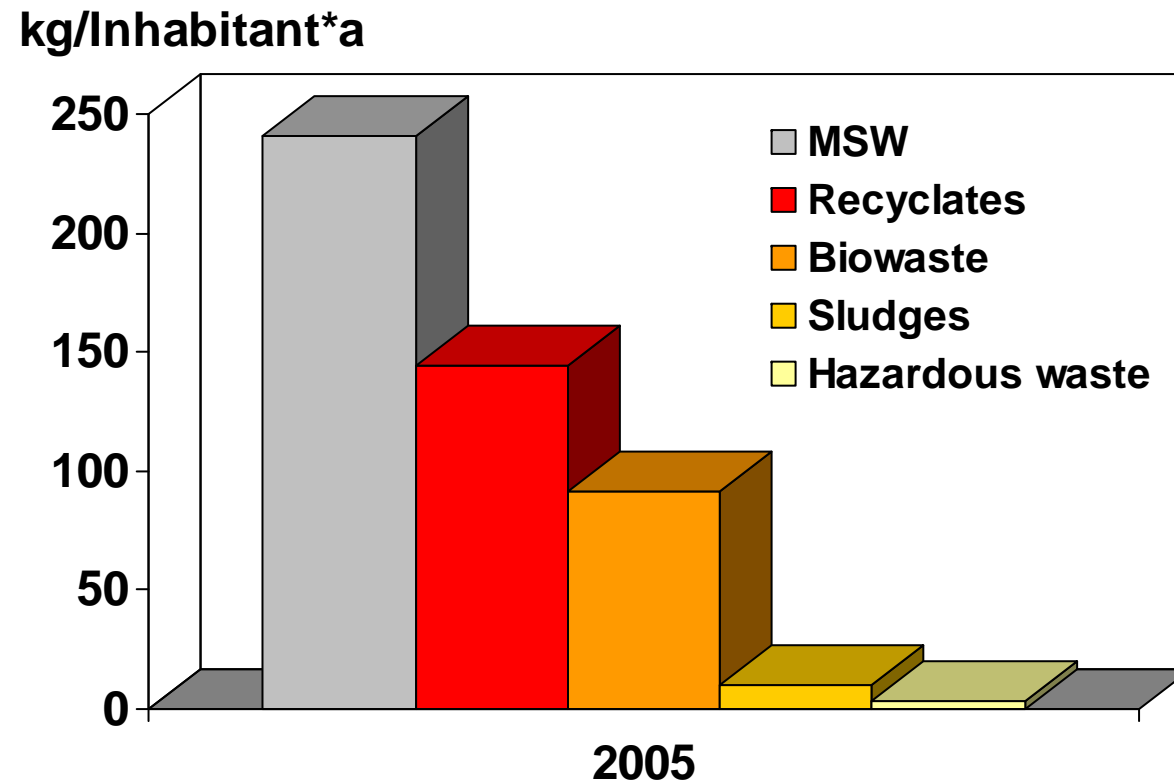
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# Management of Biodegradable Waste in Germany and Europe



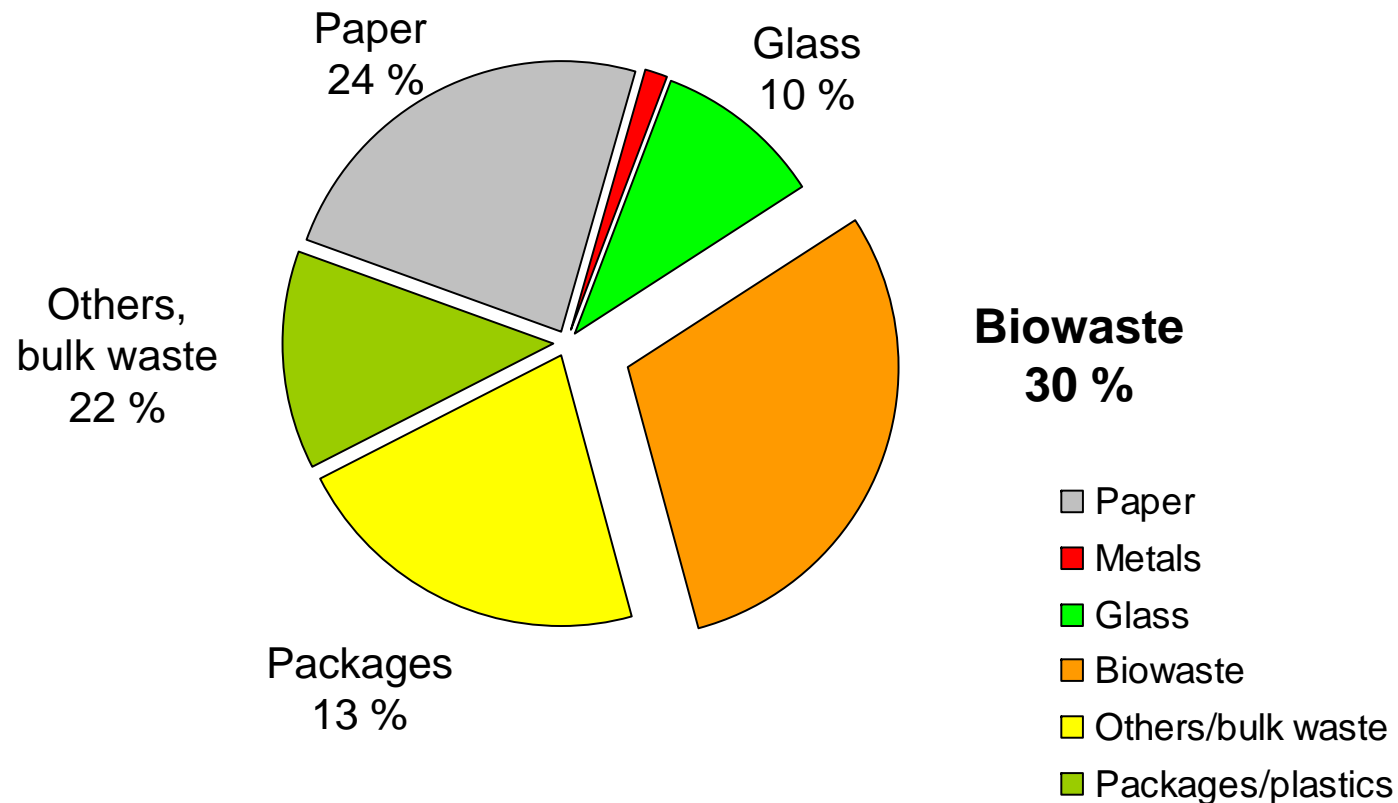
# Amount of Different Fractions of Household Waste in Germany 2005



Source: [www.umweltministerkonferenz.de](http://www.umweltministerkonferenz.de) / > Umweltinfos der Bundesländer



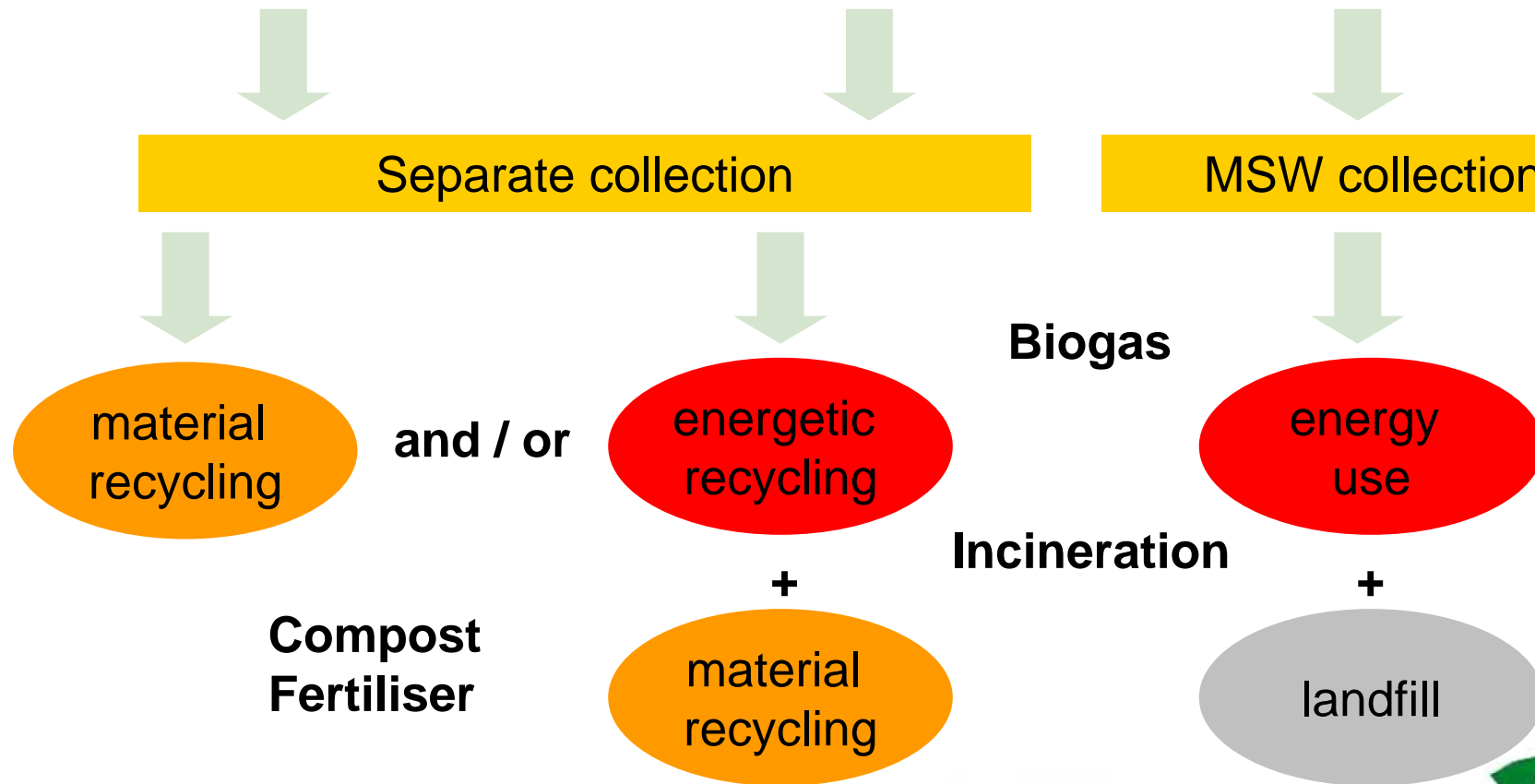
# Composition of Household Waste in Germany



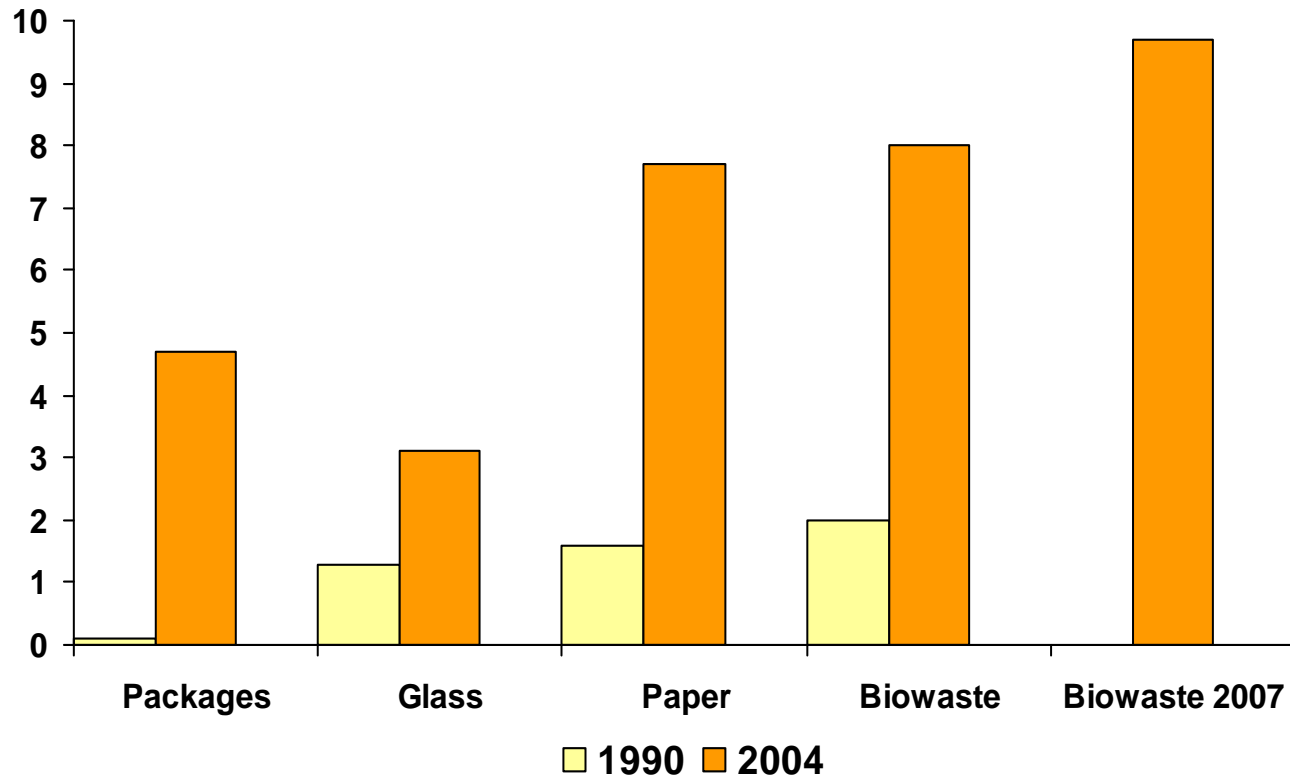
# The Ways of Biowaste

Biodegradable garden & park waste

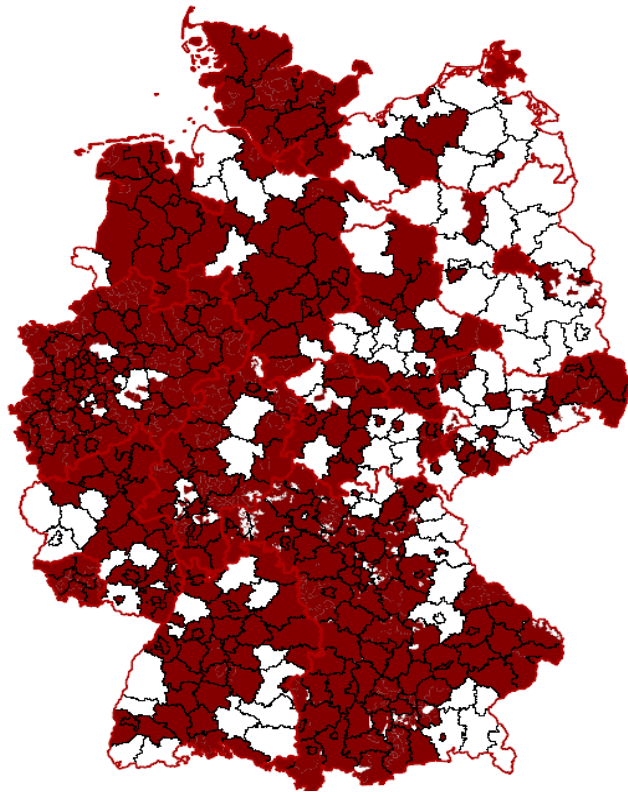
Biodegradable waste from households



# Development of Recovery of Recyclates in Germany



# Bio-bin Collection System in Germany



**Regions with bio-bin**



**Regions without bio-bin**

**18 % of Germany's inhabitants**

**Participation rate in areas with bio-bin:**

**60 % inhabitants of these areas**



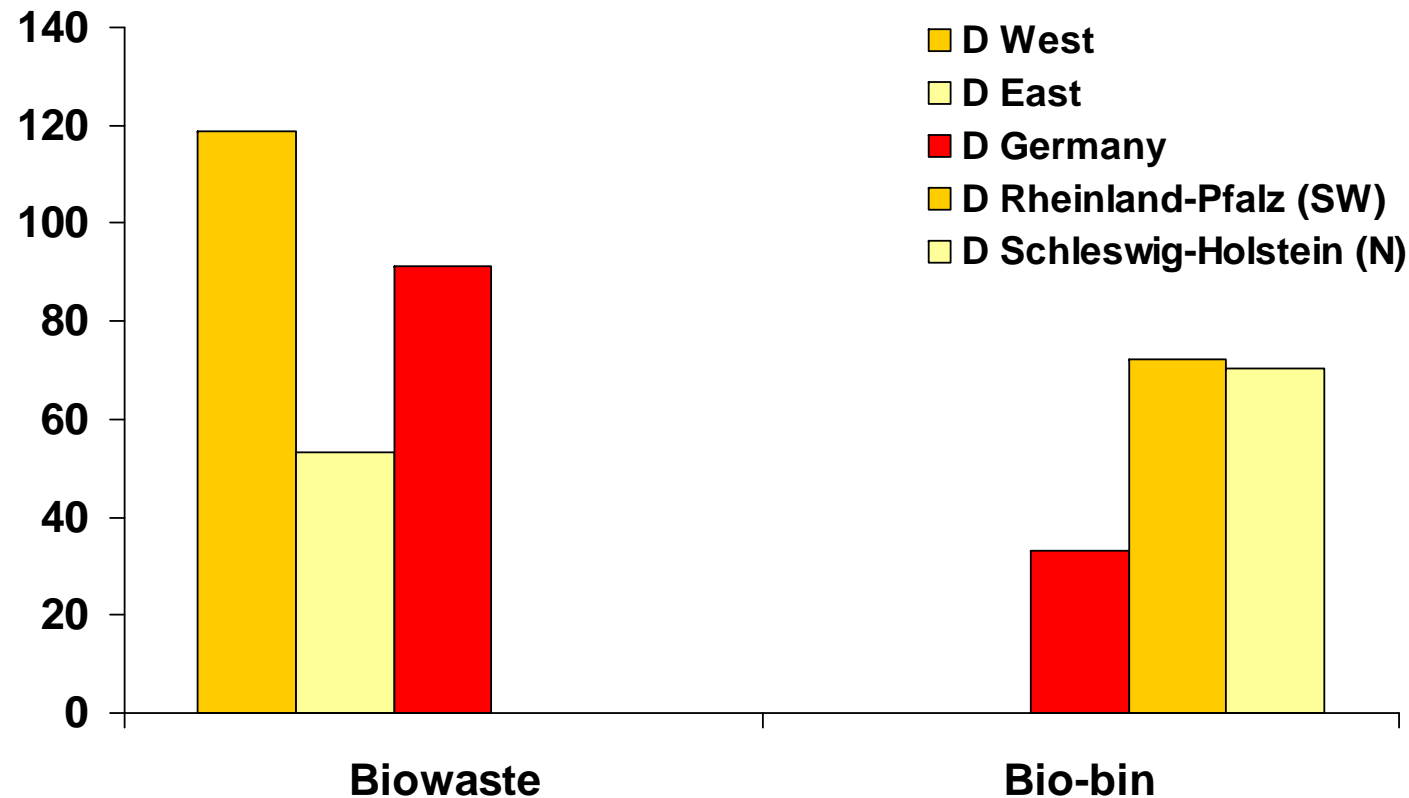
Source: REMONDIS GmbH & Co.KG

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# Collection of Biodegradable Waste in Germany 2005

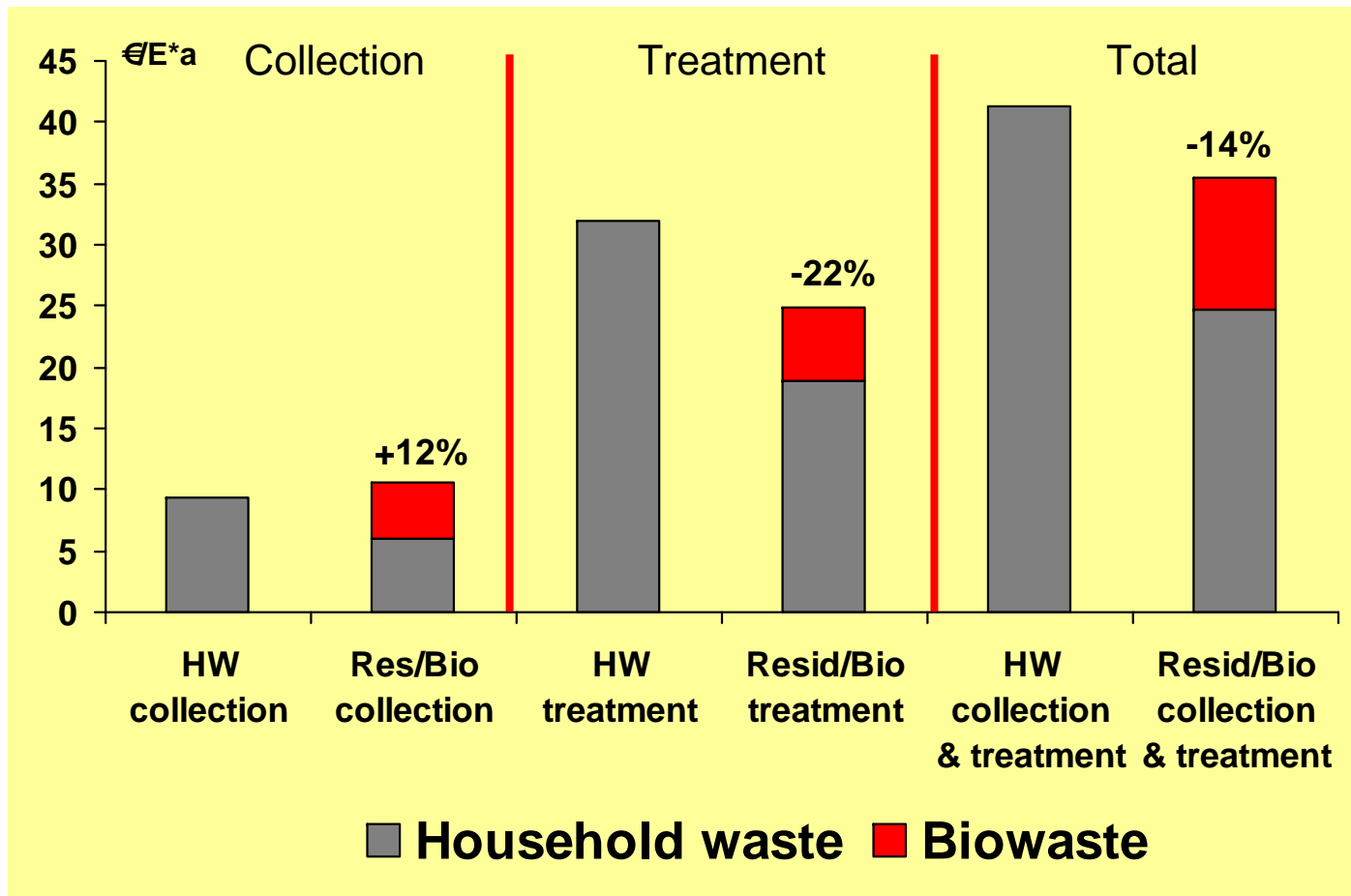


Source: [www.umweltministerkonferenz.de](http://www.umweltministerkonferenz.de) / > Umweltinfos der Bundesländer



# Costs of separate Collection

- Rural disposal area -



# Sustainable Targets with the Management of Biowastes

Targets	Incineration <sup>1)</sup>	Recovery <sup>2)</sup>
Reduction of methane emissions <sup>3)</sup>	++	+
Use of plant nutrients	-	+
Generation of humus fertilisers	-	+
Substitution of peat	-	+
Generation of energy and heat	-	(+)

1) Incineration as pre-treatment prior to landfilling

2) Separate collection and material recycling of biowastes (composting and digestion, proportionate also energy recovery of biowastes rich in calorific values)

3) Reduction of methane emissions, which would arise at the landfilling of not treated urban wastes with fractions of biowastes



# Benefit Value of Biowastes

## - Treatment Options -

Treatment Options	Compost	Digestion			Incineration
	material solid	energ./ material solid	energ./ material liquid	energ./ thermal dry	energ./ thermal dry
	Material recovery			Energy Recovery	
Humus reproduction	+++	++	+	-	-
Peat substitution	++	++	-	-	-
Nitrogen	+	+	+	-	-
Phosphorous	++	++	++	-	-
Other nutrients	++	++	++	-	-
Energy, heat	-	+	+	+(+)	++



# Benefit of Material Recovery of Biowastes

## Soil nutrition

Humus supply  
Humus effective for reproduction

Lime supply  
Alkaline material as CaO

## Plant nutrition

Basic fertilisation  
P, K, Mg, S and trace nutrients

Nitrogen  
Soluble contents, follow-up supply

## Component in mixtures

Growing Media and Substrates  
Top soils, Culture substrate



# Compost from Biodegradable Waste

**Currently about 50 % of German households are involved in the separate collection of biowaste (bio-bins/bio-containers).**



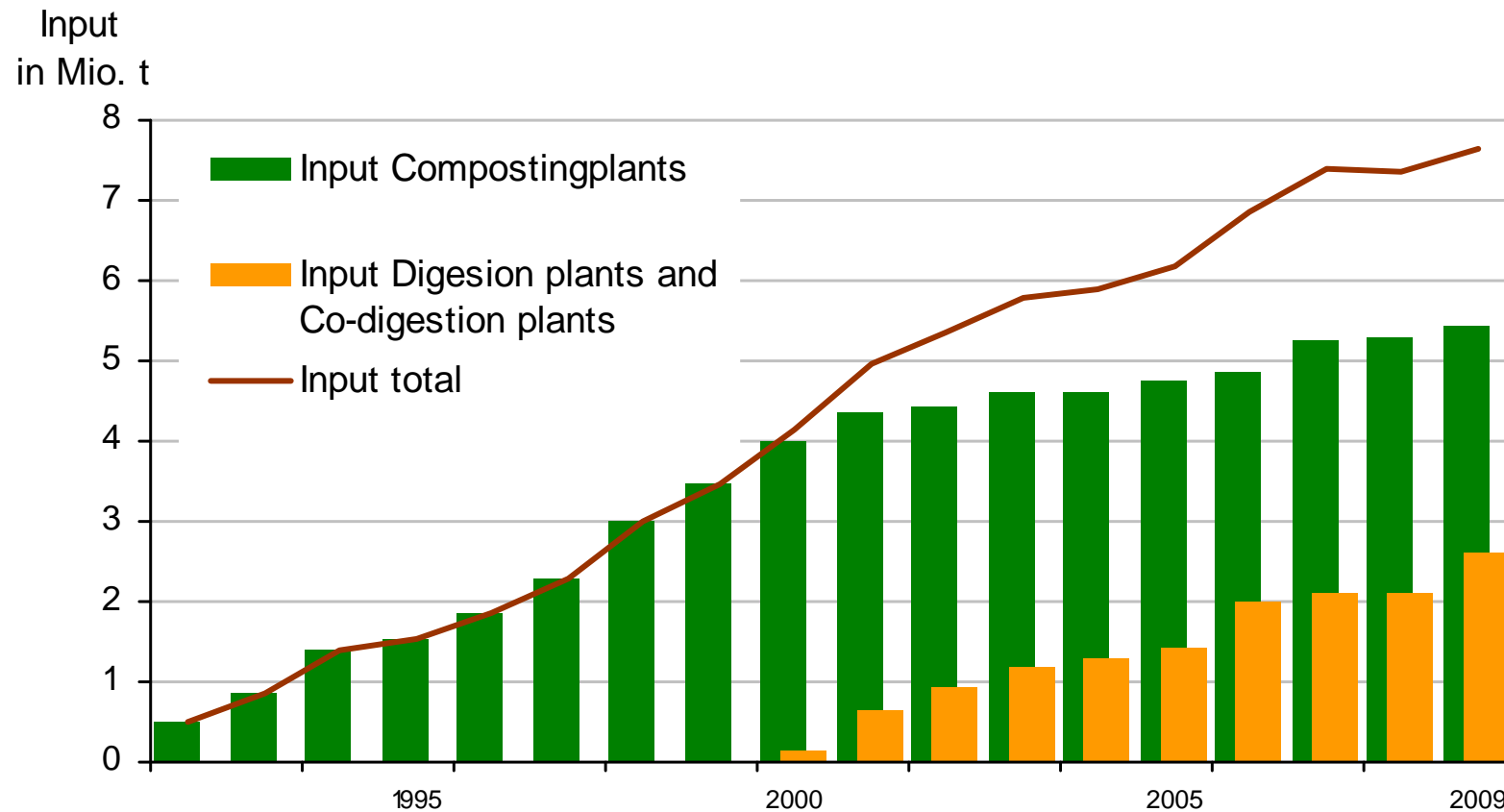
**Approximately 8 million tons of biowaste are treated in 800 composting plants to produce 5 million tons of compost.**



**70 % of the produced compost is labelled with the quality label RAL-GZ 251**






# Separate Collection of Biodegradable Waste





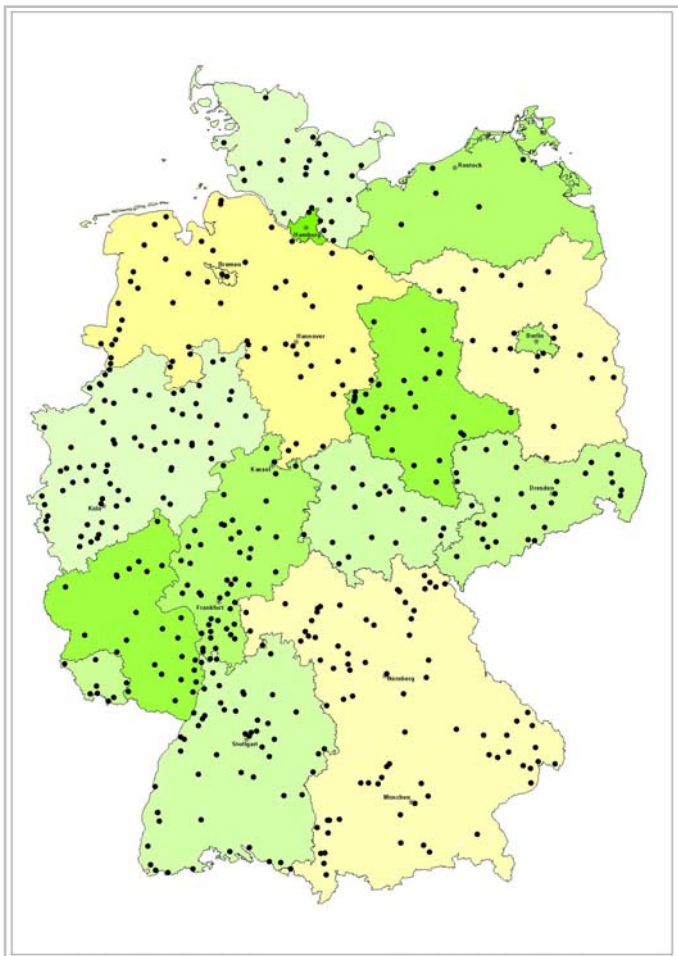
# Compost and digestate products in 2009

## Input amounts in 2009

			t/a
RAL-GZ 251		Compost	5.800.000
RAL-GZ 245		Digestate product from biowaste	2.070.000
RAL-GZ 246		Digestate product from renewable energy plant	330.000



# Composting and Digestion Plants 2009



## Production plants in the Quality Assurance System

Composting plants 433

Digestion plants 99



# Composting plants

**Open windrow composting more or less for park and garden waste, smaller amount of input materials < 10,000 t**

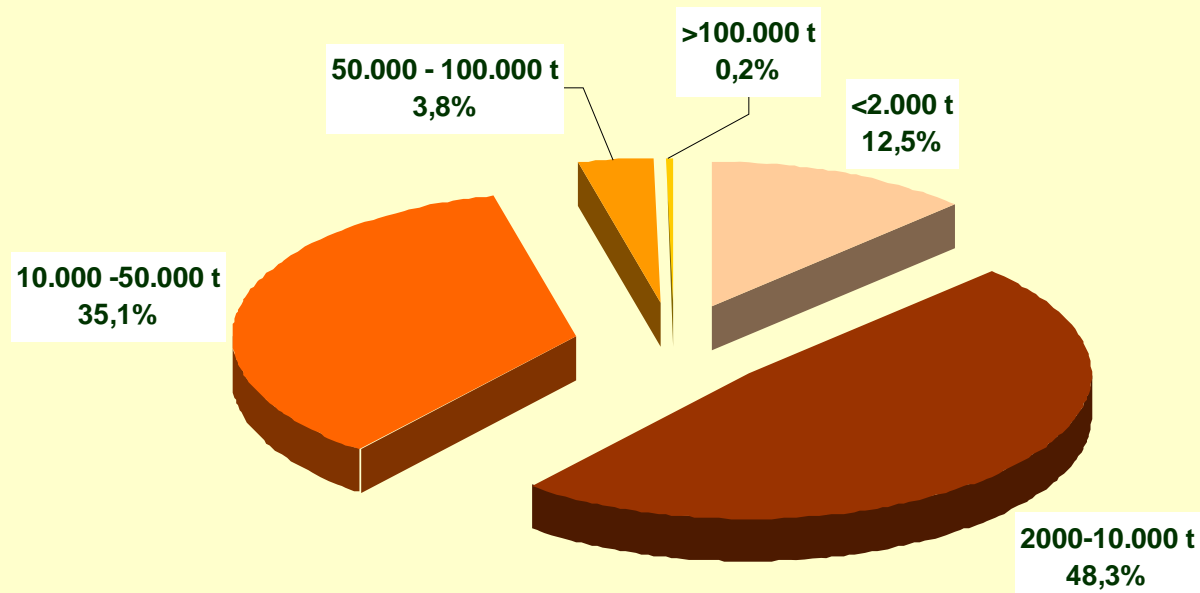


**Closed composting systems for biowaste from households, often more than > 10,000 t of input materials**

- **tunnel systems**
- **box/container systems**
- **bricolare systems**
- **windrow systems**



# Input Amount of Composting plants



# Composting process

Composting is a natural biological degradation process that is controlled and accelerated at a composting facility.

Composting is the transformation of biologically decomposable material through a controlled process of biooxidation, which results in the production of carbon dioxide, water, minerals and **stabilised organic matter** (compost or humus).



# Composting process in three phases

The composting process can be divided into three phases:

- A degradation phase  $\Rightarrow$  important for sanitisation (weed seeds and pathogens, thermophilic bacteria, actinomycetes and fungi)
- A conversion phase  $\Rightarrow$  temperature drops and other bacteria and fungi complete the decomposition
- A maturation phase  $\Rightarrow$  bacterial activity slows down, earthworms, springtails and mites



# Organisms involved in composting

Organisms	Number of organisms per gram of compost		
Bacteria	100 000 000	to	1 000 000 000
Actinomycetes	100 000	to	100 000 000
Fungi	10 000	to	1 000 000
Algae		up to	10 000
Viruses		not known	
Protozoae	10 000	to	100 000
Nematodes			
Ants	Varies greatly, depending on the raw material		
Springtails (Collembola)	and its state of decay.		
Mites			
Earthworms			





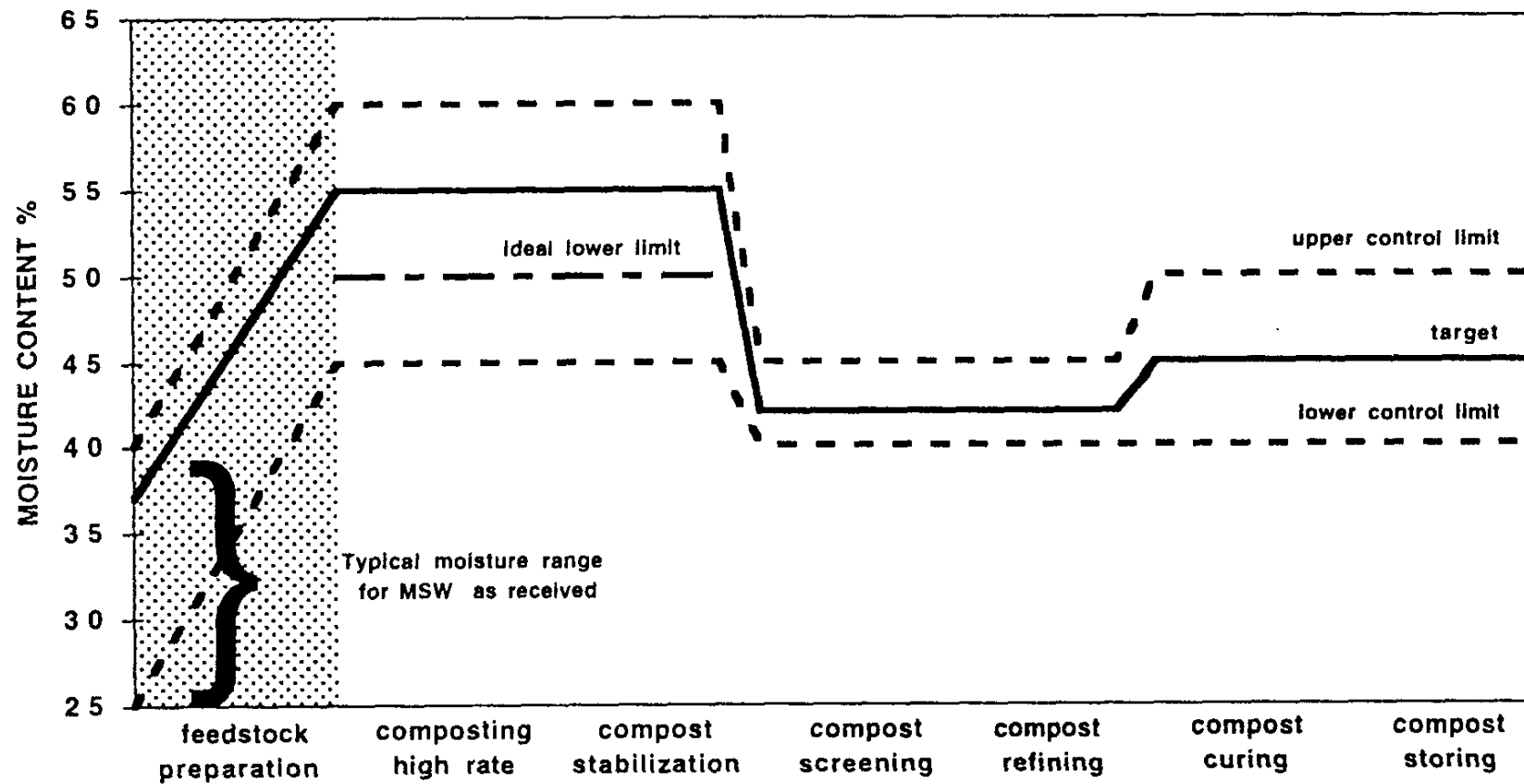
# Composting process control

The composting process is regulated by

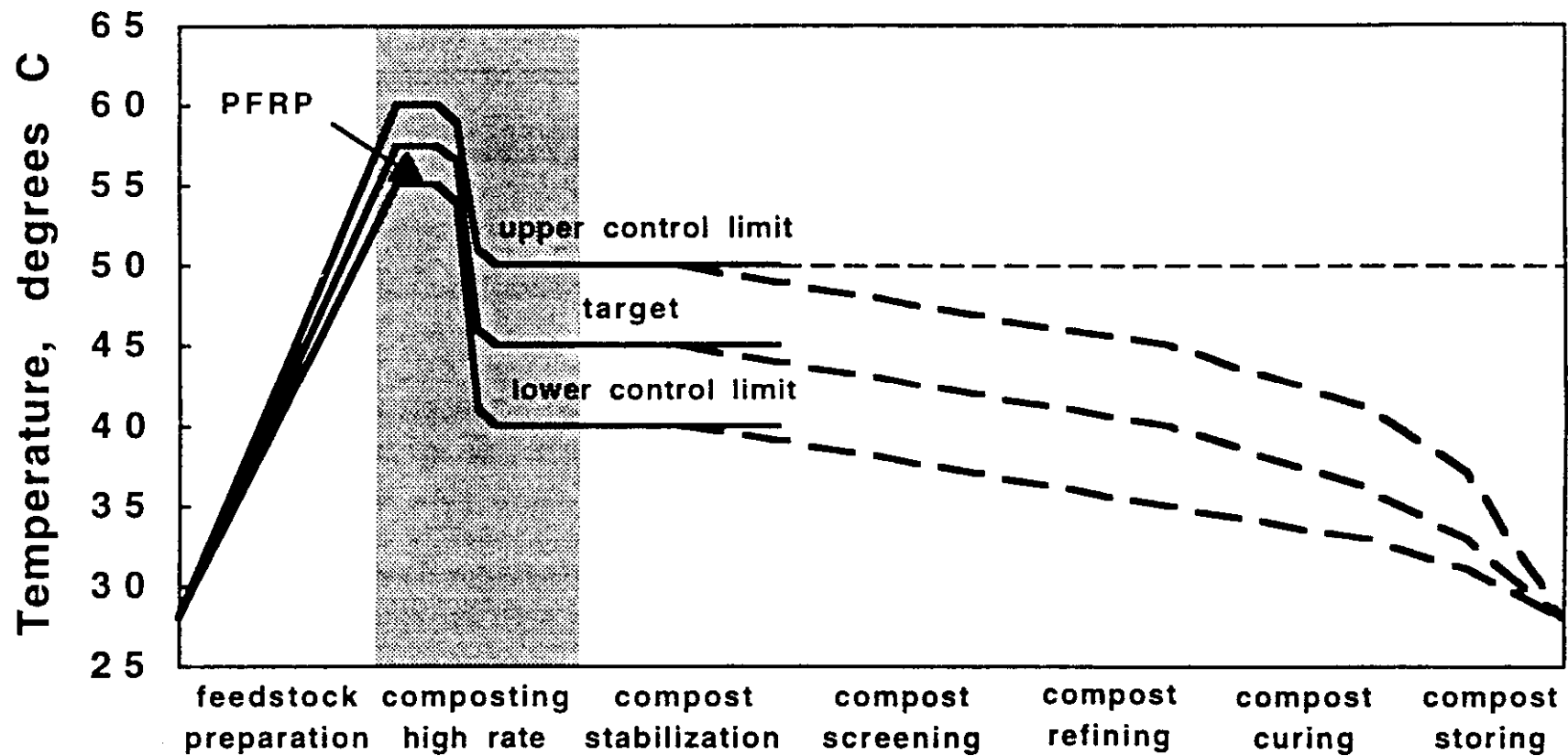
- **Aeration** to maintain optimum conditions for aerobic microbial activity, supply oxygen, immobilize ammonium, remove heat, carbon dioxide and moisture, strip volatile compounds and avoid anaerobic conditions.
- **Temperature control** to maximize the rate of decomposition and reduce pathogens.
- **Addition of make-up water** to maintain moisture content for aerobic conditions, and maximize organic decomposition.
- **Mechanical turning** to produce an uniform product.



# Ideal moisture profile



# Ideal temperature profile



# Operation systems in Germany

Defined composting operations of various producers can be united into specific construction- and plant categories to a „modular construction“ on account of their similar construction and processing methods.



The differences between the single construction types are based on the geometry of the heaps: triangle or table heaps.



# Construction categories

Classification of constructional conditions and basic system components in type categories:

Boxes/container systems

Bricolare systems

Tunnel systems

Windrow systems (open/enclosed)



# End of presentation



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# Composting and Quality Assurance in Germany

## Part 1a: Legal Specifications

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Bundesgütegemeinschaft  
Kompost e.V.





# Legal specifications in Germany

- **Ordinance on Biowastes – BioAbfV 1998**

Ordinance on the Utilisation of Biowastes on Land used for Agricultural, Silvicultural and Horticultural purposes

- **Fertiliser regulations**

Fertiliser regulation - DüV 2006

Ordinance for the declaration of fertilisers, soil improving agents, growing media and plant protection agents - DüMV 2003

- **Soil Protection Act - BBodSchG 1998**

Federal Soil Protection and Contaminated Sites Ordinance - BBodSchV 1999



# Ordinance on Biowastes (1)

## Ordinance on Biowastes (BioAbfV 1998)

- on the utilisation of biowastes on land used for agricultural, silvicultural and horticultural purposes
- is defined for untreated biowastes, aerobically treated biowastes (composts) and anaerobically treated biowastes (digestate residues)



# Ordinance on Biowastes (2)

The ordinance on biowastes regulates and includes:

- process requirements
- hygienic and precautionary environmental aspects of the material
- requirements for application



# Process Requirements – BioAbfV (1)

As a general rule the producers as well as the parties responsible for waste management have to treat the biodegradable material in such a way that the safety for use in terms of human, animal and plant health is guaranteed.

- Direct process validation (once)
- Indirect process supervision (continuous)
- Final product analysis (continuous)



# Process Requirements – BioAbfV (2)

## Operation conditions for sanitization

### Composting plants

- 55 °C for two weeks or
- 65°C (60°C in closed plants) for one week



### Digestion plants

- 55 °C should be maintained over a period of 24 hours and
- 20 days hydraulic dwell time in the reactor or
- 70 °C for 1 hour



# Direct Process Validation - BioAbfV

**Procedure degree of efficiency on hygienic aspects**

**Dumping and retrieval of test and indicator organisms**

- Human and veterinary hygienic aspects (salmonellae)
- Phyto hygienic aspects (tobacco mosaic virus (TMV), clubroot (plasmodiophora brassicae) and tomato seed



# Indirect Process Supervision - BioAbfV

- Continuous temperature management  
Every working day or automatically in  
three representatives zones
- Compliance with necessary treatment  
temperature



# Final Product Analysis

## Continuous examinations of the final product

- Salmonellae
- Germinative seeds and reproducible plant parts





# Environmental Criteria

Parameter	Class Type 1	Class Type 2
Impurities (glass, metals, plastics) % dm	$\leq 0,5$	$\leq 0,5$
Lead (Pb) mg/kg dm	100	150
Cadmium (Cd) mg/kg dm	1,0	1,5
Chromium (Cr) mg/kg dm	70	100
Copper (Cu) mg/kg dm	70	100
Nickel (Ni) mg/kg dm	35	50
Mercury (Hg) mg/kg dm	0,7	1,0
Zinc (Zn) mg/kg dm	300	400



# Application requirements

The total amount of biowastes (dry matter) applied per hectare within a period of three years shall not exceed

**Type 1**                      **30 t dm**

**Type 2**                      **20 t dm**

## Further restrictions

Treated separately collected biowaste from households is not allowed for application on permanent grassland.



# Fertiliser Regulation

**Fertiliser regulation -  
relevant for agriculture  
and gardening**

- Fertiliser regulation (DüV 2006)
- Ordinance for the declaration of fertilisers, soil improving agents, growing media and plant protection agents (DüMV 2003) ⇒ at this point composted waste turns into a labelled product and is declared as organic (N-P-K)-fertiliser or (P-K)-fertiliser.



# Soil protection regulations

## **Soil protection act (BBodSchG 1998)**

- relevant for landscaping

## **Federal Soil Protection and Contaminated Sites Ordinance (BBodSchV 1999)**

- regulates the application amount for specific landscaping purposes



# EU Regulations

**EC Reg n° 834/2007 –  
Regulation on Organic Farming**  
Specific environmental criteria are  
described for compost from  
separate collected household  
wastes



**EU ECO Label for soil improver -**  
promotes the production and reuse  
of organic waste



**(2006/799/EC 03.11.2006 L325/28)**

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Kompost e.V.



# Environmental Criteria on EU-level

Parameter	EC n° 834/2007	EU ECO label
Impurities (glass, metals, plastics) % dm	-	$\leq 0,5$
Lead (Pb) mg/kg dm	45	100
Cadmium (Cd) mg/kg dm	0,7	1,0
Chromium (Cr) mg/kg dm	70	100
Copper (Cu) mg/kg dm	70	100
Nickel (Ni) mg/kg dm	25	50
Mercury (Hg) mg/kg dm	0,4	1,0
Zinc (Zn) mg/kg dm	200	300



# EU Regulations

## **EU Reg n° 1774 – (ABPRnew 1069/2009)**

### **Regulation on Animal-by-products**

- Regulates specific requirements on the treatment of animal-by-products, if used as input materials in composting and digestion plants



# Animal-by-Product-Regulation

ABPR	Diverting national regulation or full implementation of Annex VI ABPR	Time/temp. regime	Max. Particle size	Closed reactor or open windrows	Final product testing		Waiting period for grazing/ harvesting of feeding stuff
					indicator pathogens tested	Requirement /limit	
<b>Catering waste from households</b>	National regulation (TierNebV)	Compost: 55°C/2 Weeks 65/60°C /1 week Fermentation: 55°C/24h 20 Days 70°/1h	-	Closed or Open windrow	Salmonella	Absent in 50g	
<b>Catering waste from central kitchens</b>	National regulation (TierNebV)	Compost: 55°C/2 Weeks 65/60°C /1 week Fermentation: 55°C/24h and Fermentation > 20 Days 70°/1h	-	Only closed reactor	Salmonella	Absent in 50g	
<b>Former foodstuff</b>	ABPR	70°/1h	12 mm	Closed or Open windrow	Salmonella E.coli	Absent in 25g < 1000 MPN / 4 of 5 samples 1000-5000 MPN / 1 of 5 samples	21 Days
<b>All other Cat. 3 material</b>	ABPR	70°/1h	12mm	Closed or Open windrow			21 Days
<b>Manure</b>	ABPR	-	-	-	-	-	-





# Legal Specifications

**End of presentation**



# Composting and Quality Assurance in Germany

## Part 2: Quality Assurance for Compost and Digestate

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Bundesgütegemeinschaft Kompost e.V.

Bundesgütegemeinschaft  
Kompost e.V.



# Development of the QAS

**The RAL quality assurance for compost was established in Germany in 1991.**

**The RAL quality assurance for digestate residuals was established in 2000. Revision in 2007.**

**The RAL quality assurance for sewage sludge compost was established in 2003.**



# RAL Quality Compost and Digestate Products in Germany

## Compost products (RAL-GZ 251):

- fresh compost
- mature compost
- compost for potting soil



## Digestate products from biowaste (RAL-GZ 245):

- solid and liquid digestates

## Digestate products from renewable energy crops (RAL-GZ 246):

- solid and liquid digestates

## Composted sludge products (RAL-GZ 258):

- sludge-based mature compost
- sludge-based fresh compost



# State of Quality Assurance in Germany



RAL - GZ 251  
433 plants



RAL - GZ 245  
99 plants



RAL - GZ 246  
8 plants



RAL - GZ 258  
14 plants



# Benefits of BGK

- **Quality assurance system (QAS)**
- **Product standards**
- **Legal safety**
- **Information service**
- **Local consideration**



# Benefits of participation in BGK QAS

❖ QAS	❖ Produkt Standards	❖ Legal safety	❖ Information Service	❖ Regional Consideration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conferring of quality labels</li> <li>• Organisation of QAS</li> <li>• Documentation and certificates</li> <li>• ZAS (central evaluation station)</li> <li>• HBPS (hygiene modular construction system )</li> <li>• Lab recognition, methods book</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regulations for quality and examination</li> <li>• Product declaration (i.e. for fertilizer regulations)</li> <li>• Influence on product standards</li> <li>• Coordination of market demands</li> <li>• Continuing progression</li> <li>• Statistical examinations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring of legislation regulations</li> <li>• Assistance with the realisations</li> <li>• Representation of the concerns of practice</li> <li>• Questions of product liability</li> <li>• Qualification of raw materials</li> <li>• Certificates for authorities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Journal „Humus &amp; KomPost“</li> <li>• Application recommendations and advertising material for members</li> <li>• Consideration in individual cases</li> <li>• Contact for institutes, administration etc.</li> <li>• Expert questions</li> <li>• Internet presence</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local considerations</li> <li>• Authority contacts</li> <li>• Exchange of experience</li> <li>• Special events</li> <li>• Representation of special local concerns</li> </ul>



# Targets of Quality Assurance

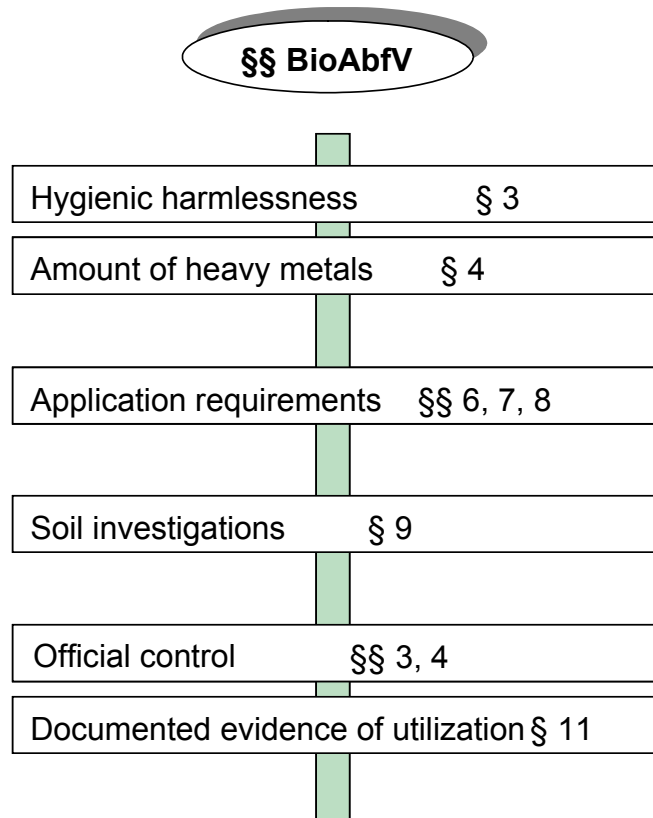
- Specification of products with a guaranteed homogenous quality
- Enhancement of product quality and operation quality
- Guarantee for a successful use of the products
- Deregulation and recognition of certified products by legal authorities, in agricultural systems and by food processing industry
- Promotion of the re-use of waste "from waste to product"



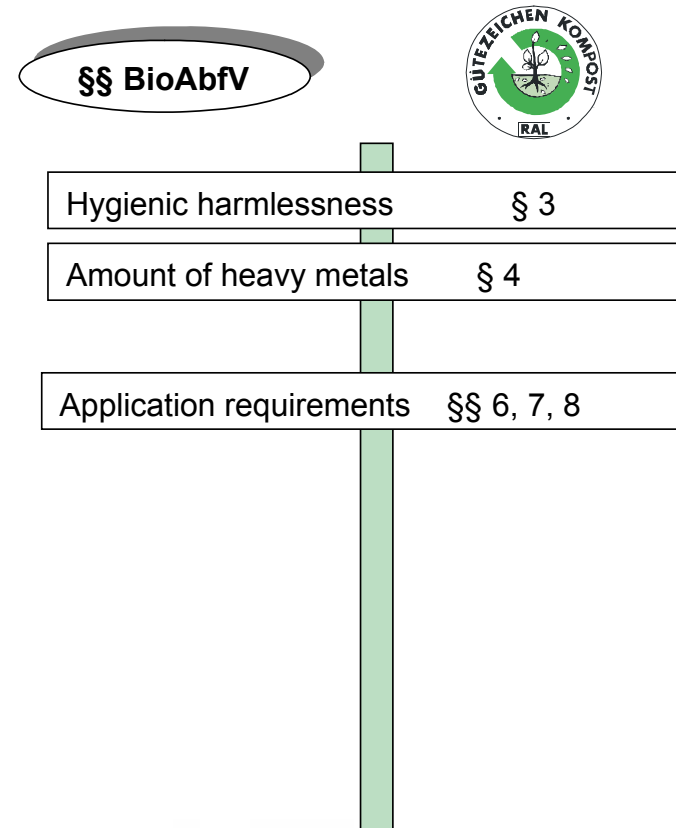


# Advantages of Quality Assurance

## Without Quality Assurance



## With Quality Assurance



# Application Areas of BGK QAS

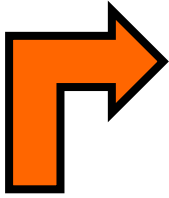
- Implementation of the RAL- quality assurance systems
- Information for operators and production plants
- On-site inspection and consultation by an independent quality manager
- Recognition of test laboratories (implementation of ring tests)
- Recognition of sample taker (courses for sample taking)
- Elaboration of application requirements for good practical use



# Contents of Quality Assurance System

- ➔ **Process requirements and suitable input materials**
- ➔ **Independent analysis and declaration of the product quality**
- ➔ **Documentation and application requirements**





**Composting / Digestion  
Plant**  
Member of Quality Assurance  
Organisation (BGK)

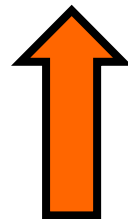
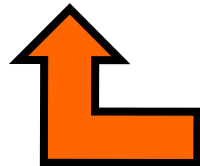
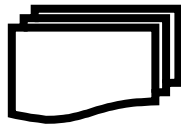


### Quality Committee

control, sanctions, measures

**Sample Taker**

**Acknowledged  
Laboratory**



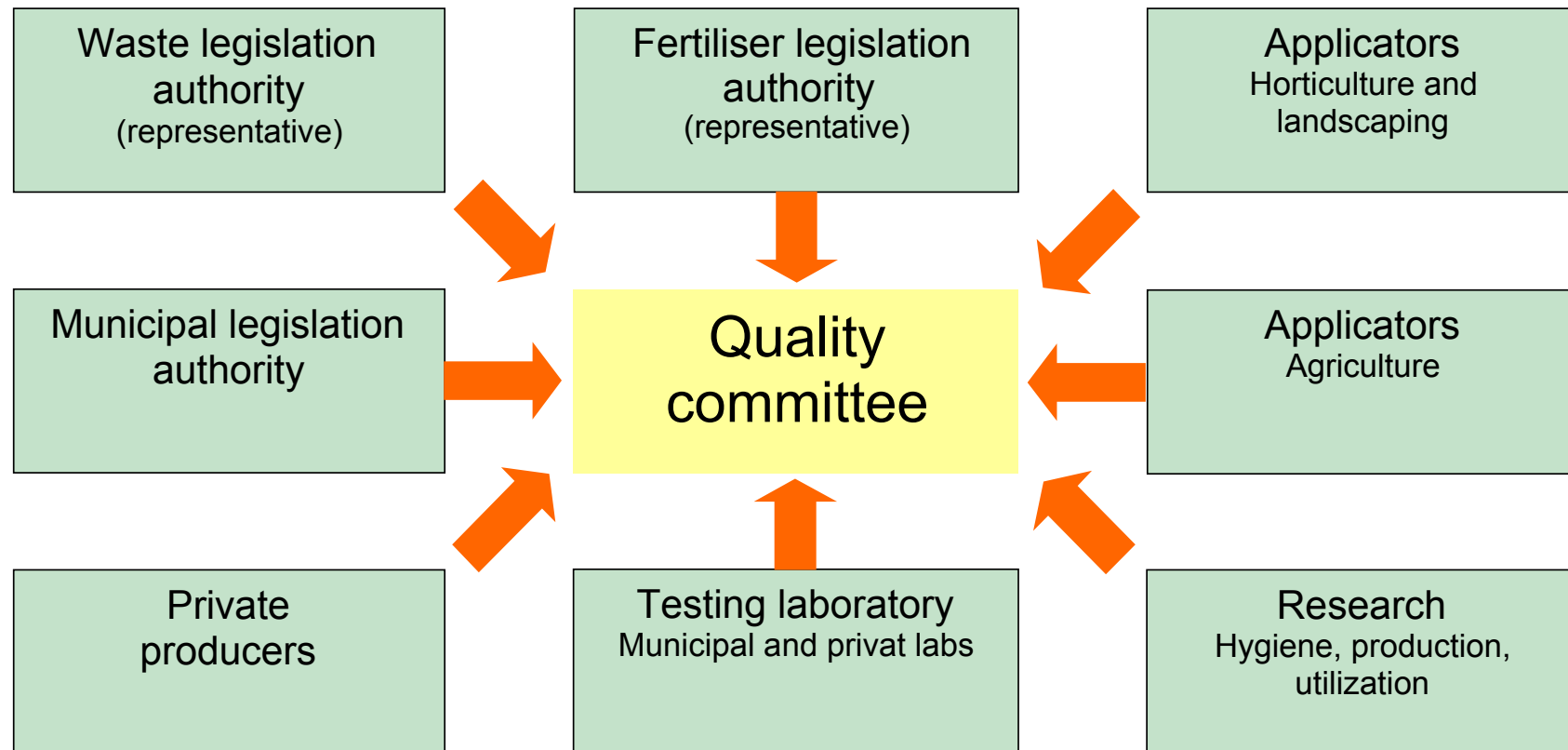
**Quality Assurance  
Organisation**  
central data base



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# Quality Committee



# Course of Quality Assurance System

## 2-Step Quality Assurance System

**Recognition Procedure**  
single



**Supervision Procedure**  
continuous



# Contents of Quality Assurance System

## Input Materials



- in accordance with the biowaste ordinance and fertiliser regulation
- operation control by plant visits of independent quality managers
- control by independent sample takers and by declaration in analysis report

## Independent analysis and declaration of the product quality



- 4 -12 times a year, depends on the amount of input material
- control and sanctions by an independent quality committee
- certification with product declaration according to the fertiliser regulation

## Application requirements



- application requirements based on the biowaste and fertiliser regulation
- application requirements due to good practical use



# Recognition of Laboratories

## Qualification possibilities for laboratories

1. Inter-laboratory trial organised by BGK
2. Participation at another inter-laboratory trial which is accepted by BGK
3. Single qualification

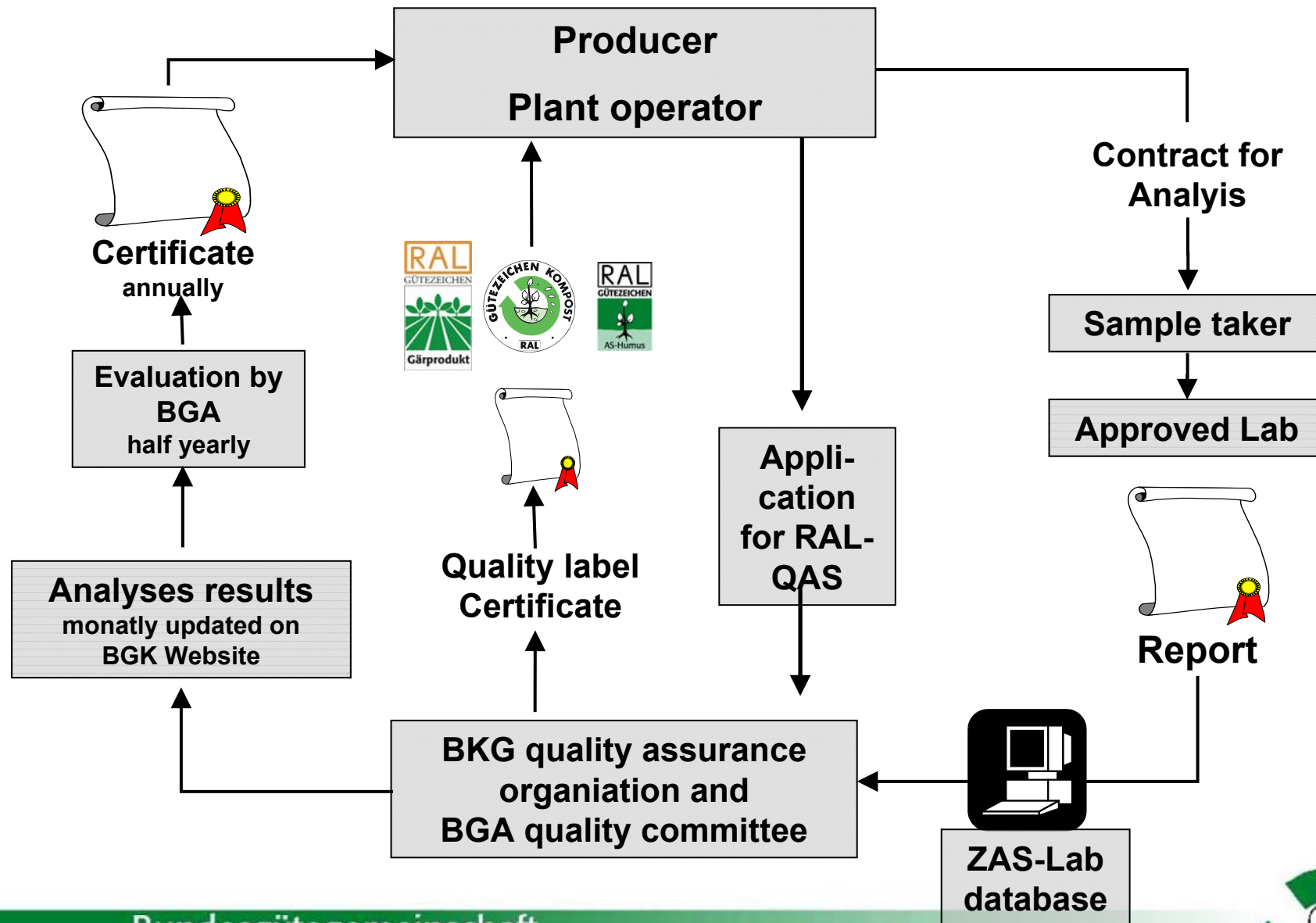




# Sample Taking and Analysis

- According to the methods book of BGK
- Accomplishment only by ordered and recognised lab
- Independancy and education of sample taker
- Samples have to supply a representative sample
- Samples must only be taken from goods ready for sale





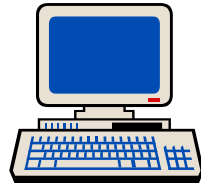
# Central Data Evaluation (ZAS)

## Approved Sample taker

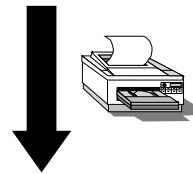
- Sample
- Protocol



## Approved lab



**ZASLab Lab software**

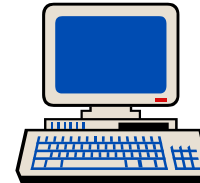


- Result reports

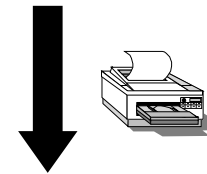


Email-Versand

## BGK office

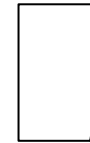


**ZAS Central database**



- Control certificate
- Annual certificat
- Analyses survey
- Sampling plan
- Survey of all results

## Plant manager



- Application of QAS
- Annal date (online)



# Documentation and Record System

- **Analysis records**

Analysis results of one batch

- **Quality certificate**

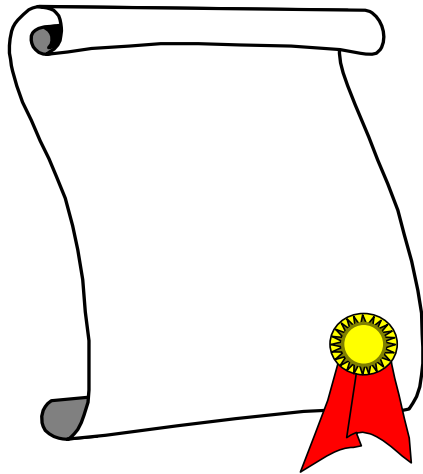
Results and evaluation of analysis of the last year

- **Documentation overview**

Summary report of all analysis results for the operator and the quality assurance committee for control and sanctions



# Annual Report



- **Documentation of the concrete quality attributes**
- **Product declaration for fertiliser regulations**
- **Accordance with current legislations and regulations**
- **Median values of valuable ingredients and the spectrum of the expected variance (tolerance)**
- **Calculation base for fertilization account and counselling**
- **Application recommendations for horticulture, agriculture and landscaping**



# Annual report

Quality assurance system

Legal conformity

Product declaration

Further specifications

**BUNDESGÜTEGEMEINSCHAFT**  
**KOMPOST E.V.**

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**Fremdüberwachungszeugnis 2003**

**Produktinformation**  
 9999 Fertigkompost

Seite 1 von 4


**Erzeugnis:** Fertigkompost  
**Hersteller:** Mustermann GmbH  
 Muster Allee 1  
 04567 Musterstadt

**Kompostanlage:** Musterwald

**Anlagennummer:**  

9999

**Erzeugnis entspricht:**  
  
 Das Erzeugnis unterliegt der Fremdüberwachung durch die Bundesgütegemeinschaft Kompost e.V.



☒ RAL Gütezeichen Kompost  
  
☒ Düngemittelverordnung  
☒ Bioabfallverordnung  
☒ gemäß § 4 Abs. 3 Satz 1  
☒ gemäß § 4 Abs. 3 Satz 2  
☒ Bodenschutzverordnung  
☒ EU-Umweltzeichen  
☒ EU-Öko-Verordnung 2092/91

**Warendeklaration (1)**  

**Fertigkompost**  
**Organischer NPK-Dünger 0,7 - 0,5 - 0,5**  
  
 0,72 % N Gesamtstickstoff  
 0,51 % P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> Gesamtphosphat  
 0,52 % K<sub>2</sub>O Gesamtkalium  
 21,0 % Organische Substanz  
 0,01 % Zn Gesamtzink  
  
**Zusammensetzung / Ausgangsstoffe:**  
 50 % Pfl. Abfälle aus der Garten- und Landschaftspflege  
 50 % Bioabfall aus der Getrenntsammlung priv. Haus.  
  
**Hinweise:**  
 Anrechenbare Nährstoffe im Anwendungsjahr:  
 Stickstoff 8 %, Phosphat und Kalium 100 %  
 Lagerung: Vermeiden von Abtragungen und Auswaschungen.  
  
 Unter Berücksichtigung der guten fachlichen Praxis der Düngung  
 dürfen auf landwirtschaftlich, forstwirtschaftlich und gärtnerisch  
 genutzten Böden innerhalb von 3 Jahren bis zu 48 t/ha aufgebracht  
 werden.  
  
 Auf abfallrechtliche, wasserrechtliche und düngemittelrechtliche  
 Vorschriften wird verwiesen.  
  
**Nettogewicht**  
**Inverkehrbringer**

**Weitere Angaben (2)**  

Volumengewicht	605 g/l
Körnung (4)	Sieblinie mm
lost. Salzgehalt	2,45 g/l
pH-Wert (CaCl <sub>2</sub> )	7,35
C/N-Verhältnis	17
Stickstoff gesamt (N <sub>tot</sub> )	0,72 % FM
Stickstoff organisch (N <sub>org</sub> )	0,70 % FM
Stickstoff löslich (N <sub>l</sub> )	129 mg/l
Phosphat gesamt (P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> )	0,51 % FM
Phosphat löslich (P <sub>l</sub> O <sub>5</sub> )	1293 mg/l
Kalium gesamt (K <sub>2</sub> O)	0,52 % FM
Kalium löslich (K <sub>l</sub> O)	3156 mg/l
Magnesium gesamt (MgO)	0,38 % FM
Magnesium löslich (Mg)	170 mg/l
Bas. wirts. Stoffe als CaO	1,96 % FM
Nutzwertindex (3)	11
Hygiene geprüft	
Frei von keimfähigen Samen u. Pflanzenteilen	
Frei von Fremdstoffen	
Anwendungsempfehlungen nach guter fachlicher Praxis siehe Seiten 3 und 4.	

(1) Warendeklaration gemäß Düngemittelverordnung. Hinweise zur Lagerung und Anwendung können ggf. ergänzt werden.  
 Nettogewicht, Inverkehrbringer oder Abweichungen (Ausgangsstoffe, Nährstoffe) sind jeweils aktuell zu ergänzen.  
 (2) Weiteres, nach Düngemittelverordnung zulässige freiwillige Angaben. Anwendungsempfehlungen sind im Rahmen der Warendeklaration zu berücksichtigen.  
 (3) Erläuterungen zum Nutzwertindex in "Bestimmung des Nutzwertes organischer Sekundärnährstoffdünger und Bodenverbesserungsmittel", Best.-Nr. 260  
 (4) Maschenweite des zur Herstellung des Produktes verwendeten Siebes

**Bundesgütegemeinschaft**  
**Kompost e.V.**

# Application Recommendations

**Application recommendations are based on the analysis results of the last year and are included in the annual quality certificate.**

## **Contents of the Annual Quality Certificate**

- Product type
- Agreement with legislation and specific regulation (water retention areas)
- Declaration according to fertiliser regulation
- Quality criteria and analysis results with variation range
- Calculation of application rate and application recommendations according to good practical use





# Certification Document



Bundesgütegemeinschaft  
Kompost e.V.





# Process Requirements for Composting Plants

are characterised by

- suitable input materials,
- operation conditions for sanitization (55 °C for two weeks or 65°C (60°C in closed plants) for one week,
- hygiene model type system (HBPS),
- good plant management (reduction of odour emissions, effective separation of impurities).



is proved by

- regular plant inspections.

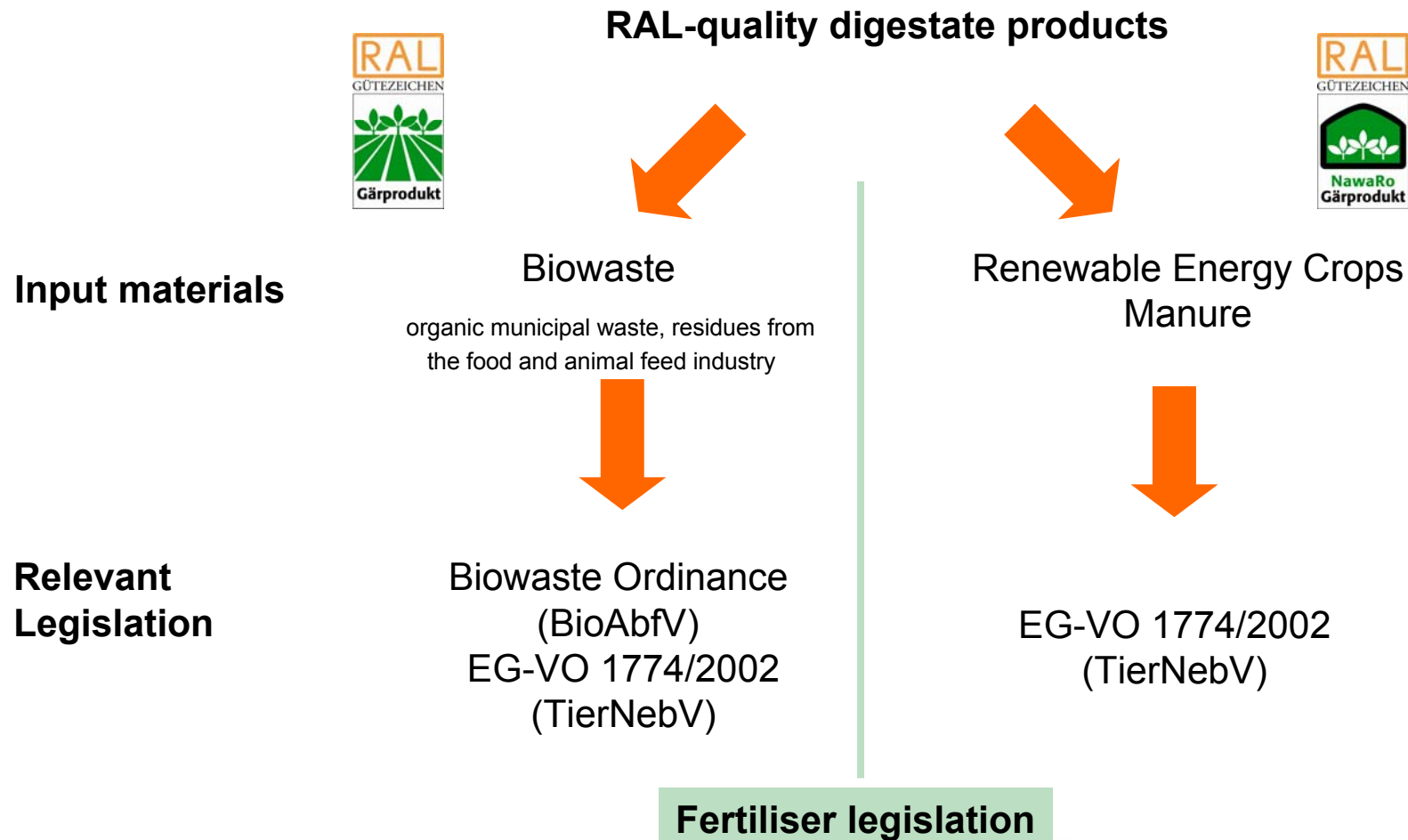


# Product Analysis of Compost Products for Recognition and Monitoring

Input Amount (t/a)	Recognition procedures	Monitoring procedures
< 2.000	4	<b>&lt; 8000 t input material per year 4 analysis</b>  <b>≥ 8.000 t input material one analysis for every 2.000 t input material per year but as maximum 12 analysis per year</b>
≥ 2.001	6	
≥ 6.001	8	
≥ 12.001	12	



# Differentiation of the RAL quality for Digestate Products



# Process Requirements and Input Materials for Digestation



## Input materials

**Biowaste from separate collected organic municipal waste, residues from the food and animal feed industry**



## Process requirements

**Sanitization at 70 °C for at least 1 h or thermophilic fermentation at > 55° for 24 h and a dwell time of 20 days**

**Salmonella not traceable**

**Renewable energy crops, Manure, slurry, dung, straw**



**Treatment at > 37 °C for a dwell time of 20 days**



**Salmonella not traceable**



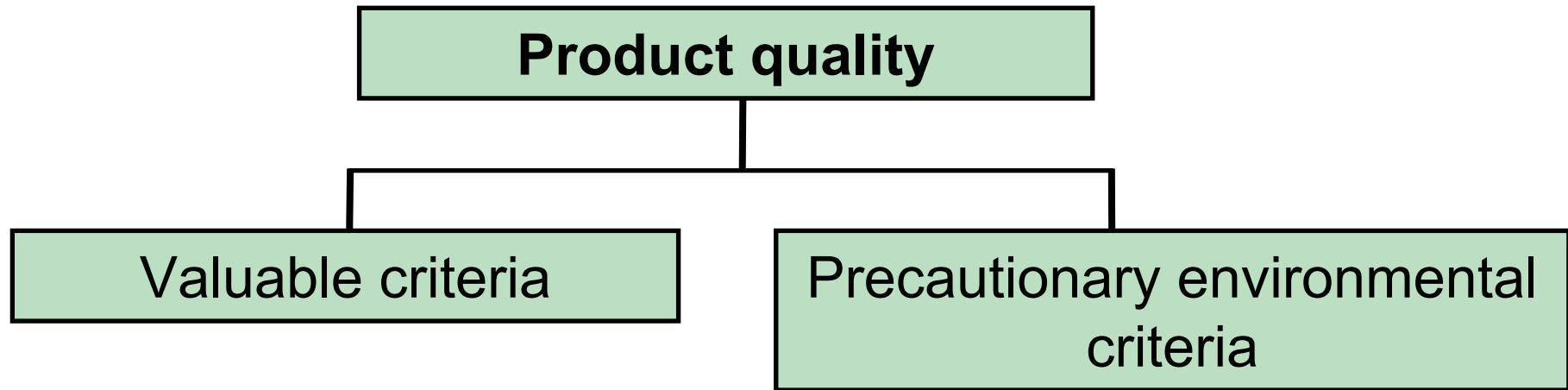
- operation control by plant visits of independent quality managers
- control by independent sample takers and by declaration in analysis report



# Product Analysis of Digestate Residues for Recognition and Monitoring

Quality label/Quality assurance		Recognition procedures	Monitoring procedures
	<b>Digestate product from biowaste (RAL-GZ 245)</b>	<b>one analysis for every 1.500 t input material per year</b>	<b>one analysis for every 2.000 t input material per year</b>
		<b>min. 4, max. 12 per year</b>	<b>min. 4, max. 12 per year</b>
	<b>Digestate product from renewable energy crops (RAL-GZ 246)</b>	<b>one analysis for every 1.500 t input material per year</b>	<b>one analysis for every 8.000 t input material per year</b>
		<b>min. 4, max. 8 per year</b>	<b>min. 2, max. 4 per year</b>





- **Decomposition degree (compost)**
- **Degree of fermentation (digestate)**
- **Bulk density**
- **pH-value, salt content**
- **Plant nutrients**
- **Carbonats**
- **Organic matter content**
- **Hygienic aspects (salmonellae)**
- **Viable weeds and plant parts**
- **Impurities**
- **Potential toxic substances (heavy metals)**
- **Degree of pollution (visible content of impurities)**



# Product Quality – valuable criteria

Quality criteria	Parameter	Compost fresh / mature	Digestate solid / liquid
Organic matter	Loss on ignition [M. %]	≥ 15 / ≥ 30	≥ 30 / ≥ 40
Dry matter	Dry matter [M.-%]	≥ 55	-
Nutrients	N <sub>t</sub> , P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> , K <sub>2</sub> O, MgO, S [% / dm]	Declaration	Declaration
Alkaline effective matter	CaO [% / dm]	Declaration	Declaration
Nitrogen soluble	NH <sub>4</sub> -N+NO <sub>3</sub> -N [mg/l FM]	Declaration	Declaration
Salt content	Salt content [g/l FM]	Declaration	Declaration
pH-value	pH-value	Declaration	Declaration
Rotting degree / Fermentation degree	°C / Organic acids [mg/l]	60 – 40,1 / ≤ 40 -	- < 1500



# Precautionary Environmental Criteria

Parameter	Limit value	Remark
Impurities > 2 mm [% dm]	$\leq 0.5$	
Degree of pollution [cm <sup>2</sup> / l FM]	$\leq 25$	Only determinable, if impurity content exceed 0.1 M.-%
Pb [mg /kg dm]	150	
Cd [mg /kg dm]	1.5	
Cr [mg /kg dm]	100	
Ni [mg /kg dm]	50	
Cu [mg /kg dm]	100	If the content of Cu and Zn is referred to manure etc., plausible higher values in digestate are allowed.
Zn [mg /kg dm]	400	
Hg [mg /kg dm]	1.0	
Viable seeds and sprouting plant parts	2 seeds / l	





# Compost from Biodegradable Waste

**Currently about 50 % of German households are involved in the separate collection of biowaste (bio-bins/bio-containers).**



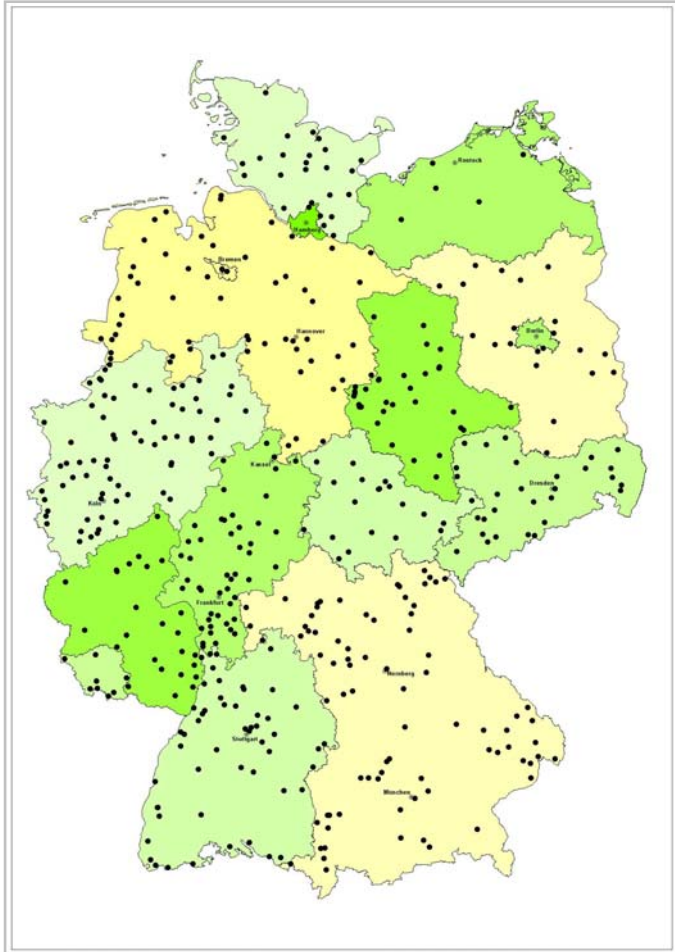
**Approximately 8 million tons of biowaste are treated in 800 composting plants to produce 5 million tons of compost.**



**70 % of the produced compost is labelled with the quality label RAL-GZ 251**



# Composting and Digestion Plants



## Production plants in the Quality Assurance System




Composting plants 433

Digestion plants 99 / 8



# Compost and Digestate Products in 2009

## Input amounts in 2009

			t/a
RAL-GZ 251		Compost	5.800.000
RAL-GZ 245		Digestate product from biowaste	2.070.000
RAL-GZ 246		Digestate product from renewable energy plant	330.000



# Compost Quality – valuable criteria

Parameter	Average of 2006	Average of 2007
OM <sub>LOI</sub> [%]	38.9	39.1
N <sub>t</sub> [% / dm]	1.39	1.40
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> [% / dm]	0.66	0.67
K <sub>2</sub> O [% / dm]	1.16	1.15
MgO <sub>t</sub> [% / dm]	0.71	0.70
CaO [% / dm]	4.08	3.80
NH <sub>4</sub> -N+NO <sub>3</sub> -N [mg/l FM]	255	242
Salt content [gl FM]	4.62	4.64
pH-value	7.60	7.60



# Compost - environmental criteria

Parameter	Ø 2006	Ø 2007	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Min - Max
Impurities > 2mm [% dm]	0.09	0.08	0.38	0.00 – 2.98
Stone > 5mm [% / dm]	1.36	1.32	3.32	0.00 – 17.95
Pb [mg /kg dm]	37.0	36.0	65.5	4.0 -166.0
Cd [mg /kg dm]	0.42	0.42	0.72	0.00 – 2.00
Cr [mg /kg dm]	21.1	21.2	32.0	3.72 – 307.0
Cu [mg /kg dm]	45.8	43.3	77.0	2.20 – 1004.0
Ni [mg /kg dm]	13.1	13.1	23.0	1.76 – 87.9
Zn [mg /kg dm]	169.0	168.0	249.0	22.0 – 835.0
Hg [mg /kg dm]	0.11	0.11	0.22	0.00 – 0.97



# Compost - environmental criteria

Parameter	Green-waste	Bio-waste	Green/Bio-waste	Limit values	
Samples	947	288	1.519	Type 1	Type 2
Pb [mg /kg dm]	32.6	41.4	38.0	100	150
Cd [mg /kg dm]	0.40	0.45	0.44	1.0	1.5
Cr [mg /kg dm]	19.5	23.0	21.9	70	100
Cu [mg /kg dm]	36.7	53.8	50.2	70	100
Ni [mg /kg dm]	12.3	13.3	13.6	35	50
Zn [mg /kg dm]	148.0	193.0	177.0	300	400
Hg [mg /kg dm]	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.7	1.0



# Quality of Compost and Digestate

## Compost quality

**Due to the homogenous input material for compost (98 % of separately collected biowaste from households and park and garden waste) the quality characteristics are constant.**

## Digestate quality

**There is a great variance in the quality of digestate residuals due to the different types of input materials (manure, food residues from industry, renewable energy plants and separately collected biowaste).**





# Digestate Quality – Valuable Criteria

	Liquid				Solid			
Parameter	2003	2007	10 <sup>th</sup>	90 <sup>th</sup>	2003	2007	10 <sup>th</sup>	90 <sup>th</sup>
OM <sub>LOI</sub> [%]	63.4	66.5	49.5	77.7	51.2	56.6	37.4	67.3
N <sub>t</sub> [% / dm]	7.9	10.4	2.6	17.3	2.3	3.1	1.1	4.2
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> [% / dm]	2.9	3.6	1.1	6.0	1.4	1.7	0.9	4.4
K <sub>2</sub> O [% / dm]	4.4	4.9	2.4	8.3	0.9	1.1	0.7	3.0
MgO <sub>t</sub> [% / dm]	0.9	0.7	0.4	1.8	0.9	0.9	0.7	1.4
CaO [% / dm]	5.6	4.4	2.6	10.8	7.5	5.8	2.8	20.5
NH <sub>4</sub> -N+NO <sub>3</sub> -N [mg/l FM]	2521	3030	1256	4624	1011	744	93	2438
Salt content [gl FM]	14.7	18.4	8.2	25.8	5.7	5.8	2.5	11.7
pH-value	7.9	8.0	7.4	8.4	7.8	8.0	7.2	8.5
Sample amounts	143	433			64	69		



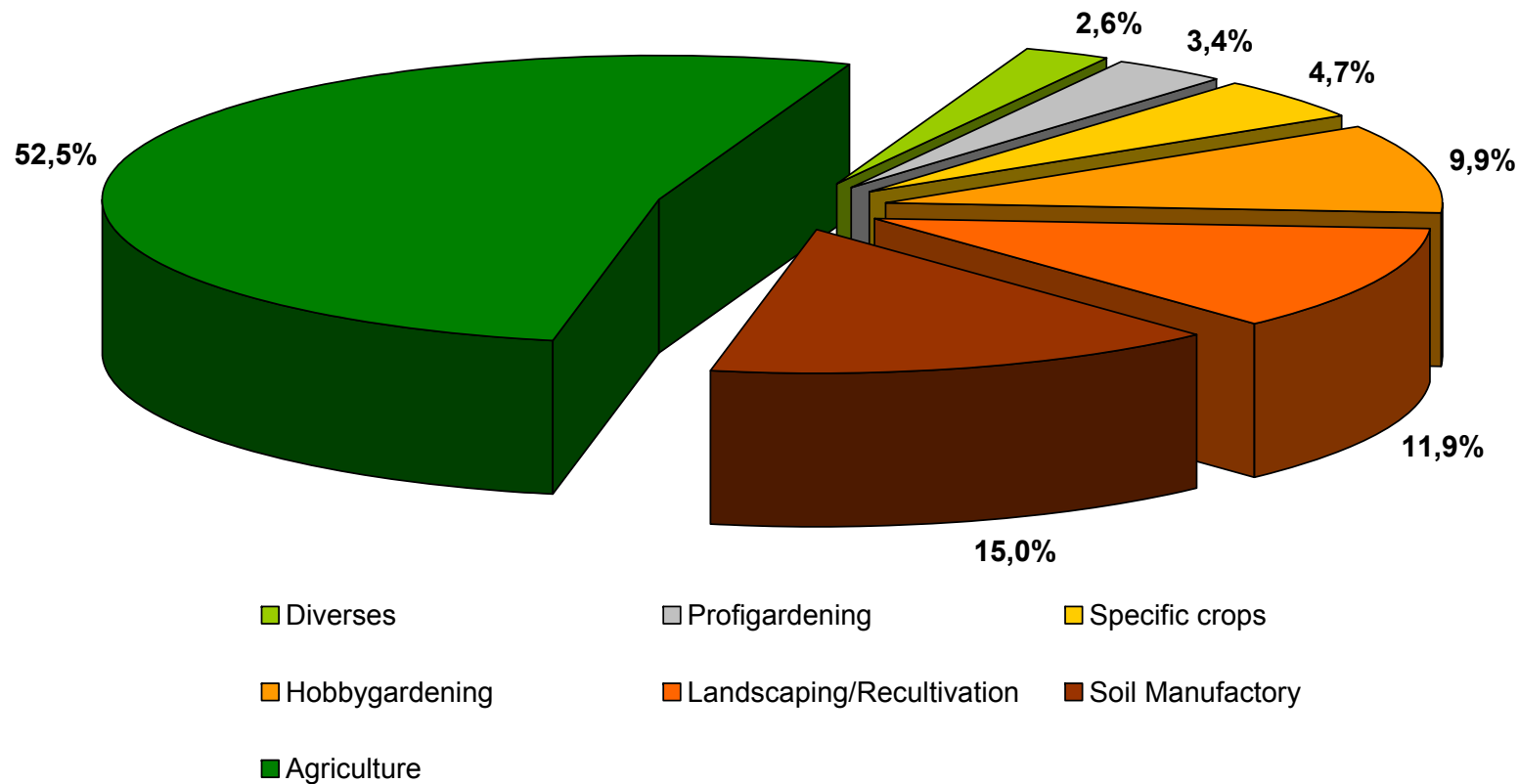


# Digestate - Environmental Criteria

	Liquid				Solid			
Parameter	2003	2007	10 <sup>th</sup>	90 <sup>th</sup>	2003	2007	10 <sup>th</sup>	90 <sup>th</sup>
Impurities > 2mm [% dm]	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.12	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.5
Stone > 5mm [% / dm]	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.01	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0
Pb [mg /kg dm]	7.7	6.0	3.0	48.9	39.1	25.0	8.1	51.1
Cd [mg /kg dm]	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.2	1.2
Cr [mg /kg dm]	15.1	12.6	6.0	34.6	23.8	19.0	6.0	43.2
Cu [mg /kg dm]	90.6	78.0	35.7	394	49.0	51.0	22.4	74.7
Ni [mg /kg dm]	15.0	11.2	6.1	27.9	18.9	13.1	3.0	28.0
Zn [mg /kg dm]	376	334	187	829	191	234	97.3	351
Hg [mg /kg dm]	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.5
Analyses amount	143	433			64	69		



# Marketing Structure



# **QAS as an important marketing tool**

**In several food processing industries only quality assured compost products are allowed:**

- **Sugar beet industry**
- **QAS of cropping systems**
- **Organic farming system**  
(157 composting plants are listed in the official input material list of the organic farming organisation)

**In environmental conventions of potential risk areas:**

- **Water protection areas**



# Information

## Publications

Quality assurance guidelines for composts and digestate products  
Methodbook for the analysis of organic fertiliser, soil improver and substrates

Humuswirtschaft & Kompost - printed version 2 times a year

Humuswirtschaft & Kompost *Aktuell* – online version monthly

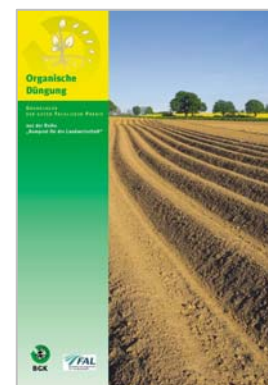


## Application brochures (4 pages) -

Hobby gardening, market gardening, landscaping etc.

## Comprehensive brochures (20 – 30 pages) -

Organic fertilising in cropping systems,  
Compost application in landscaping



## Website

[www.kompost.de](http://www.kompost.de)

Bundesgütegemeinschaft  
Kompost e.V.



# Analysis report

## Page 1

- Name of composting or digestion plant
- Name of laboratory
- Name of sample taker
- Type of Product
- Grain size
- Proof of temperature protocol
- Date of sampling

BUNDESGÜTEGEMEINSCHAFT KOMPOST E.V.						
9999	Seite 1 von 3					
<b>UNTERSUCHUNGSBERICHT</b>						
Fertigkompost	Probenahmeprotokoll					
Probenahme: 01.01.2003	Labor: 162 TB-Nr: 123K01					
1. Produktionsanlage	9999 BGK-Nr.	Musterwald / 04567 Musterstadt				
2. Auftraggeber	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anlagenbetr. <input type="checkbox"/> Sonstiger	Mustermann GmbH / 04567 Musterstadt				
3. Prüflabor	162 Labor-Nr.	Königswasserlabor Musterhaft / 78910 Musterbach				
4. Probennehmer	Name (im Auftrag des Laborverantwortlichen): Herr Mustermann					
5. Erzeugnis	Fertigkompost	Produktionsmonat: Januar				
6. Ausgangsstoffe (Summe muß 100% sein)	<table><thead><tr><th>Anteil</th><th>Bezeichnung</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>100 %</td><td>Garten- und Parkabfälle, Grünabfall</td></tr></tbody></table>		Anteil	Bezeichnung	100 %	Garten- und Parkabfälle, Grünabfall
Anteil	Bezeichnung					
100 %	Garten- und Parkabfälle, Grünabfall					
7. Kornung (laut Hersteller)	0 bis 20 mm					
8. Gebinde	verkaufsfähige lose Ware					
9. Indirekte Prozessprüfung	Temperaturprotokoll (Hygiene): geprüft und nicht beanstandet					
10. Datum der Probenahme	01.01.2003	Probenbezeichnung (Charge): Charge 2 Probeneingang im Labor: 01.01.2003				
<div>Bemerkungen des Probennehmers:</div> <div>Bemerkungen des Prüflabors:</div>						
<small>Die Probenahme wurde entsprechend dem "Methodenbuch zur Analyse von Kompost" der BGK e.V. durchgeführt. Dateneingabe: Kirsch am: 28.02.2003</small>						








# Analysis report

## Page 3

### Declaration and conformity sheet:

- Conformity proof of legislation
- Declaration according to the Fertiliser Ordinance
- Input materials
- Fit for purpose
- Application requirements
- Nutrient amount
- Fertilising calculation
- Hygienic proof

BUNDESGÜTEGEMEINSCHAFT KOMPOST E.V.		
9999	<b>UNTERSUCHUNGSBERICHT</b>	Seite 3 von 3
<b>Fertigkompost</b> Probenahme: 01.01.2003	<b>Produktinformation</b>	Labor: 162 TB-Nr: 123K01
Erzeugnis: Fertigkompost	Körnung: 0 - 20 mm	Volumengewicht: 460 g/l 0,46 t/m³
Hersteller: Mustermann GmbH / 04567 Musterstadt		
Die untersuchte Charge entspricht: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RAL-Gütesicherung Kompost		
Das Erzeugnis unterliegt der Fremdüberwachung durch die Bundesgütegemeinschaft Kompost e.V.		
		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Düngemittelverordnung <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bioabfallverordnung <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gemäß § 4 Abs. 3 Satz 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gemäß § 4 Abs. 3 Satz 2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bodenschutzverordnung		
<b>Deklaration der untersuchten Charge</b>		
<b>Fertigkompost</b> <b>Bodenhilfsstoff</b> 0,29 % N Gesamtstickstoff 0,31 % P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> Gesamtphosphat 0,37 % K <sub>2</sub> O Gesamtkalium 7,4 pH-Wert <b>Zusammensetzung / Ausgangsstoffe:</b> 100 % Pfl. Abfälle aus der Garten- und Landschaftspflege <b>Wirkungsbereich:</b> Verbesserung der biologischen, chemischen und physikalischen Eigenschaften des Bodens. Das Produkt ist besonders geeignet zur: - Erhöhung der Sorptionsfähigkeit leichter Böden, - Lockerung verdichteter oder schwerer Böden, - Verhinderung der Versauerung von Böden, - Stabilisierung des bodenarttypischen pH-Wertes, - Erhöhung der Wasserhaltefähigkeit des Bodens, - Reduzierung der Verdunstung, - Verhinderung von Wassererosion, - Verringerung der Austrocknung der oberen Bodenschicht, - Förderung der biologischen Aktivität, - Regeneration gestörter Böden und zur - Verbesserung der Bearbeitbarkeit des Bodens. <b>Anwendung:</b> Die Anwendung ist ganzjährig möglich. Auf landwirtschaftlich, forstwirtschaftlich oder gärtnerisch genutzten Böden dürfen innerhalb von 3 Jahren bis zu 50 t Frischmasse je Hektar aufgebracht werden. Auf weitere abfallrechtliche, wasserrechtliche und düngemittelrechtliche Vorschriften wird verwiesen. <b>Nettogewicht</b> <b>Inverkehrbringer</b>		
<b>Inhaltsstoffe</b>		
<b>Inhaltsstoffe (gesamt)</b>	<b>Trockenmasse</b>	<b>Frishmasse</b>
N gesamt	0,48 % TM	0,29 % FM
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> gesamt	0,51 % TM	0,31 % FM
K <sub>2</sub> O gesamt	0,62 % TM	0,37 % FM
MgO gesamt	0,46 % TM	0,28 % FM
Bas. wirks. Stoffe	3,50 % TM	2,10 % FM
Org. Substanz	35,2 % TM	21,1 % FM
<b>Düngeberechnung</b>		
<b>Inhaltsstoffe (in der Frischmasse)</b>	<b>je Tonne</b>	<b>je m³</b>
N gesamt	2,9 kg/t FM	1,3 kg/m³ FM
N organisch	2,6 kg/t FM	1,2 kg/m³ FM
N anrechenbar	0,4 kg/t FM	0,2 kg/m³ FM
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> gesamt	3,1 kg/t FM	1,4 kg/m³ FM
K <sub>2</sub> O gesamt	3,7 kg/t FM	1,7 kg/m³ FM
MgO gesamt	2,8 kg/t FM	1,3 kg/m³ FM
Bas. wirks. Stoffe	21,0 kg/t FM	9,7 kg/m³ FM
Organische Substanz	211 kg/t FM	97 kg/m³ FM
<b>Sonstige Angaben</b>		
Hygiene geprüft Frei von keimfähigen Samen und austriebfähigen Pflanzenteilen Frei von Fremdstoffen Erzeugnis ist besonders geeignet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> zur Düngung und Bodenverbesserung <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> als Mischkomponente für Erden und Substrate C/N-Verhältnis: 43 Nutzwertindex: 8 Düngewert (N anrechenbar, P, K, Mg, CaO) 3,63 €/t FM 1,67 €/m³		



# Documentation of Analysis Results

## Dokumentation von Untersuchungsergebnissen im Rahmen der Gütesicherung Kompost (RAL-GZ 251)

- 1 -

Produktionsanlage: 9999		Musterwald Musterstadt		Baumuster: 3.3 Geotec-Tunnel		Betreiber: Mustermann GmbH	
Region: Südwest		Anlageninput: 17500 t		Fremdüberwachung: RAL-Überwachungsverfahren		Untersuchungen: 9 von 9	
Produkt: 33% Fertig-K., 17% Frisch-K., 33% Mulch-K., 17% Substrat-K.				Überwachung seit: 01.01.2000			

	Median	Probe 1	Probe 2	Probe 3	Probe 4	Probe 5	Probe 6	Probe 7	Probe 8	Probe 9
Probenahmedatum		01.02.2001	01.02.2001	01.03.2001	01.03.2001	01.04.2001	01.04.2001	01.05.2001	01.05.2001	01.06.2001
Berichtsdatum		20.02.2001	20.02.2001	20.03.2001	20.03.2001	15.05.2001	20.04.2001	20.05.2001	20.05.2001	25.06.2001
Untersuchungsstelle		162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162
Beprobtes Erzeugnis		Frisch-K.	Fertig-K.	Frisch-K.	Fertig-K.	Frisch-K.	Fertig-K.	Frisch-K.	Fertig-K.	Fertig-K.
Hygiene (1)		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Keimfähige Samen [je l]	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	1,00	0,00	0,54
Salmonellen (0=n.n.)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fremdstoffe gesamt [% TM]	0,12	0,08	0,05	0,12	0,28	0,44	0,65	0,02	0,24	0,05
Glas [% TM]	0,01	0,01	0,02	0,01	0,17	0,30	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,04
Kunststoffe [% TM]	0,03	0,03	0,03	0,03	0,11	0,10	0,00	0,01	0,24	0,01
Steine > 5mm [% TM]	0,83	0,70	4,50	0,70	0,83	0,73	0,77	1,24	1,78	1,45
Rel. Pflanzenveträglichkeit 25% [%]	103		166		105		103		99,0	102
Rel. Pflanzenveträglichkeit 50% [%]	101		125		101		106		92,0	95,0
Rottegrad	5	2	5	2	5	4	5	5	5	5
Wassergehalt [% FM]	35,0	24,7	30,6	24,7	43,0	34,0	45,3	39,5	35,3	35,0
Glühverlust [% TM]	33,0	30,8	33,0	30,8	34,5	37,8	35,0	35,0	30,4	24,4
C/N Verhältnis	16,0	16,0	16,0	2,18	16,1	15,0	18,6	28,2	14,7	14,7
Maxmalkorn [mm]	14	14	10	14	12	12	25	30	17	12
Rohdichte [g/l]	620	600	590	600	620	630	620	960	570	824
pH-Wert	7,8	7,8	5,9	7,8	7,3	8,1	7,9	6,9	7,8	6,7
Salzgehalt [g/l]	3,27	6,90	2,68	6,90	2,60	7,30	2,30	6,82	1,30	3,27
Nährstoffe gesamt										
Stickstoff (N) [% TM]	1,20	1,12	1,20	8,20	1,24	1,46	1,09	0,72	1,20	0,96
Phosphat (P2O5) [% TM]	0,78	0,78	0,77	0,78	1,06	0,93	0,92	0,46	0,35	0,49
Kalium (K2O) [% TM]	0,77	0,77	0,72	0,77	0,87	1,43	0,99	0,68	0,46	0,82
Magnesium (MgO) [% TM]	0,61	0,32	0,61	0,32	1,15	1,04	0,96	0,45	0,61	0,33
bas.wirks.Stoffe (CaO) [% TM]	3,10	2,16	2,50	2,16	3,10	8,09	3,20	12,5	3,25	2,35
Nährstoffe (löslich)										
Stickstoff (N) [mg/l]	132	621	118	621	132	262	53,0	339	131	131
Ammonium (NH4-N) [mg/l]	129	621	116	621	129	261	51,0	43,0	130	3,00
Nitrat (No3-N) [mg/l]	2,00	0,00	2,00	0,00	3,00	1,00	3,00	296	1,00	128
Phosphat (P2O5) [mg/l]	1050	1050	663	1050	1285	699	1296	768	1301	1318
Kalium (K2O) [mg/l]	3096	2893	2086	2893	3267	3347	3096	2184	3111	3296
Magnesium (Mg) [mg/l]	184	184	160	184	223	223	177	259	162	260
Blei (Pb) [mg/kg TM]	41,0	24,5	43,0	24,5	40,0	56,2	41,0	37,0	42,0	43,0
Cadmium (Cd) [mg/kg TM]	0,44	0,44	0,50	0,44	0,32	0,44	0,43	0,46	0,48	0,50
Chrom (Cr) [mg/kg TM]	27,5	28,0	26,0	28,0	42,2	27,5	29,9	23,0	26,6	12,0
Kupfer (Cu) [mg/kg TM]	41,5	41,5	31,0	41,5	85,5	85,0	45,7	34,0	73,4	28,0
Nickel (Ni) [mg/kg TM]	15,2	7,60	17,0	7,60	28,6	17,5	17,6	15,0	15,2	5,00
Quecksilber (Hg) [mg/kg TM]	0,16	0,14	0,18	0,10	0,19	0,16	0,16	0,20	0,11	0,07
Zink (Zn) [mg/kg TM]	169	140	189	140	194	222	169	270	145	130

(1) Hygiene: 1 = Temperaturprotokoll bei Probenahme geprüft und nicht beanstandet, 2 = Temperaturprotokoll bei Probenahme geprüft und beanstandet, 3 = nicht vorhanden

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# Documentation of Analysis Results

- Data and facts of the compost plant
- Products and their proportion
- Demonstration of the median values
- Recording of missing examinations
- Recording of labs defaults (delayed reports)
- Designation of exceeded values
- Designation of implausible values
- > **Quarterly overview of the analysis results**
- > **Document for producers for internal survey**
- > **Document for quality committee for external survey**

[illegible]

# Sample taking in practice

1. Basics of sample taking
2. Terms and definitions
3. Steps of sample taking
  - Sampling equipment
  - Sample taking types
  - Collective and lab sample
  - Transport/shipment
4. Cleaning of the sampling equipment



# 1. Basics of sample taking

- „Sample taking“ stands for the removal of a small portion from a large bulk material for the purpose of examination, where all properties of this portion (sample) must match with the properties of the main material mass.
- The drawn sample must be **r e p r e s e n t a t i v e** for the sampled material!

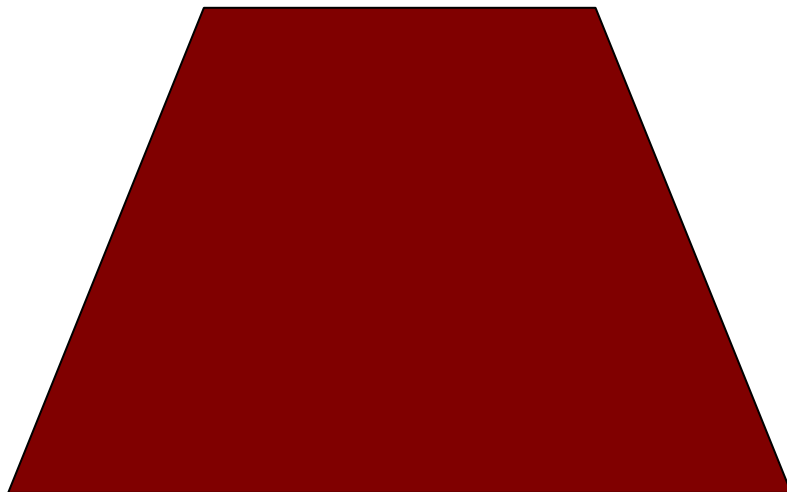
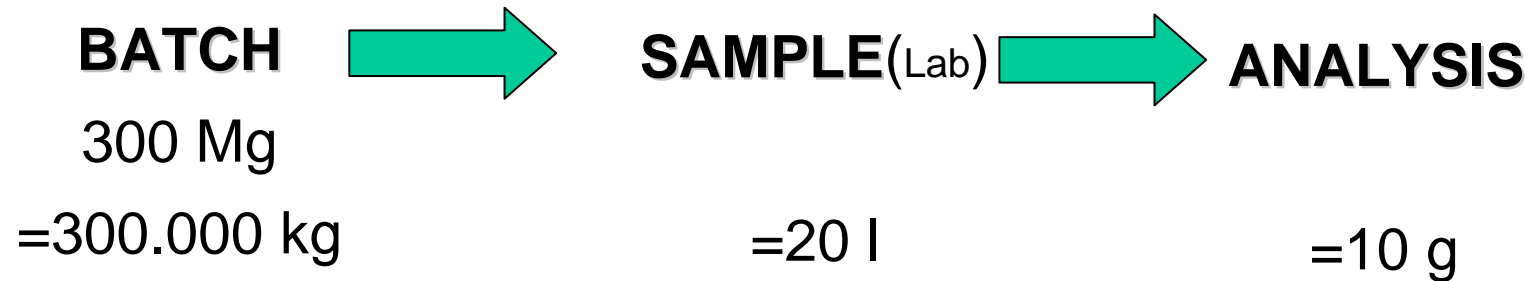


# 1. Basics of sample taking

- An exact analysis doesn't make sense, when the sample taking is incorrect.
- **A correct sample taking with the smallest possible failure is for a accurate evaluation of**
  - **major relevance!!!**



# Proportion batch to sample quantity



# Terms and definitions

## According to BGK methods book

- **BATCH:** Quantity of a fertiliser which reflects a UNIT according to composition, labeling and spatial location.
- **SPOT SAMPLE:** Small portion of a batch, which is formed a removal operation
- **COLLECTIVE SAMPLE:** Total quantity of all spot samples from a batch.
- **FINAL SAMPLE:** Small portion of a collective sample or a reduced collective sample determined for the examination.



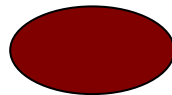
# Definition of sample types



**Batch**



**Spot samples**



**Collective sample**



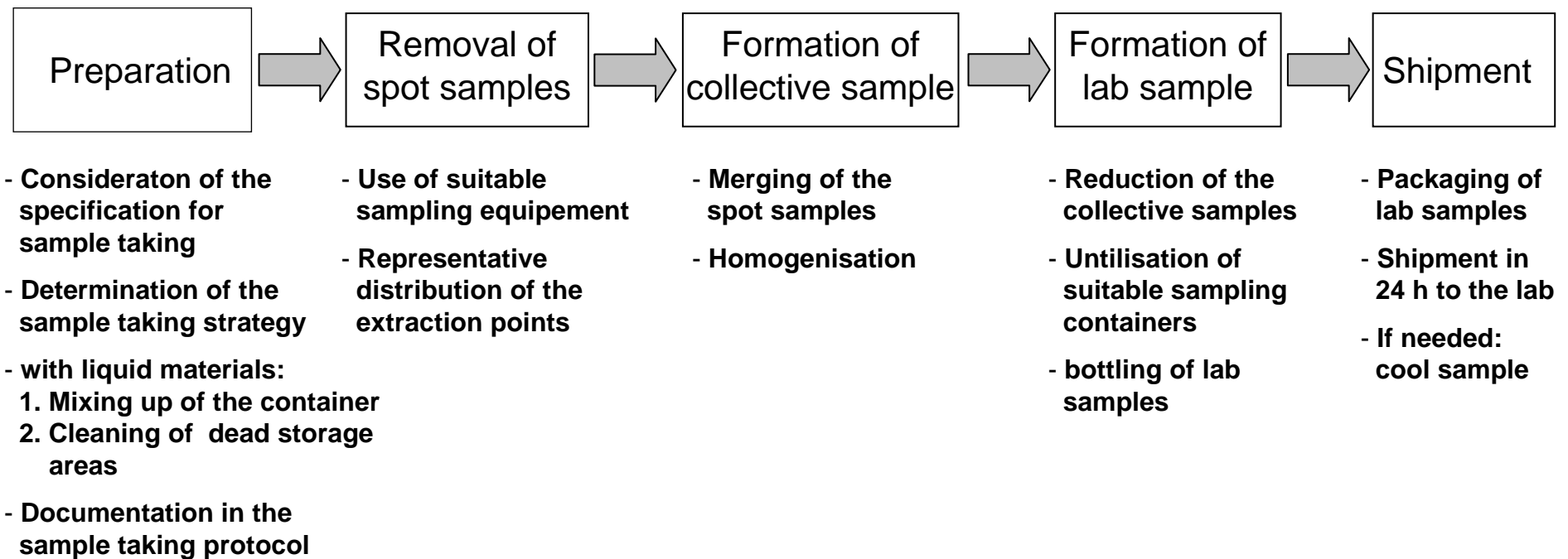
**Lab sample**



**Test sample**

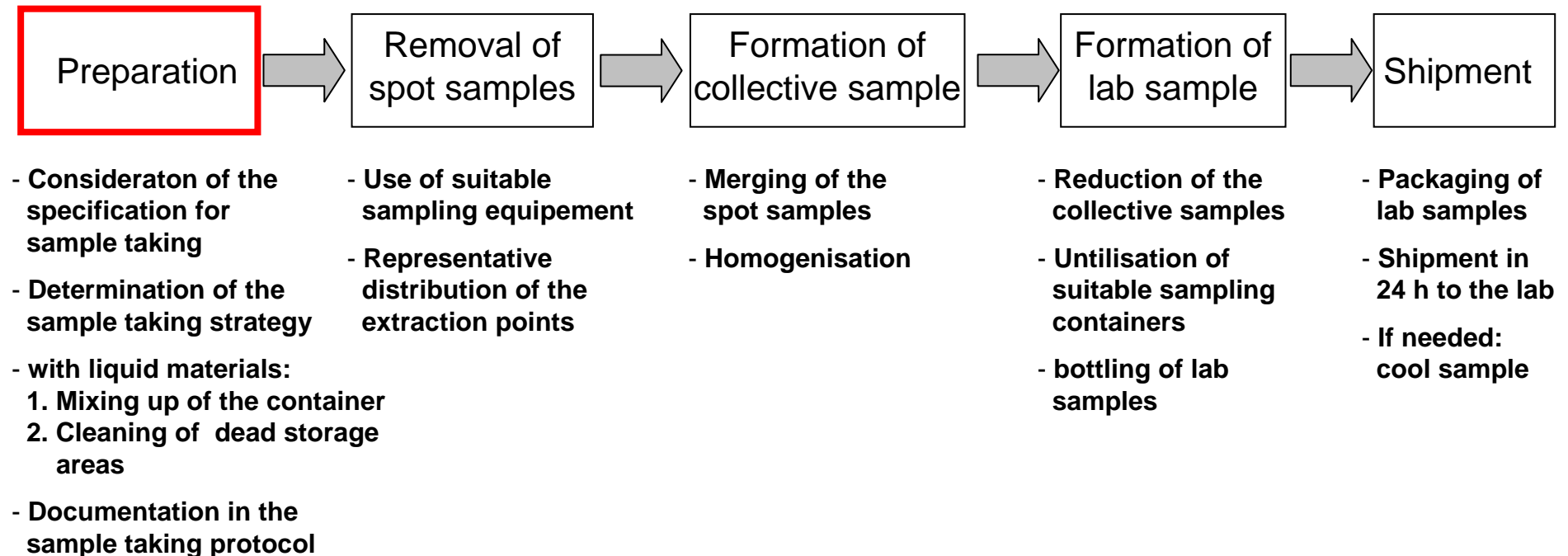


## 2. Steps of a sample taking





# Steps of a sample taking



# Specifications for sample taking

## Reason for the examination

- External monitoring
- Self monitoring

## Sampling location

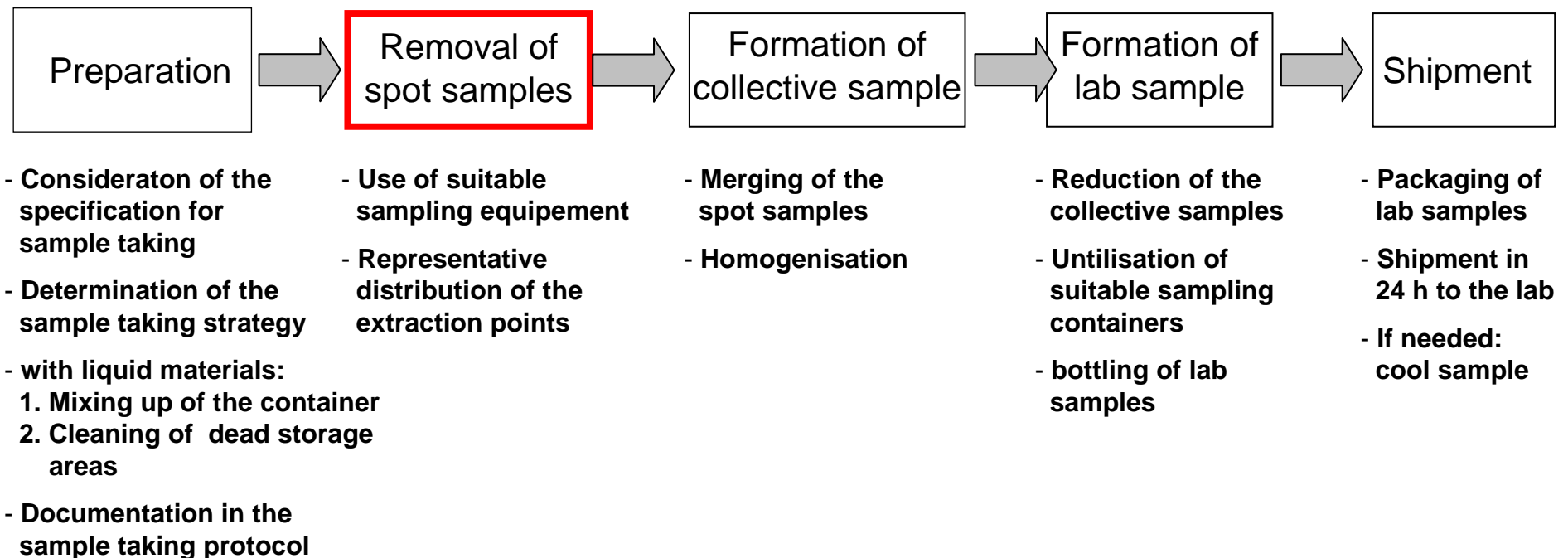
- Compost/biogas plant
- Other treatment plant

## Examination parameter

- Valuable material (org. matter, nutrients)
- Heavy metals, Impurities
- Organic compounds (e.g. PFT)
- Microbiological parameter



# Steps of a sample taking



# Quantity of the spot samples

The size of spot sample depends on the material:

## Solid materials (e.g. composts)

- Grain sizes  $\leq 20$  mm: minimum **2 litre** per spot sample
- Grain sizes  $> 20$  mm: minimum **3 litre** per spot sample

## Liquid materials (e.g. digestates)

- Minimum **1 litre** per spot sample



# Number of spot samples

For solid materials (e.g. compost)

- Number of diggings per 2 profiles:

Until 500 m<sup>3</sup>    1 digging with 2 profiles

Until 1000 m<sup>3</sup>    2 diggings with 4 profiles

- Number of spot samples per collective sample:

Until 500 m<sup>3</sup>    20 spot samples

Until 1000 m<sup>3</sup>    40 spot samples

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The collective sample must not be smaller than 40 litre.



# Sample taking tools for solid materials

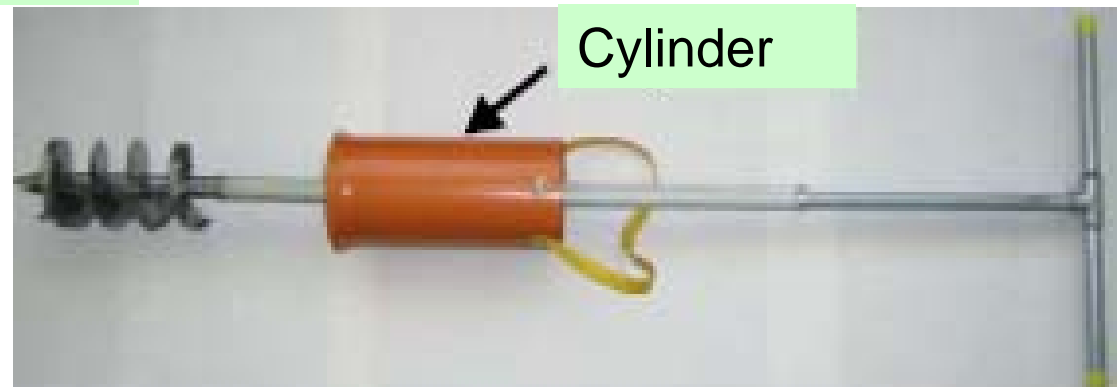
- SCREW DRILL with minimum 100 mm diameter or portable motor-powered screw drill oder soil auger in form of a screw,
- WHEEL LOADER
- SPADE, SHOVEL
- HOE



# Sample taking equipment for solid material



Feed screw with cutting edge



Sample taking equipment for compost (overall view)





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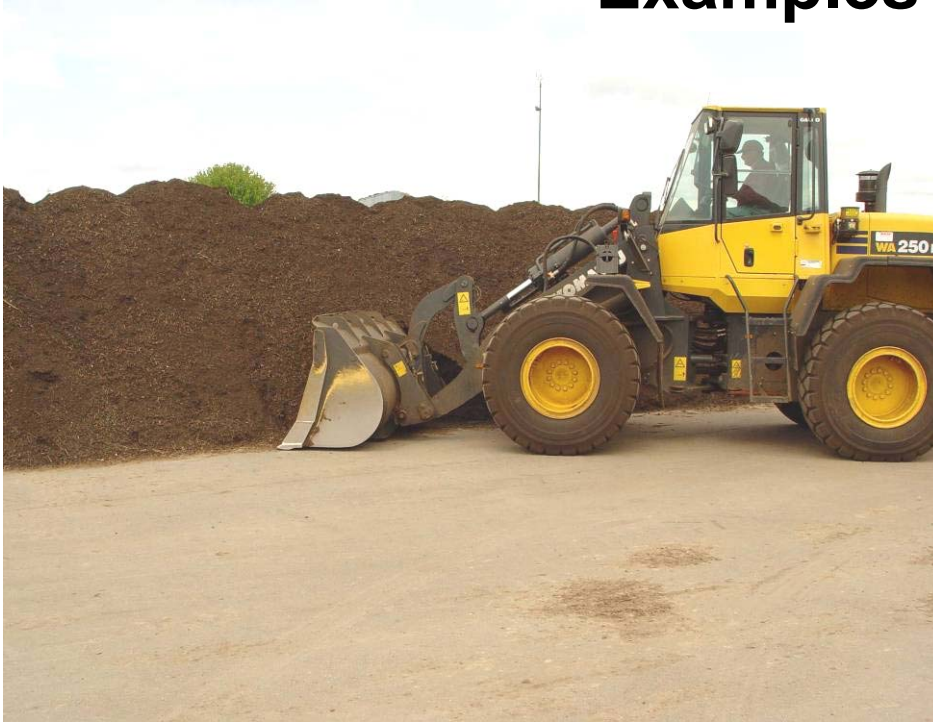


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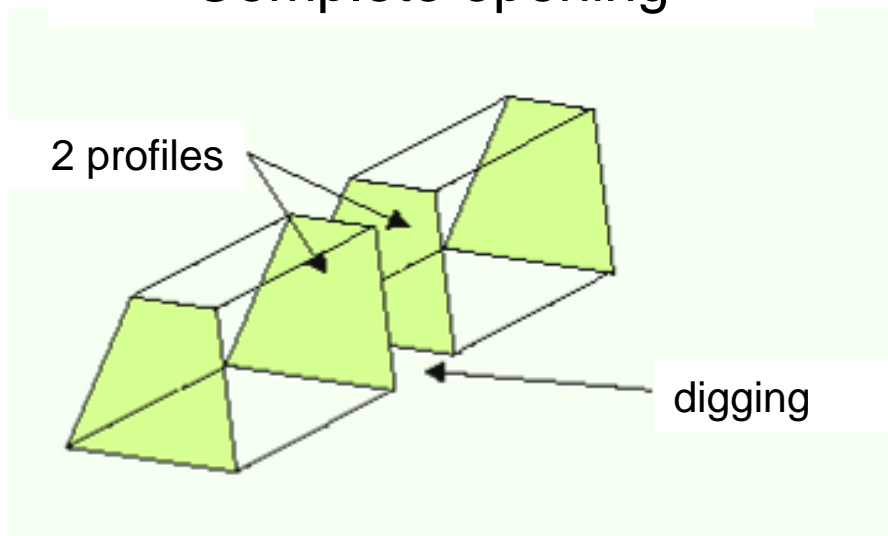




# Examples for diggings



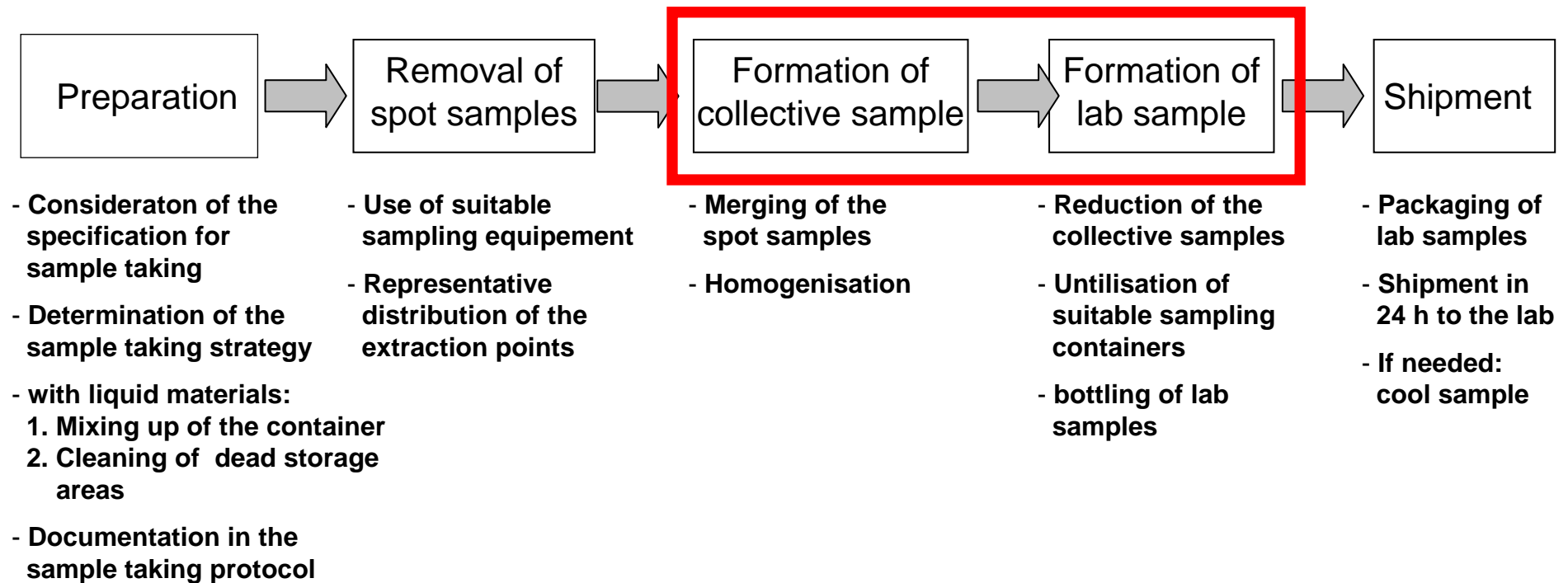
Complete opening



Triangular or  
incomplete digging



# Steps of a sample taking



# Collective sample and lab sample

- The SPOT SAMPLES where merged into a collective sample.
- The minimum volume of the COLLECTIVE SAMPLE may not go below the requirements.
- The COLLECTIVE SAMPLE must be homogenised.
- The COLLECTIVE SAMPLE must be reduced until the needed quantity for the lab sample (Final sample, original sample) is given.
- The quantitiy of the LAB SAMPLE depends on the material type and the purpose of the examination.
- (Example: Compost 20 l resp. liquid digestate 7-10 l).

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# Homogenisation



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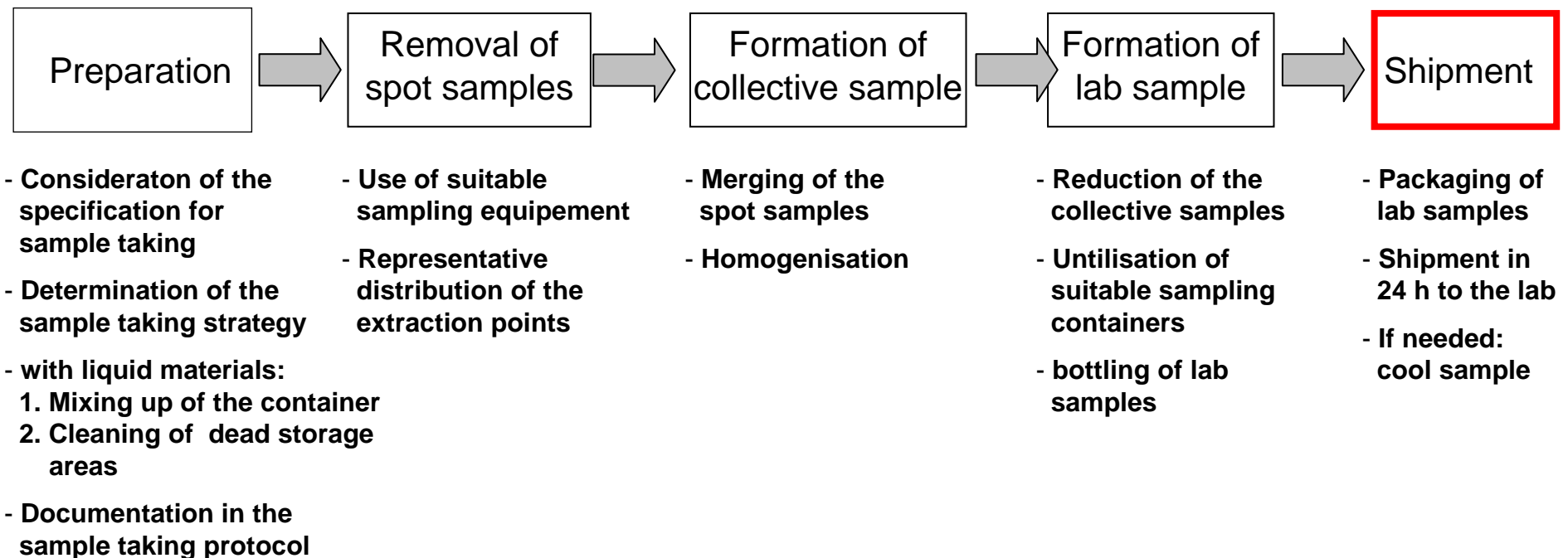




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# Steps of a sample taking



# Packaging of the lab sample

## Sample box:

- dry, tight against humidity,  
largely air tight boxes  
e.g. clean plastic bags minimum 20 l or  
plastic bins with locking ring and rubber lip

## Labeling:

- Origin and sampled batch
- Date of sample taking
- Address of the lab







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# Sample transport to the lab

- As fast as possible
- Within 24 hours

Cooling (e.g. at high ambient temperature)  
if needed (Cooling box)



# Cleaning of the sampling equipment

- Sampling equipment has to be efficiently cleaned after each sample taking.
- Sampling material must not be carried over by the sampling equipment.
- Cleaning agents and disinfectants have to be applied according to the manufacturers' instructions.
- Residues must not remain at the equipment.







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