

Material Safety Data Sheet

Compost and Soil Improver

SECTION 1: IDENTIFICATION

PRODUCT IDENTIFIER:	Compost and Soil Improver
CAS OR EC NUMBER:	None allocated
HAZCHEM CODE:	None allocated
DANGEROUS GOODS CLASS:	None allocated
POISONS SCHEDULE:	None allocated
RECOMMENDED USE:	Not for Human or Animal consumption. Soil surface or soil incorporated amendment product for domestic gardening, landscaping, and other general horticultural purposes.

DETAILS OF THE MANUFACTURER

COMPANY NAME:	Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council
LOCATION:	Red Hill Waste Management Facility
PHONE:	(08) 6219 7333
EMAIL:	redhill@emrc.org.au
LOCATION OF MANUFACTURE:	1094 Toodyay Road, Red Hill, WA 6056
EMERGENCY CONTACT:	131 126

SECTION 2: HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

GHS SAFETY SYMBOLS:



PRECAUTIONARY EFFECTS:

HEALTH

Irritant

Combustible Solid

- **SWALLOWED** Not to be consumed. Swallowing compost may cause abdominal discomfort and increase the risk of gastro-intestinal infections.
- **EYE** Compost dust and aerosols may be irritating to the eyes resulting in redness, watering and/or infection.
- **SKIN** Skin contact with compost product, its dust and aerosols, may result in skin irritation and in some people may lead to skin sensitivity, dermatitis or skin infection.
- **INHALED** Inhalation of compost dust and aerosols may irritate, inflame, or sensitise the nose, throat and lungs and aggravate pre-existing conditions such as asthma and bronchitis.

CHRONIC HEALTH EFFECTS:

Inhalation of dust aerosols may irritate, inflame, or sensitise the nose, throat, and lungs, resulting in illnesses ranging from hay fever or asthma to pneumonia (e.g., Legionnaire's disease), or pneumonia-like illnesses. Direct contact with this material or its dust and aerosols may cause skin irritation (dermatitis), and skin or eye infection or irritation. People

particularly at risk are those suffering from asthma or allergies, and those whose immune defence systems are compromised.

SAFETY:

Avoid contact with eyes and skin. Avoid breathing dust and aerosols. Wear suitable protective clothing and standard duty gloves (AS/NZS 2161.2). If exposed to the product dust and aerosols are potentially likely, also wear dust resistant eye protection (AS/NZS 1336) and particulate respirator (AS/NZS 1715 and AS/NZS 1716). Wash thoroughly immediately after handling. Wash work clothes regularly. Clean up by vacuuming or damping surface with product on it, then sweeping.

Store this product in a cool location with adequate airflow. Packaging and containers should be perforated to allow for pressure equalization, pressure should not be allowed to accumulate.

SECTION 3: COMPOSITION

COMPOSITION:

FOGO Compost is an aerobically composted product derived from food and garden organics. It is manufactured to meet AS4454 standards for Composts, Soil Conditioners and Mulches and is provided as a pasteurised material that has achieved sustained microbiological pasteurisation.

Material is supplied as:

1. Composted – material has been aerobically composted and biologically modified but is not yet functionally stable and mature.
2. Mature Compost – material has advanced to a mature stable product.

SECTION 4: FIRST AID MEASURES

- **SWALLOWED** Rinse mouth with copious amounts of water. If the person is conscious and aware, give large amounts of water to rinse material and taste from the mouth. Never attempt to make an unconscious person drink or vomit. If the person is unconscious, it may be necessary to sweep the blockage out of the mouth using a finger. Seek emergency medical attention if deemed necessary. Give water to drink. Seek medical attention if any abdominal symptoms occur in the next week.
- **EYE** If required and possible, remove contact lenses. Flush eyes thoroughly for ten minutes with plenty of water then neutral saline solution. If irritation persists, seek medical attention.
- **SKIN** Wash thoroughly with mild soap and water. If irritation develops or persists, seek medical attention.
- **INHALED** Airborne dust and aerosols containing spores may be inhaled. Ensure patient is removed from any area impacted by dust or aerosol and located them to an area with fresh air. If anaphylaxis or breathing constraint is observed, seek immediate medical attention immediately.

SECTION 5: FIREFIGHTING MEASURES

SUITABLE EQUIPMENT:	EXTINGUISHER	Check for any electrical hazards. Extinguish using copious water and physical separation.
PRECAUTIONARY RESPONSE:	FIRE	Fire response should only be conducted by officers who are trained in firefighting, and fire management. Avoid smoke inhalation by wearing appropriate breathing apparatus or masks. Remove any impacted persons from the fire zone and seek medical attention immediately if breathing difficulties are observed. High moisture levels in compost (>20%) should be maintained during storage to limit combustion potential.

compost may be manufactured and matured in windrows, or bulk storage. Aerobic composting generates heat especially at depth of stockpiles. This may result in material combustion at depth in stockpiles if the heap becomes dry or the temperature of the material exceeds the ignition temperatures of the compost.

A compost material self-igniting fire may not be surface apparent. Care should be taken when opening or moving stored stockpiles or windrows or when sampling for certification purposes or inserting monitoring probes.

Operators should not under any circumstances climb onto windrows or stockpiles, as combusted chambers or voids in the pile may collapse inward trapping an operator.

Windrows and stockpiles should be segregated with sufficient space between rows to allow firefighting equipment access.

Sufficient distance between windrows or stockpiles should be left to prevent fire spreading to adjacent windrows and stockpiles.

Where fire has been observed, saturation with water is recommended. After saturation and when no visible fire is apparent, the stockpile or windrow, should be deconstructed to identify any unseen pockets of material that maybe smouldering at depth. If any further areas of smouldering or excessive heat are identified, then they should also be wet though sufficiently until the risk of reignition is removed.

SECTION 6: ACIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

Not applicable, no environmental concerns if released.

SECTION 7: SAFE HANDLING

STORAGE AND TRANSPORT:

High moisture levels in compost (>20%) should be maintained during storage to limit combustion potential and dust movement.

Store this product in a cool location with adequate airflow. Packaging and containers should be perforated to allow for pressure equalisation, pressure should not be allowed to accumulate in prepack products.

No special transport requirements are necessary unless a specialist product is designated such as a dieback fee product.

Avoid excessive dust formation and breathing dust from product through handling or application. Persons handling the product should wear recommended personal protective equipment (PPE) as noted in Section 7. Wash thoroughly with potable water and mild soap after handling. Use outdoors or provide adequate ventilation.

SECTION 8: EXPOSURE CONTROL AND PERSONAL PROTECTION

DUST EXPOSURE LIMITS:

Source	Exposure Limits
ACGIH	10mg/m ³ 1(I) 3mg/m ³ (R)
OSHA	15mg/m ³ 1(T) 5mg/m ³ (R)
NIOSH	10mg/m ³ 1(T) 5mg/m ³ (R)

CONTROL:

Store product appropriately. Avoid inhalation of any sealed or pressurised product.

Use good industrial hygiene practices, wear appropriate PPE and use only in well-ventilated areas.

Maintain moisture levels in product and use water to minimise airborne fine particulate mobilisation.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE):



- EYES AND FACE Use appropriate eye protection: glasses with side shields or goggles.
- SKIN Avoid contact by covering skin with protective clothing. Wear NYLEX gloves when handling the product. Wear eye protection. Wash exposed skin thoroughly with potable water and mild soap.
- RESPIRATORY If airborne concentrations are above the applicable exposure limits, use NIOSH-approved respirator.

SECTION 9: PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

APPEARANCE:	Brown blend of natural organic and mineral substances.
BOILING POINT:	Not applicable
FLASH POINT:	Not applicable
VAPOUR PRESSURE:	Not applicable
MELTING POINT:	Not applicable
ODOUR:	Non-specific earthy odour
SPECIFIC GRAVITY:	Varies according to organic composition and moisture content.
MOLECULAR WEIGHT:	Not applicable
PHYSICAL STATE:	Friable solid
SOLUBILITY IN WATER:	Not soluble

SECTION 10: STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

CONDITIONS TO AVOID:	High moisture levels in compost (>20%) should be maintained during storage to limit combustion potential and dust movement.
HAZARDOUS DECOMPOSITION PRODUCTS:	Store this product in a cool location with adequate airflow. This material can incubate potentially hazardous microorganisms. Packaging and containers should be perforated to allow for pressure equalization, pressure should not be allowed to accumulate in prepack products or in post purchase storage. Pressurised release of aerosols when opening and using is to be avoided. Use appropriate physical prevention measures and personal protective equipment.

SECTION 11: TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

ACUTE TOXICITY:	None
IRRITANT:	
➤ SWALLOWED	Mild irritant – potential microbiological carrier. Not to be consumed. Swallowing compost may cause abdominal discomfort and increase the risk of gastro-intestinal infections.
➤ EYE	Compost dust and/or liquid mist (bio aerosols) and resilient spores from compost may be irritating to the eyes resulting in redness and watering or eye infection.
➤ SKIN	Skin contact with compost product, its dust and aerosols may result in skin irritation and in some people may lead to skin sensitization, dermatitis or skin infection.
➤ INHALED	Inhalation of compost dust and/or liquid mist (bio aerosols) and resilient spores may irritate, inflame, or sensitize the nose, throat and lungs and aggravate pre-existing conditions such as asthma and bronchitis.

SECTION 12: ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

CONDITIONS TO AVOID:

NONE – Enhances most plant and ecosystem resilience.

Ecologically stable and suitable for broad spectrum environmental use.

Plants and ecosystems requiring specific Dieback free product or low phosphorus product should specify this information on their order. Product should be clearly labelled as suitable for these applications before use.

SECTION 13: DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

A natural product that biologically degrades in the environment enhancing ecosystem function.

NO special disposal requirements.

SECTION 14: TRANSPORT INFORMATION

This is a combustible organic product that can internally generate heats of combustion in enclosed conditions.

High moisture levels in compost (>20%) should be maintained during storage to limit combustion potential and dust movement. The storage of this product should be in a cool location with adequate airflow. Packaging and containers should be perforated to allow for pressure equalisation and pressure should not be allowed to accumulate in prepack products.

No special transport requirements are necessary unless a specialist product is designated such as a dieback free product.

Avoid excessive dust formation and breathing dust. Persons handling the product should wear recommended personal protective equipment (PPE) as noted in Section 7. Wash thoroughly with potable water and mild soap after handling. Use outdoors or provide ventilation.

SECTION 15: REGULATORY INFORMATION

Compost and soil improver are manufactured to Australian Standard AS4454 -2012 Composts, soil conditioners and mulches.

Use is governed by Australian Standard 4419 -2018 Soils for landscaping and garden use.

In Western Australia manufacture is guided by DWER Guideline Better practice organics recycling 2022 regulated by the Environmental Protection Act 1986 and associated regulations.