

# Specification for Pro Select Compost

## Professional Landscape Organic Soil Amendment

### 1.01 Description

*Pro Select Compost* is a listed product in the **US Composting Council Seal of Testing Assurance Program**.

*Pro Select Compost* is an **OMRI Listed** product and is suitable for use by certified organic growers

Terra-Gro™ **PRO SELECT COMPOST** is produced specifically for utilization as a humus-rich organic soil amendment. This product is ideally suited for incorporation into native soil for the purpose of increasing organic matter and beneficial microbial populations in the root zone, thereby improving soil quality, fertility, and plant establishment and growth. Other desired benefits are increased macro and micro nutrients, improved soil structure, increased plant nutrient uptake, and enhanced soil drainage and moisture retention. This product specification applies to all methods of landscape plant or grass establishment and maintenance including new planting beds, amendment of existing planting beds, topical mulch for annuals and perennials, planting backfill mix, and soil prep for the optimum establishment of grass or sod.

### 1.02 Materials

Pro Select Compost is a thoroughly composted, stable, mature, weed-free, blended organics based compost product. The material is derived from primary organic matter sources including horse and dairy manure, wood shavings and sawdust livestock bedding, straw, hay and other agricultural components. Pro Select Compost contains no municipal solid waste, biosolids, or spent mushroom soil. The product contains no substances toxic to plants and is reasonably free (< 1% by dry weight) of man-made foreign matter. This product meets all standards for the US Composting Council Seal of Testing Assurance Program and is OMRI Listed and suitable for use by certified organic growers.

- a. Appearance: The soil amendment shall be of a color resembling dark topsoil (brown to very dark brown) and shall have a light, crumbly structure.
- b. Particle size: The material shall be able to pass through a 3/8 inch screen. Amendment shall be thoroughly incorporated into soil prior to seeding or sodding.
- c. Odor: Amendment shall have an “earthy” aroma and should not emit peculiar or offensive odors.

### 1.03 Guidelines for Soil Amendment

#### Appearance, size, and odor

Color	.....	Brown to very dark brown
Max. particle size	.....	Pass through 3/8 inch screen
Odor	.....	“earthy”

#### Physical Properties

Moisture content	.....	40% - 60%
Organic matter	.....	> 40% (dry weight basis)
Ash content	.....	< 60%

#### Chemical Properties

C/N ratio	.....	< 25:1
Nitrogen	.....	0.5% to 3.0%
Phosphorous	.....	> 0.2%
Potassium	.....	>0.2%
pH	.....	7.0 – 8.5
Soluble salts	.....	< 7.0 dS (mmhos/cm) as measured in soil mix after amendment

### 1.04 Supplier / Distributor Commitments and Contact Information

#### I. Supplier / Distributor Commitments

Soil amendment manufacturer / supplier shall:

- a. Provide product analysis test reports demonstrating conformity to physical and chemical parameters specified in section 1.03 above.
- b. Produce and supply product that is uniform and consistent from load to load and lot to lot.
- c. Adhere to an ongoing product testing program.
- d. Assure prompt and reliable delivery to site to accommodate construction and/or turf maintenance scheduling requirements.

## II. Producer/Supplier Contact Information

Supplier / Distributor Contact Information:

Terra-Gro, Inc. – Loren Martin, General Manager

Phone 1-800-359-1384 or 717-445-6587 Fax 717-445-7903

e-mail [terragro@ptd.net](mailto:terragro@ptd.net)

### 1.05 Application, Inclusion, Incorporation of Amendment Material

#### I. Application for Landscape Construction or Renovation

##### a. Rate of Application

Rate of application / inclusion determined by testing of existing soil and/or as determined by Landscape Architect, either 1'' application tilled into native soil to depth of 4-6'' or 2'' application tilled into native soil to depth of 6-8'':

1'' application = 3.1 cubic yards per 1000 square feet  
= 135 cubic yards per acre

- or -

2'' application = 6.2 cubic yards per 1000 square feet  
= 270 cubic yards per acre

##### b. Method of Application

Existing soil shall be tilled or thoroughly decompacted prior to application of soil amendment. **PRO SELECT COMPOST** amendment shall be applied evenly to surface at the rate specified by Landscape Architect ( 1'' or 2'' ) using equipment such as front-end loader, grading blade, pneumatic spreading equipment, york rake, or other appropriate means.

##### c. Incorporation into Soil

Terra-Gro™ **PRO SELECT COMPOST** soil amendment shall be incorporated into existing soil to a depth of 4 – 6 inches for a 1 inch application, or 6 – 8 inches for a 2 inch application, or thorough mixed and blended into planting backfill mix resulting in an inclusion rate of approximately 15% - 25% by volume. Incorporation shall be performed by using a rototiller, rotovator, reverse tine tiller, disc, or other appropriate equipment until amendment is thoroughly and uniformly mixed throughout native soil.

( Continued - Application, Inclusion, Incorporation of Amendment )

## II. Application as Topdressing for Enhancement of Existing Turf

### a. Rate of Application

As determined by Landscape Architect or Turf Consultant, either ¼ inch application or 1/8 inch application:

¼ inch application = 0.75 cubic yards per 1000 square feet  
= 34 cubic yards per acre

- or -

1/8 inch application = 0.375 cubic yards per 1000 square feet  
= 17 cubic yards per acre

### b. Method of Application

Terra-Gro™ *PRO SELECT COMPOST* shall be applied uniformly and consistently at a rate specified, approximately 1/4" or 1/8" application. Topdressing shall be applied using a pull-behind topdress spreader unit, modified fertilizer spreader, pneumatic blower equipment or other appropriate equipment allowing uniform application.

### c. Incorporation into Existing Turf

Existing turf shall be aggressively core aerated ( 4 – 5 passes/multi-directional ) immediately prior to or immediately following topdressing application. Terra-Gro™ *PRO SELECT COMPOST* shall be incorporated into existing soil by mechanical dragging ( mat dragging) to effectively break up cores, thoroughly incorporate the *PRO SELECT COMPOST* with the soil from cores, and work the mixture into voids left from core aeration. This process shall be performed during cool and moist seasons when turfgrass is actively growing, or shall otherwise be supplemented with adequate irrigation.

### d. Overseeding

Topdressing application may be combined with overseeding or slit seeding as directed by Landscape Architect or Turf Consultant.