

Specification for
Pro Select Compost
for

TOPDRESSING and CONSTRUCTION of ROOT ZONES

1.01 Description

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

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

This specification serves as a guideline for the utilization of Terra-Gro **Pro Select Compost** as athletic turf topdressing or as a component in the construction of root zones. The product is ideally suited for incorporation as a soil amendment into native soil for the purpose of increasing organic matter and beneficial microbial populations in the root zone, thereby improving soil quality and turfgrass establishment and growth. This product specification applies to all methods of turfgrass establishment and maintenance including: sports fields – maintenance, construction, and renovation; common lawn areas – maintenance, construction, and renovation; and topdressing for enhancement or renovation of established turfgrass.

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.

- 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

1.05 Application, Inclusion, Incorporation of Amendment Material

I. Application for Field Construction or Renovation

a. Rate of Application

Rate of application / inclusion determined by testing of existing soil and/or as determined by Landscape Architect or Turf Consultant, either 1'' application or 2'' application:

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 or Turf Consultant (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

Pro Select Compost soil amendment shall be incorporated into existing soil to a depth of 4 – 5 inches for a 1 inch application, or 7 – 8 inches for a 2 inch application, 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.

d. Seed Bed Preparation

Establish a smooth seed bed by raking or dragging the soil surface or by using a pre-seeder. Roll if necessary. Rake to remove any clumps, clods, stones, or debris.

e. Seeding

Seed, sod, sprig, or hydroseed. Fertilize and irrigate as specified.

(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 1/4 inch application or 1/8 inch application:

1/4 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

Pro Select Compost topdressing 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. Pro Select Compost shall be incorporated into existing soil by mechanical dragging (mat dragging) to effectively break up cores, thoroughly incorporate the 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.