



March 2017 Newsletter

Dear Customer,

Thank you for being our customer. This newsletter will be sent occasionally to keep you informed on any developments concerning compost food safety, our efforts to comply or exceed all food safety requirements; as well as any ongoing events or conferences we may attend to keep our customers abreast of any changes in food safety law or rules concerning compost and soil amendments.

Also included will be any nutrient or beneficial aspects that might help your productivity and possibly reduce your input costs.

This issue addresses: Tilth

Tilth, an old term that needs to be re-examined. The added organic matter from compost increases the tilth of the soil, which translates into fewer passes over the field in land preparation. Compost aids the aeration of the soil and moisture holding capacity allowing the soil to “crumble” quicker. With a modern tractor drinking 13 – 17 gallons of fuel per hour, plus equipment costs of \$40.00 per hour, driver costs (with benefits) of \$16 - \$20 per hour, just one pass saved is significant. One pass of land preparation at 5 acres per hour could result a savings of \$20.69 - \$24.41 per acre*.

Adobe is clay without organic matter.

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*13 [gal/hr@3.65gal=\\$47.45/hr](#); [17gal/hr@3.65gal=\\$62.05/hr](#) divided by 5 acres/hr=\$9.49-\$12.41 in fuel. Tractor and equipment at \$40.00/hr divided by 5 acres=\$8.00/ac. Driver is \$3.20-\$4.00/ac.