

Compost Manual



Background

The movement of growing media (including mulch and compost) presents a risk of introducing or dispersing high-risk pests and diseases such as pathogenic viruses, bacteria, protozoa, and parasites throughout the Kiwifruit Industry. The level of risk may be further elevated when leafy kiwifruit plant, reject fruit or packhouse waste material is included in compost mixes.

Under the Pathway Plan rules, all compost moved onto an orchard must achieve a level of freedom from high-risk pests. Psa-V is currently the named high-risk pest, but this may change over time based on the risk profiles of organisms and our knowledge of these. KVH approval of this Compost Manual provides growers with assurance that your compost meets the requirements of the Pathway Plan.

Compost manufacturer/distributor definition: a person or entity who manufactures, facilitates, or is involved in the movement of growing media, compost or other organic matter that is then supplied as a product to any kiwifruit orchard or nursery property.

Scope

This KVH Compost Manual provides a simple means for compost manufacturers to register with KVH, to illustrate traceability to orchard KPIN (Kiwifruit Property Identification Number) and to demonstrate correct compost processing to show their compost is free from specified high-risk pests and diseases.

MANUFACTURER DETAILS	
Name of compost manufacturer/distributor:	
Physical address:	
Contact name:	
Contact phone number:	
Email address:	

REQUIREMENTS

MANUFACTURING PROCESS*

Compost must be free of Psa-V, which can be achieved by ensuring no kiwifruit material is used in the inputs, or manufacturing with a process that meets the following minimum requirements:

- Reach a minimum temperature of 55°C for a minimum of 15 days.
- Turned a minimum of four times over a minimum period of 4-6 weeks with an additional one month curing period.
- Comply with GLOBAL G.A.P.

KIWIFRUIT MATERIAL

- Compost product containing reject kiwifruit and or kiwifruit processing waste material is not permitted for use on Kiwifruit Plant Certification Scheme (KPCS) registered nurseries.
- All post-harvest kiwifruit plant material (including reject kiwifruit) that may be used in compost must be stored securely (to stop the facilitation of seed spread, and to manage any possible leachate or other contamination so as to ensure that consent and regional plan requirements are met.).

TRANSPORT AND DISTRIBUTION

- Any movement of compost containing kiwifruit material from the North Island to the South Island is prohibited (the South Island remains Psa-V not detected).
- All compost must be fully covered during transport to prevent dispersal.

TRACEABILITY

- Compost must be traceable to the orchard KPIN to which it is applied (including the address, purchaser, and quantity).
- Records must be maintained of input tonnage and source of reject or processing waste fruit (or other kiwifruit material) to the manufacturing site.

Kiwifruit plant material

Provide information to show what kiwifruit plant material is incorporated into the compost product.

Is any Kiwifruit material used in the compost mix? If so, what?	
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COMPOSTING PROCESS

Provide evidence and proof of your use of correct compost processes and manufacturing methods.
Acceptable evidence includes appropriate time and temperature combinations.

What turning methods are used during the compost manufacturing process?	
How are temperature measurements recorded and logged?	

How are monitoring records stored?	
Is there an internal audit process in place?	

TRANSPORT AND STORAGE

Biosecurity risk associated with any kiwifruit material inputs and the compost product must be managed appropriately. Provide evidence of appropriately managed compost transport and storage systems.

What transport systems are in place to appropriately store, transport and distribute compost under best biosecurity practices?	
If reject kiwifruit/ post-harvest kiwifruit plant material waste is used in the compost mix, how is it transported to the manufacturing site and stored on-site?	

RECORD KEEPING AND TRACEABILITY

Record keeping and traceability is essential and a minimum requirement for compost. Provide evidence of your traceability systems.

How will the traceability of compost distributions from manufacturing facility to orchard KPIN be managed?	
How will the integrity of traceability and record keeping be maintained? (how and where will they be kept?)	
Will the records be available for KVH to view if requested by KVH?	

*Manufacturing standards based on the New Zealand Compost, soil conditioners and mulch safety standard 4454:2005, and Everett KR, White T, Xu G, 2021, Biosecurity risk of compost, Plant and Food Research.