

# Annual survey of the UK Organics Recycling industry - on behalf of AFOR and WRAP

## BACKGROUND

The term 'organics recycling' covers a wide range of processes including composting, biological treatment, in-vessel composting (IVC) and Anaerobic Digestion (AD), as well as mechanical biological treatment (MBT) of municipal and non municipal waste. The industry is transforming rapidly in terms of technology, size of sites, specialisation, and is maturing through mergers and acquisitions.



The annual survey of the UK organics recycling industry for 2008/09 was carried out on behalf of the Waste & Resources Action Programme (WRAP) and the Association for Organics Recycling (AfOR) by M·E·L Research.

## METHODOLOGY

A market survey questionnaire was developed and distributed to 511 organisations in the autumn of 2009, with online, email and paper response options available. In total, 30% of these organisations replied, and 112 companies reported being active in the organics recycling market. The survey recorded the following:



- ◆ Data relating to the operator organisation as a whole such as company size, turnover, quality compliance etc
- ◆ Sites taking source segregated waste feedstock
- ◆ Sites taking mixed waste feedstock.
- ◆ Quantity of inputs
- ◆ Type of organics recycling process or technology
- ◆ Quantity and type of product output
- ◆ End markets and end uses of the product.

## OUTCOMES

Overall, the survey found that the UK organics recycling industry continues to grow in size, with a slightly steeper rate of growth in quantity of throughput and business turnover than was evident in the previous year. The industry continues to increase in its diversity in terms of business type, feedstocks used, process technologies and recycling product. The full report can be found at:

[http://www.organics-recycling.org.uk/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=841:survey-of-the-uk-organics-recycling-industry-&catid=1:latest-news&Itemid=18](http://www.organics-recycling.org.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=841:survey-of-the-uk-organics-recycling-industry-&catid=1:latest-news&Itemid=18)

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