

<b>Title</b>	<b>Prepare for and conduct on-site testing at a composting facility</b>		
<b>Level</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>3</b>

<b>Purpose</b>	People credited with this unit standard are able to prepare for on-site testing, and conduct on-site testing, at a composting facility.
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<b>Classification</b>	Resource Recovery > Composting
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<b>Available grade</b>	Achieved
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### Guidance Information

- All work practices must comply with the: Health and Safety at Work Act 2015; Resource Management Act 1991; Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996; NZS 4454: 2005 Composts, soil conditioners and mulches; The New Zealand Waste Strategy: Reducing Harm, Improving Efficiency 2010 Ministry for the Environment, available at <http://www.mfe.govt.nz>; and HSNO Codes of Practice for Hazardous Substances, available at [www.worksafe.govt.nz](http://www.worksafe.govt.nz).
- Personal protective equipment (PPE) must be used throughout operations in accordance with company procedures. PPE includes but is not limited to – gloves, eye protection, appropriate footwear, overalls, hearing protection, respirator or facemask, high visibility clothing, fire extinguisher, first aid kit, eye wash kit, face shield/mask; hard hat.
- Definitions  
*Company procedures* mean the documented methods for performing work activities and include health and safety, environmental, and quality management requirements. They may refer to manuals, codes of practice, or policy statements.  
*On-site tests* may include but are not limited to – handling and testing for sample preparation, sieving; weighing, drying, moisture content, bioassay; bulk density, electrical conductivity, pH, particle size grading, compost maturity, physical contamination assessment, ammonium and nitrate.  
*On-site tests* may be on – raw materials, compost in process, finished product.  
*Products* may include but are not limited to – composts, mulches, soil conditioners, natural and blended soils for landscaping, special purpose soils, potting mixes, loose fill playground surfacing, and various recycled organics products for a range of specialised applications.  
*Raw materials* (compostable organic materials) may include but are not limited to – plant materials, food waste, wood and timber, sawdust, wood shavings, crop residuals, forestry residuals, manures, biosolids, sewage grit and screenings, fats and oils, organic sludges, paper-based materials, paper mill wastes.

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## Outcomes and performance criteria

### Outcome 1

Prepare for on-site testing at a composting facility.

#### Performance criteria

- 1.1 On site testing equipment is cleaned, checked, and calibrated for use in accordance with NZS 4454 and company procedures.
- 1.2 Testing schedules are developed in accordance with company procedures and NZS 4454.

### Outcome 2

Conduct on-site testing at a composting facility.

#### Performance criteria

- 2.1 Observations on samples are made and on-site testing is conducted in accordance with NZS 4454 and company procedures.
- 2.2 On-site testing equipment is cleaned, recalibrated, and reset for each subsequent batch in accordance with NZS 4454 and company procedures.
- 2.3 Observations on samples and on-site results are documented on relevant batch documentation forms in accordance with NZS 4454 and company procedures.
- 2.4 On-site test results are documented on relevant batch information forms in accordance with company procedures.
- 2.5 Variations or non-conformities in on-site test results are identified and reported in accordance with company procedures.
- 2.6 Remedial action is determined and (where applicable) carried out in accordance with company procedures.

Range remedial action may include but is not limited to – adjustments to processing technique and compost batch management.

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**This unit standard is expiring. Assessment against the standard must take place by the last date for assessment set out below.**

**Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions**

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	23 April 2007	31 December 2025
Rollover and Revision	2	28 March 2019	31 December 2025
Review	3	27 March 2025	31 December 2025

**Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference**

0014

This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.