



Compost for Sacramento Small Farms

Compost can...

Improve drainage and reduce flooding



Bad drainage



Better drainage

Improve soil structure



Bad soil structure



Good soil structure

Improve soil health and nutrient supply



More fertilizers every year



Less fertilizer plus compost

How to Add Compost to Your Farm

1. How much compost do I need?

5 to 10 tons per acre.

Not more than 15 tons per acre.

For 1 acre: 5 to 10 tons

For 2.5 acres: 13 to 25 tons

For 3 acres: 15 to 30 tons

2. Does the company sell by the yard or ton?

1 ton = 2.5 yards

3. How much will it cost?

For example, compost costs \$49 per ton

$$\$49/2.5 = \$19.60 \text{ per yard}$$

For example, compost costs \$17 per yard

$$\$17 \times 2.5 = \$42.5 \text{ per ton}$$

4. Does the compost company deliver and spread? What is the cost of each?

For example, if it costs \$39/ton (2,000 lbs.) for compost including delivery, and \$10/ton to have it spread:

If adding 10 tons/acre:

$$\text{For 1 acre of compost delivered + spread on the farm} = 1 \text{ acre} \times 10 \text{ tons/acre} \times \$49 = \$490$$

$$\text{For 2 acres of compost + spread on the farm} = 2 \text{ acres} \times 10 \text{ tons/acre} \times \$49 = \$980$$

If adding 5 tons per acre:

$$\text{For 1 acre of compost spread on the farm} = 1 \text{ acre} \times 5 \text{ tons/acre} \times \$49 = \$245$$

$$\text{For 2 acres of compost spread on the farm} = 2 \text{ acres} \times 5 \text{ tons/acre} \times \$49 = \$490$$

5. When do I add compost?

The best time to add compost is after the plastic and drip tape is removed from old strawberry beds, and the old beds have been disked and leveled.

Local Compost Suppliers:

| Name/Contact | Type | Deliver | Spread | Price* (yards) | Price (tons) |
|--|----------------------------------|---|-------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|
| Westside Spreading 205 Maedell Way Woodland, CA 95695 (530) 219-6267 westsidespreading@att.net | Green waste compost | Yes (40 yard=18 tons minimum for delivery) | Yes, \$10 extra per ton | \$15.60/yard | \$39/ton (including delivery) |
| Lopez Ag Service 11499 Florin Rd Sacramento, CA 95830 (916) 682-5450 www.lopezagservice.com | Recycled Compost | Yes | Yes | \$17/yard | \$42.50/ton (including delivery) |
| Redi-gro Soil Amendments 8909 Elder Creek Road Sacramento, CA 95828 (916) 381-6063 www.redi-gro.com | Recycled compost | Yes | No | \$28/yard | \$70/ton (including delivery) |
| Jepsom Prairie Organics/Recology 6426 Hay Road Vacaville, CA 95687 (707) 249-1338 www.recologyorganics.com | Green waste compost + food waste | 40-yard minimum for delivery, \$400 to Florin | Yes | \$20/yard | \$50/ton plus delivery charge |

*Prices provided are rough approximations and may differ according to volume ordered, distance from supplier, and other conditions.

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