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Ecomondo Webinar

Composting in the UK

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Who we are

Our Subsidiaries



Food and garden waste today



Food waste:

- 9.5 MT total food waste
- 6.6MT from households
 - 4.5 MT still edible
 - 2.1MT inedible
- 18% reduction in food waste since 2007
- Approx 2.2MT recycled through composting and AD

Garden waste:

3.39MT going to composting



Collections and Treatment

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Composting –
308 sites (46 sites approved to take
food waste)

2018 – Composting sites processed
6MT of biowaste

Anaerobic digestion –
579 plants (116 approved for food
waste)

2018 - AD processed 2.66MT of
food waste and 170KT of mixed
food and green waste



Organics outputs

- Produces valuable products (soil improvers, biofertilisers, renewable energy)
- 2.9MT compost and 7.5MT digestate in 2018
- Recognition of value of outputs
 - Increase crop yields
 - Provides valuable readily available nutrients (digestate)
 - Compost increases soil organic matter, improves soil structure and useful source of nutrients
- Organics play vital roles in:
 - Changes to soil health policies
 - Carbon footprint reduction
 - Enabling reduction of peat usage



Opportunities

- Policy developments in England
 - Resources and Waste Strategy for England
 - Mandatory weekly food waste collections from households and businesses starting from 2023
 - Potential for co-collection with garden waste
 - Mandatory garden waste collections
 - England's Peat Action Plan
 - Banning peat products for general use
 - Phasing out use of peat in horticulture
- Scotland, Waste and Northern Ireland
 - Regulations requiring separate food waste collections
 - Circular Economy Strategy (70% recycling target by 2025, food waste reduction targets)



Getting it right

- Investment in sector to deal with increased volumes
- Consistent approach
- Education and communication
- Quality
- Compostable materials in appropriate applications
- Integration of AD and Composting
- Novel technologies



Thank you!

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