Composting Principles and Practices
SC 344

Catalog Statement
Fundamentals of compost production, use and regulation will be presented through lectures, lab and a fieldtrip.

Course Format
This course will meet for 1 one-hour session per week for 8 weeks and students will be required to participate in one full day Saturday fieldtrip.

Course Objectives
Students enrolled in this course will:

1) Develop an understanding of the role of compost and nutrient cycling in a sustainable agricultural system.
2) Become familiar with the means by which compost is produced, classified, used, and regulated.
3) Experience hands-on learning exercises through field work and a fieldtrip.
4) Examine current compost research in scientific journals.

Course Specifics
Instructor: Adriane (Addy) Elliott
Office: W107 Phone: 491-6984
Cell: (970) 218-8305
Email: Adriane.Elliott@ColoState.edu (BEST WAY TO REACH ME!)


Other readings: Distributed in class.

Prerequisites: SOCR 240 Introduction to Soil Science

Grading: Take home exams (2): 90 points each = 180 points
Homework (3): 20 points each = 60 points
Final paper (1): 40 points = 40 points
Class participation: 20 points = 20 points
300 points total
Course Outline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Aug. 25</td>
<td>Compost: The big picture, Homework: Carbon and Nitrogen Cycle</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Sept. 1</td>
<td>Make Class Compost Piles (meet at PERC- 613 W. Lake St.) Homework: Assign data collection and management days/times</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Sept. 8</td>
<td>Understanding different compost systems and compost microbiology</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Sept. 15</td>
<td>Compost Quality Measurements and Interpretation</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Sept. 22</td>
<td>Compost utilization and application</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Sept. 29</td>
<td>Environmental assessments for compost site determination / state regulations (CO Dept. of Ag. and CO Dept. of Public Health &amp; Environ)</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Oct. 6</td>
<td>Jean Reeder?</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Oct. 13</td>
<td>Student presentations</td>
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Fieldtrip Options:
October 1  (9:00am - 2:00 pm)
October 8  (9:00am - 2:00 pm)
October 15 (9:00am - 2:00 pm)