MOFGA CERTIFICATION SERVICES, LLC

Application for Compost Review

This application is for commercial compost producers who are seeking approval of compost for use on certified organic farms. MOFGA Certification Services (MCS) reviews compost facilities and their products for compliance with the USDA's National Organic Program (NOP) specifications regarding compost (NOP §205.203, NOP §205.602, NOP 5021).

Our review and approval process are not a product endorsement, and MCS makes no evaluations or claims concerning how these crop inputs perform for farmers.

A. RESPONSIBLE PARTIES AND CONTACT INFORMATION

1. Name of person responsible for application (this should be the individual in charge of compost production):

_____

2. Name of facility owner, if different from above:

_____

3. Phone number:_____

4. Facility Mailing Address:_____

_____

5. Facility Physical Address:_____

_____

6. Email address: _____

7. Website: _____

Driving Directions to Facility:

B. COMPOST PRODUCTION INFORMATION

1. INGREDIENTS

a. List all feedstocks and additives below and note if you add each to the pile regularly or only occasionally. If you are seeking approval for more than one compost product, you must provide the ingredient information requested below for each compost blend. Please attach additional sheets if needed.
_____ADDITIONAL SHEETS ATTACHED

Compost Feedstocks and **Ingredients/Inputs**	**Source of Feedstock or Manufacturer of Input** - please include addresses of feedstock sources	**Percent of Pile** - please specify if by weight or volume	**Regular or Occasional** - please specify how often it's used

b. For all synthetic ingredients/inputs, please attach a copy of each product label.
_____LABELS ATTACHED

c. What is your initial estimated C:N ratio when building the pile?

2. COMPOST PRODUCTION

a. Please name the composting method used (for example - static pile, windrow, other). If "other", please describe in detail.

b. Describe the frequency of turning of compost materials.

c. Describe the curing process, length of time curing, and how you determine compost is finished/mature.

d. Describe how individual batches are tracked in your records.

e. Provide a description of the composting operation and site layout, including dimensions. Please attach a map which identifies all sites used, adjoining land use, geographical features, roadways, etc.
_____MAP ATTACHED

3. TEMPERATURE and MONITORING

Please attach a copy of a recent compost record which documents temperature monitoring and pile turning, includes batch numbers and initial date of pile building, and demonstrates the mesophilic and thermophilic stages of compost production in compliance with NOP standards.
_____RECORDS ATTACHED

4. ANALYSES

a. Attach a copy of a recent Basic Compost Test (bulk density, pH, conductivity, TS, TVS, NO_3-N, NH_4-N, total C, total N, total P, K, Mg, Ca, B, Cu, Fe, Mn, Zn)
_____LAB RESULTS ATTACHED

b. If compost feedstocks include commercial food waste, manure, and/or animal by-products, please attach biological pathogen test results for fecal coliform and salmonella from your most recent batch of finished compost.
_____LAB RESULTS ATTACHED

c. Attach other analyses**, if available:
- Solvita test for maturity
- Heavy metals analysis
- Pesticide residue or other toxic contaminants

_____LAB RESULTS ATTACHED

***Please note that MCS may request these tests to verify compliance with NOP §205.203, NOP §205.602, NOP 5021*

5. CONTAMINATION AND COMMINGLING

a. Describe how you evaluate feedstocks for potential contaminants, for example - municipal grass clippings, biodegradable plastics, lobster bands, etc. What is your process for removal and management of contaminants in feedstocks and in the finished compost?

b. Does your operation include activities other than compost production? If so, please explain.

c. Does your operation handle materials that are prohibited in organic production and/or produce composts that are not intended for use on organic farms? If yes, please describe these products.

d. List equipment used in compost production and handling, and describe its use in the compost process.

e. If equipment is not used exclusively for compost production, please describe the other uses.

f. Please describe how you prevent contamination of MOFGA approved compost, if your facility and equipment are not used exclusively for the production of approved compost.

C. MARKETING AND DISTRIBUTION OF COMPOST PRODUCT(S)

1. PRODUCT OFFERINGS

a. Please provide a list of all the compost products you make and market.

b. Please list which compost products you are requesting be approved for use in organic production.

2. MARKETING

a. Please describe how you sell your products. For example, do you sell/ distribute bagged products for resale at gardening centers, catalogs, or other retail sales? Do you make bulk deliveries to individual farms or producers?

b. Please attach copies of marketing materials for your compost, including product labels. Additionally, note any changes you intend to make on the label following approval by MOFGA Certification Services. If the changes are made after approval is granted, you must submit the label proofs to us prior to printing.

_____MARKETING MATERIALS ATTACHED

Please Note:

- *Composts or soil mixes must not be labeled or advertised as "Certified Organic". Compost may be labeled as "Approved for use on organic farms", or similar.*
- *Approved compost products may display the MOFGA Approved Compost logo only. The Certified Organic by MOFGA logo must not be used to market compost products.*
- *The MOFGA Approved Compost logo must not be altered from its original form.*

c. Do you give MOFGA Certification Services permission to list your approved compost products in our newsletter or other publications? ___YES ____NO

d. Do you give MOFGA Certification Services permission to disclose your contact information as listed in Section A of this application? _____YES _____NO
If public facing contact information is different than in Section A, please provide below.

3. LICENSING

a. Please include a copy of all applicable state licenses, or documentation of license renewal, for your operation (for example - DEP Solid Waste Management License; Maine DACF Compost Management Plan).
_____LICENSE/LICENSE RENEWAL ATTACHED

b. If your products are approved or certified to other standards, please identify those other approvals or certifications and attach supporting documentation.
_____ATTACHED

D. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. APPLICATION/RENEWAL FEES

The fee for Compost Review is $500 and should be included with the application. This fee covers roughly a two-year period.

_____PAYMENT INCLUDED

2. INSPECTION

An initial on-site inspection of facilities, processes, and records must be conducted before compost approval can be granted. An inspection may not be required for the subsequent renewal and will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

New applicant inspection fee is $150.

***Additional charges for site visits will be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Additional fee considerations include, but are not limited to: inspector travel costs, multiple site visits and/or complexity of the facility. An estimate of additional fees is available upon request.*
***Inspections during the approval period may be conducted as needed. Inspection fee will be the responsibility of the producer.*

_____PAYMENT INCLUDED

3. DURATION AND RENEWALS

The duration of approval for compost production will be two years. Applications for renewal of compost approval must be submitted by the compost producer to MOFGA Certification Services prior to the end of the two-year period. All products for which approval for use in certified organic production is sought must be included in the application. Compost facilities with products that have been approved for use in certified organic production will receive a letter of approval that must be available to the public upon request. Any changes to the compost production or feedstocks must be submitted and approved by MOFGA Certification Services before the product can be marketed as approved for organic farms.

4. LABELING

Composts or soil mixes approved through MOFGA Certification Services compost review program are approved for use in organic agriculture. Composts or soil mixes must not be labeled or advertised as Certified Organic, and the Certified Organic by MOFGA logo must not be used to market the product. Use of the MOFGA Approved Compost logo is only permitted after approval has been granted.

E. COMPOST REGISTRATION AGREEMENT

I, (Print Name) _____, an authorized representative of the applicant for compost review, declare that all the information provided in this application is true and correct and not misrepresented in any way. I acknowledge that I am responsible for compliance with all applicable laws related to compost production, am required to notify MOFGA Certification Services of any changes to the information provided in this application, must keep and provide access to records and provide access to facilities for inspections, sampling, and audits. I acknowledge that the approval of compost or compost-based materials by MOFGA Certification Services does not imply an endorsement of the products approved.

Signature _____

Title _____

Date _____

Please send Application Form, Attachments, and Fee to:

MOFGA Certification Services
Compost Review Program
PO Box 170, Unity, Maine 04988
-or-
certification@mofga.org

Fees may also be paid online at https://mofgacertification.org/ using the Secure Payment Portal tab.