

Need for centralised and decentralised solutions

Austrian Compost Quality Society

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Introduction Austrian compost quality society

- Founded in April 1995
- Chairman **Prof. Dr. Peter Lechner**,
University of Natural Resources and
Applied Life Sciences, Vienna, Institute of
Waste Management
www.wau.boku.ac.at/abf.html
- Managing committee 7 members

Introduction Austrian compost quality society (2)

- **Members:**
 - 25 compost plants
 - 30 members of compost related areas
- **Biggest plant:**
 - City of Vienna, ~ 40.000 m³ compost/a
- **Smallest plant:**
 - Drexler, horticulture plant, ~ 900 m³ compost/a

Introduction Austrian compost quality society (3)

- Information, consulting and coordination of members for compost–production
- quality–evaluation to get the “compost quality label“



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Introduction Austrian compost quality society (4)

- Intensive dialogue with government
- Participation in standardisation work by managing director and members of the managing committee
- Support of scientific projects
- Participation in ECN especially **WG 2**
“Standardisation/QAS” for establishing a European Quality Assurance System (QAS)

Background

- ~ **1975**: first steps of composting MSW to reduce the waste amount for land filling
- ~ **1985**: Austrian standards for analyses, quality requirements and use of MSW - compost
- ~ **1995**: Austrian standards for analyses, quality requirements for input materials/compost and use of compost from **source separate collected biowaste!**

Steps to a compost ordinance

- **1996:** Decision for revising waste management law by ministry for environment to establish an ordinance for quality requirements for input-materials and compost and for trading compost on the market
- **1996 - 2001:** Experts group
- **1996 - 2001:** Governmental group with federal countries
- **2001: Compost ordinance!**

Source separate collected Biowaste

- Wet waste fraction – water content >50 % up to 90 %
- 30 % DM = 700 kg Water / t Biowaste
- Food-, kitchen-, gardenwaste – minimum PTEs
- Negative calorific value
- Perfect composition for biological treatment aerobic/anaerobic
- Bad storeability
- High effort for transport of water
- High quality source for producing compost

Centralised/decentralised solutions

- **Centralised solutions for urban areas**
- Collection and start of treatment within one day – high treatment capacity
- Distribution of compost for different purposes
- **Decentralised solutions for rural areas**
- Minimum transport distances after collection
- Minimum transport distances before use of compost

Conclusions

- **Only source separate collected Biowaste!**
- **Water content too high for long transport distances, storage and incineration!**
- **Combination of centralised/decentralised – aerobic/anaerobic!**
- **High potential to avoid emissions!**
- **High potential of carbon sequestration!**
- **High potential of resource protection!**

Thank you

for your attention!!!!

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