



Summer Newsletter

Focus on Lawns

LAWNS DESTROYED BY HURICANE SANDY ARE RESTORED USING AGRESOIL COMPOST

By Roberto Fernandez, Roberto Fernandez Landscaping and Estate Management, Stamford, CT

After hurricane Sandy the devastation that many of our properties faced was staggering. Aside from the wind damage that many of the trees suffered, most of our properties along the water suffered complete and total destruction to their lawn areas.

With heavy aeration, power raking, over seeding and the use of the compost we buy from Agresource, we found amazing results. The thick rich lawns we were able to grow, and the speed in which they grew was unbelievable! Now, whenever we plant a new lawn from seed we always top-dress with Agresoil Compost, and each and every time we are amazed with the results. Aside from installing new lawns, we have had tremendous success bringing old, tired lawns back to life with as little as one application.



Lawn before topdressing

Lawn after topdressing

RICH'S PITCH– by Rich Simcich

Agresource has been supplying *Agresoil Compost* throughout the northeast for over 18 years. Many of our loyal customers and first time users have called their representatives in astonishment at the performance they achieved after using the compost for various applications such as turf grass topdressing, establishing new turf, planting beds, and backfill mixes for trees and shrubs. Many of my customers have called me and said “Rich you won’t believe the results I got using *Agresoil Compost*, you have to come and see it!” Roberto Fernandez is a good example of the typical customer who is more than pleased with the results.

In view of the superior results achieved using Agresoil Compost, it puzzles me that I continue to see specifications calling for the mixing of onsite soil with dehydrated cow manure and peat moss. Compost is a living fertilizer; the metabolic activities of living organisms in compost add life to soil. These beneficial bacteria and fungi feed on the organic matter, proteins, and carbohydrates in the compost which allows the bacteria and fungi to grow around the root system. Water soluble nutrients are then gradually released as they are needed by plants and turf. Microorganisms play an important role in organic matter decomposition which, in turn, leads to humus formation and nutrient availability. Microorganisms can also promote root activity as specific fungi work symbiotically with plant roots, assisting them in the extraction of nutrients from soils.

A lack of microbes in the soil reduces the efficient uptake of nutrients by the plant and allows soil borne pathogens access to the root system. Peat moss and dehydrated cow manure add organic matter but lack these living microbes which are so vital to the soil and the development of a healthy and aggressive root system.

When using compost to amend soil, the soil should be tested to identify nutrient levels, pH, and organic matter content. Agresoil Biosolids Compost has 50-70% organic matter, a diversified population of beneficial microbes, and contains a considerable variety of macro and micronutrients. It is less expensive than peat moss and dehydrated cow manure, and will provide better results experienced by our customers.

“GO GREEN” TOPDRESSING WITH AGRESOIL BIOSOLIDS COMPOST by Melanie Rundlett

Topdressing is an important step in any turf manager’s overall maintenance program. The benefits of topdressing with Agresoil compost include the following: increase nutrient uptake, balance moisture content, alleviate compaction, enhance root development, reduce sports injuries, and repair turf and lawn areas.

With maintenance budgets being decreased across the industry, turf managers can still take advantage of all the benefits topdressing provides by using Agresoil. We offer deliver in bulk direct to the jobsite at affordable prices. Agresoil compost is an environmentally friendly product that is truly an example of recycling at its best. The compost exceeds all the EPA “Exceptional Quality (EQ)” standards and adheres to all EPA and state standards.

Just a few examples of facilities who have recently topdressed with Agresoil are DeSales University in Center Valley, PA; the prestigious Bayonne Golf Club which overlooks the New York Harbor in NJ; high schools including Hamburg, PA, Rye Neck, NJ, Fort Washington, PA, Panther Valley, PA; and many others. In November, 2012, 500 cubic yards of Agresoil was used by the NYC Parks Department to topdress the playground and green areas in Springfield Park in Queens, NY.

FIXING A LAWN PROBLEM WITH TOPDRESSING - by Tim Gould

Topdressing can be used in a variety of problems including helping to correct soil texture.

When a new sewer line was installed across a large residential lawn (left to right behind the swing set), poorly draining, fine-textured topsoil was installed. Due to either inadequate soil specifications or lack

of enforcement of the soil specifications, the soil placed on top of fill at had too high a percentage of silt and clay and not enough sand content.

The soil, about an eight inch deep layer, was classified as a silt loam and was different from the rest of the lawn which is a classified as sandy loam. While the silt loam supported grass germination due to its high water holding capacity, it significantly slowed water movement towards the rear of the property and down to a pond. The silt loam effectively choked off the end of the lawn causing a frequent droughty condition.

The best solution for this situation is to remove the silt loam and replace it with a sandy loam that has adequate organic matter content and will allow water to infiltrate through it. This is expensive and unfortunately, the problem was discovered long after the sewer project was over. The next best solution is to topdress with compost. Topdressing over the silt loam will help break up soil texture and lower bulk density, hopefully allowing water to flow through the soil profile. Topdressing the lower lawn will help this perpetually dry area hold water better and support grass.

In summary, this case study shows how poor soil texture can cause problems and why there is a need to meet specification requirements on all jobs--even sewer replacement projects.



Customer Feedback Survey

We at Agresource would like to take this opportunity to ask all of our customers to contact us via email at info@Agresourceinc.com and give us feedback on our products and service. We will use your feedback to continue to improve.