



Composting & Anaerobic Digestion
Association *of* Ireland

Composting and Anaerobic Digestion Market Report 2014

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Ireland

Every year Cré conducts a national survey on the tonnage of waste processed in composting and anaerobic digestion facilities. The survey asks facility operators to declare the intake tonnage of various waste streams processed in the previous year. The purpose of this survey is to identify trends within the industry.

As facilities could not differentiate between the intake tonnage from commercial and household brown bin material, the data from both streams were combined into a single category labelled 'Brown Bin'.

In this year's survey from the sites that were contacted (33), 29 facilities participated. The results of this survey have some caveats¹ which should be noted when viewing the data presented here.

The 2013 statistics were compared to those from the previous year (Table 1). The data from all Cré surveys from 2009 to 2013 are graphed in Chart 1.

In November 2014, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published a bulletin on waste processed in Irish compost and anaerobic digestion sites in 2013. The EPA data is also included in Table 1 (in brackets).

Key Trends

The following trends were identified:

- There was an increase of 8.6% in tonnage accepted between 2012 and 2013 for these facilities that participated in this survey.
- There was a decrease in intake of tonnage of garden waste and sewage sludge processed in the same period.
- There was an increase of brown bin tonnage of 4.4%.
- There was a significant increase in the amount of organic fines and municipal solid waste composted.

**Table 1: Tonnes Processed by Composting and Anaerobic Digestion Facilities in 2012 & 2013
Based on Data from Cré Survey and EPA Data (in brackets)**

	2012	2013	% Change
Materials	Tonnes		
Total Tonnes	303,990	331,240	+ 8.6
Brown Bin	104,298	108,957 (114,000 ²)	+ 4.4
Organic Fines/ Municipal Solid Waste	40,677	78,703	+ 64
Garden Waste	42,862	35,367 (35,393 ³)	-19
Sewage Sludge	60,818	52,611 (55,196 ⁴)	-14.4
Other Waste (Incl. manures)	55,336	55,602	+0.5

¹ The caveats with the Cré data include the following:

(a) Some facilities did not respond to the survey. The table below outlines the number of facilities in each category that did not respond.

Years	Brown Bin	Garden Waste	Organic Fines	Other Waste	Sewage Sludge
2013	1	3		2	1
2012	1	1			
2011		3	1	1	
2010	1	1		1	
2009	1	2		1	

(b) Transfrontier Shipment Office data for 2013 records that 3,932 tonnes of brown bin material collected was exported out of the country. This figure is not included in the above data.

(c) The survey excluded anaerobic digestion plants at waste water treatment plants.

(d) This survey did not examine the tonnage of manures processed by the mushroom industry.

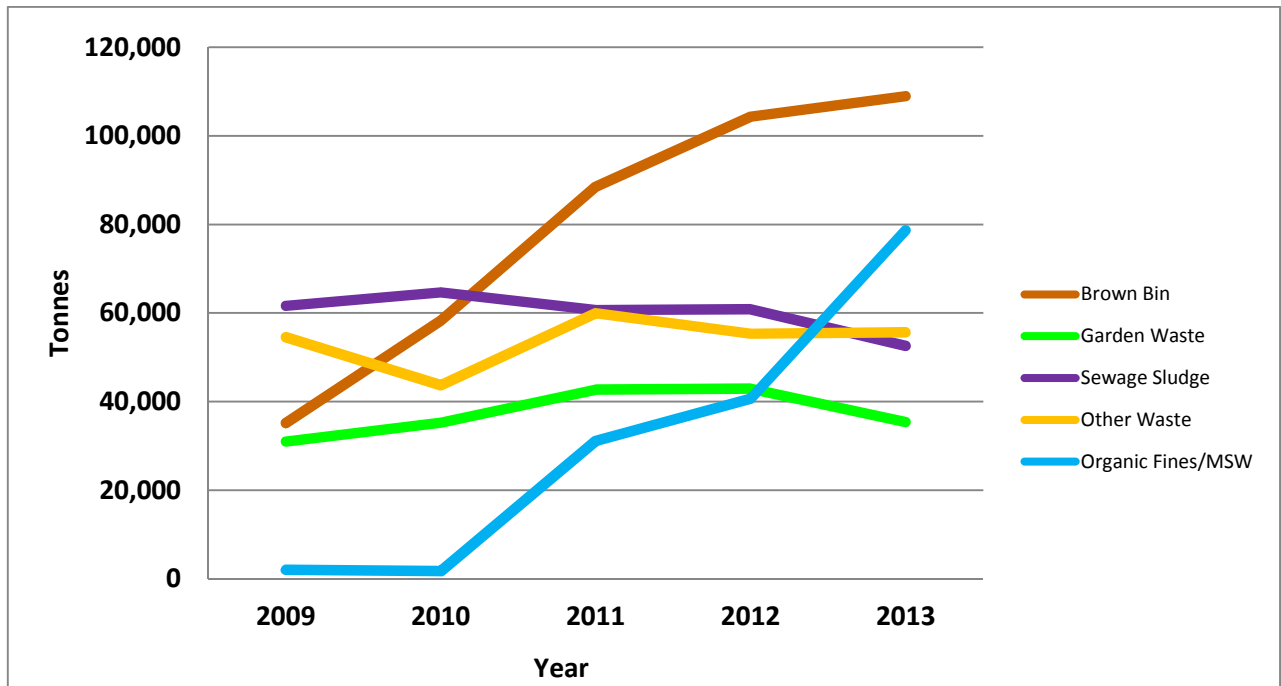
(e) Only 2013 Organic Fines figures included MSW (municipal solid waste).

² Environmental Protection Agency Bulletin 4: Compost and Anaerobic Digestion Statistics for 2013

³ Environmental Protection Agency Bulletin 4: Compost and Anaerobic Digestion Statistics for 2013

⁴ Environmental Protection Agency Bulletin 4: Compost and Anaerobic Digestion Statistics for 2013

Chart 1: Tonnes Processed by Composting and Anaerobic Digestion Facilities in 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 & 2013 Based on Data from Cré Surveys



Northern Ireland

The statistics for municipal waste (combined garden waste and food waste) collected between 2012 and 2013 were obtained from the Northern Ireland Environment Agency Waste Data flow (www.wastedataflow.org). These statistics are represented in the Chart 2 below.

Key Trends

The following trend was identified:

- The tonnage of municipal waste (combined garden waste and food waste) collected decreased from 150,514t in 2011/2012 to 141,428t in 2012/2013 (a 6% decrease).

Chart 2: Tonnes of Municipal waste (Garden Waste and Food Waste) Collected in Northern Ireland

