



**Composting & Anaerobic Digestion
Association *of* Ireland**

Composting and Anaerobic Digestion Market Report for the Year 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'.

Out of the 35 sites that were contacted, 30 facilities participated in this year's survey. The results of this survey have some caveats¹ which should be noted when viewing the data presented here.

The 2014 statistics were compared to those from 2013 in Table 1 below. The data from all Cré surveys from 2009 to 2014 are presented graphically 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 2.4% in the total tonnage of waste accepted between 2013 and 2014 for these facilities that participated in this survey.
- There was a decrease in the intake tonnage of sewage sludge waste (-33%), brown bin waste (-16%), garden waste (-3%), and other waste (-1%) processed in the same period. One of the reasons for the decrease of brown bin material was 26,254 tonnes was exported for processing in Northern Ireland.
- There was a significant increase in the amount of organic fines composted (138% increase).

Table 1: Tonnes Processed by Composting and Anaerobic Digestion Facilities in 2013 & 2014 Based on Data from Cré Survey and EPA Data (in brackets)

	2013	2014	% Change
Materials	Tonnes		
Total Tonnes	331,240	338,057	+2.4%
Brown Bin	108,957 (114,000 ²)	98,427	- 16
Organic Fines	78,703	121,669	+ 138
Garden Waste	35,367 (35,393 ³)	34,298	-3
Sewage Sludge	52,611 (55,196 ⁴)	32,621	-33
Other Waste (Incl. manures)	51,042	51,042	-1

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
2014		3		1	1
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 and 2014 records that 3,932 and 26,254 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.

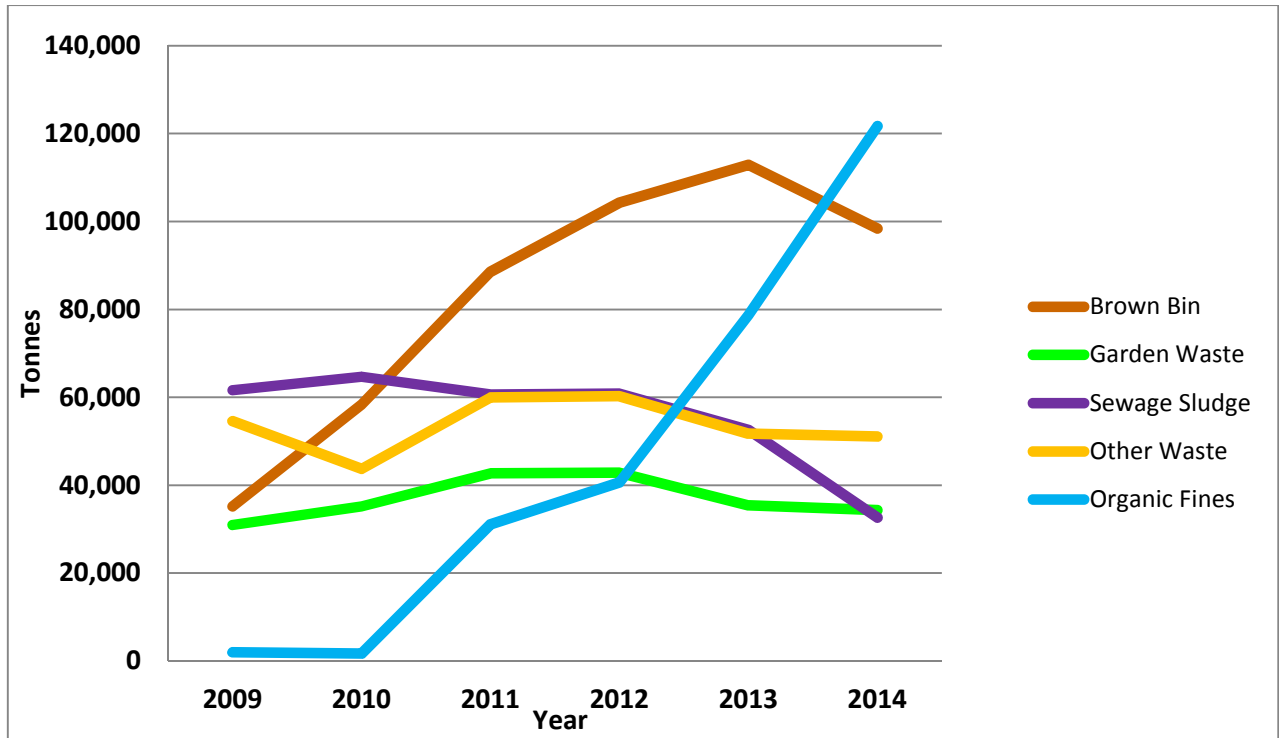
(e) Only 2013 Organic Fines figures included MSW (municipal solid waste).

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 & 2014 Based on Data from Cré Surveys



Northern Ireland

The statistics for municipal waste (combined garden waste and food waste) collected between 2013 and 2014 were obtained from the Northern Ireland Environment Agency Waste Data flow website (www.wastedataflow.org). These statistics are represented in Chart 2 below.

The information below does not include any data on the amount of brown bin material imported into Northern Ireland.

Key Trends

The following trend was identified:

- The tonnage of municipal waste (combined garden waste and food waste) collected increased from 141,428t in 2012/2013 to 155,092t in 2013/2014 (a 9.6% increase).

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

