

Notes to Bord na Mona Study

The following study by Bord na Mona, Ireland, shows the effect of 506 on typical green waste systems.

The study was done “in the blind” in the sense that Bord na Mona was unaware of which samples were treated and which samples were not treated with 506.

The study compares 14 week old untreated material and 1 year old untreated material against 14 week old treated material. The treated and untreated 14 week old material had been turned only once, at formation, although GOC recommended a second turn six weeks after formation.

In the study, GW 62-1 is the 506 treated sample, GW 62-2 is the one year old material, and GW 62-3 is the control untreated sample.

This study shows a significant difference between the treated and the control, with the treated materials comparing favorably to the one year old material. Indeed, the percentage of organic carbon and the percentage of particles of 10 mil size or less was actually greater in the treated material.

The moisture content of the treated material was still very high. This was unquestionably due to the lack of a second turn. This would have released excess moisture as steam and also resulted in even greater decomposition.