



REAL Presentation: Who we are

September 2024

Renewable Energy Assurance Limited



- Compost Certification Scheme (CCS)



- Biofertiliser Certification Scheme (BCS)



- The Research Hub



- Compostable Materials Certification Scheme (CMCS)

The CCS

- As of June 2024, there were 170 certified processes on the scheme:
 - 129 in England
 - 21 in Scotland
 - 13 in Wales
 - 6 in Northern Ireland
 - 1 in Republic of Ireland
- ~4.1 million tonnes per annum of inputs
- ~2.0 million tonnes per annum of quality compost



The BCS

- As of June 2024, there were 106 certified processes on the scheme:
 - 79 in England
 - 12 in Scotland
 - 7 in Wales
 - 8 in Northern Ireland
- ~5.6 million tonnes per annum of inputs
- ~4.9 million tonnes per annum of certified digestate



The Research Hub

- Funded by CCS and BCS producers and operators, the Research Hub was set up with the aim to generate scientific evidence to support innovation and contribute to the development of the Schemes, Standards, and End-of-Waste Frameworks.
- Completed projects:
 - The Research Library
 - Digestate Characteristics and Valorisation Options
 - Carbon Accounting for Compost and Digestate
- Ongoing projects:
 - Risk assessments updates for compost and digestate to inform Compost Quality Protocol and AD Quality Protocol revision
 - Plastic contamination method assessment
 - Plant response test interpretation and comparison

Future Research Hub Projects

- Current evaluation for 2024 projects is ongoing and looking to conclude very soon
- Potential follow-on from the Carbon Footprinting Project:
 - Previous project resulted in the development of a report on how an operator could conduct a Carbon Footprinting assessment for their site
 - The Research Hub is considering developing this report into a more user-friendly tool
 - Part of this discussion is looking to explore whether this would be valuable to operators

If you have any questions on this or anything else Research Hub related, please contact megan@realschemes.org.uk

The CMCS

- The CMCS is a certification scheme for compostable materials placed on the UK market
- For producers, we provide services for the assessment and labelling of compostable products
- For consumers, we provide assurance and confidence in the compostability of certified products
- The marks/labels for the CMCS certified Home and Industrially Compostable materials shown here
- In the last month we confirmed the scheme's first scheme participant!
- <https://www.compostablematerials.org.uk>



Policy Areas of Interest to the Schemes

- Quality Protocols transitioning to the Resource Frameworks
- Peat ban developments and the progression of peat alternatives in horticulture
- Simpler recycling rollout
- Possible UK adoption of European Fertilising Product Regulations
- If any of these are of interest, please reach out to Duncan@realschemes.org.uk

Upcoming REAL Webinars

- CCS Compost Sampling Webinar (23 October)
- CCS Sample Testing Webinar (24 October)
- CCS Interpreting Test Results (25 October)
- BCS Digestate Sampling Webinar (31 October)
- BCS Sample Testing Webinar (1 November)
- Resource Framework changes: how they will impact the schemes (date TBC)



THANK YOU