

## Following a sale through to the end usage;

### **The development and use of a 0-7mm grade for use on a sports pitch.**

In March 2006 Mr Tommy Mack, head grounds man at Kings School, approached WRAP re using compost as a top dressing for use on football and ruby pitches. This conversation lead to Tommy contacting Andrew Riddington in the Spring, and making the first tentative enquiries about Bettaland Topsoil conditioner for this use.

The use of the compost top dressing is to provide nutrients as well as aiding the soil structure that is water logged during wet periods due to poor drainage. The dressing would be the ideal substance to help reduce compaction by increasing organic matter in the pitch.

The sample given was the 0-15mm grade, a good all round size for a variety of applications. However, the customer felt that with the size of some of the particles it maybe too large for an application through his rotary spreader. Discussions there after lead to the development of a 0-7mm grade suitable for the purpose it was being sold for, a top dressing for turf to be spread mechanically.

Organic Recycling then purchased a screen suitable for the grade and very successfully produced a very high quality, rich and dense dressing with a good proportion of organic content. The product is not sterilised and so would add the benefit of the compost's nutrient and microbial activity as well as its structure enhancing ability. A value was put to the product and was very competitive with the no-compost based dressing application currently used.

A visit then occurred in September and 3cubic metres was delivered and spread at the end use site, the Brand Field of Kings School, Ely. The product was impressive enough for Tommy, and his staff, to look to place an order. Order size is dependant on many factors including each pitch individually but an average of 50-100 tons per pitch is standard, but for the pitch in question it would be 75 tons. This will be repeated for new pitches on a rotation basis over the next 3-4 years to ensure they all benefit.

#### **Fresh weight Cat-Extr. Nutrients**

	<b>Units</b>	<b>Result</b>
NH4-N	mg/l	129.5
NO3-N	mg/l	273.0
P	mg/l	54.0
K	mg/l	3900
Mg	mg/l	157.0
Fe	mg/l	134.5

Results when spread



Application method



**Bettaland Products Ltd,  
Decoy Farm, Crowland,  
Peterborough, PE6 0LX.**

**Tel 01733 211666  
Fax 01733 211393**