

ORCHARD MULCH

WM Agri Service Quality Parameters

Product Description and Production Benefits Application

- Orchard Mulch is composted, dark brown mulch that provides agronomic benefits for orchards, vineyards and large planted areas.
- Typical particle size is 2-inch minus.
- Orchard Mulch is an ag-grade mulch that will contain small pieces of residual waste material.
- Feedstock used includes yard trimmings and food waste generated from source-separated curbside pickup and landscape maintenance. No animal wastes or sludge wastes are added.
- Feedstock material is composted for a minimum period of one month. Temperatures are maintained between 132° to 155° F throughout the thermophilic stage to kill pathogens and weed seeds. This process meets California Title 14 regulations, *Process to Further Reduce Pathogens*.
- One cubic yard of Orchard Mulch weighs approximately 450 to 550 pounds.
- Moisture content at the time of marketing is approximately 25%.
- Curing phase is up to two months.
- Orchard Mulch is manufactured at a fully permitted compost facility licensed by CalRecycle and meets the procurement requirements outlined in SB 1383.



Benefits

- Orchard Mulch improves the long-term soil tilth in orchards, vineyards and large planted areas.
- Improves water filtration, increases the soil's water holding capacity and creates a nutrient reservoir.
- Orchard Mulch decreases weeding and improves plant health and disease resistance.
- Provides a slow-release source of minerals.
- Enhances microbial activity by providing an established population of beneficial microbes. This activity is essential for mineralization and plant nutrient uptake, as well as disease suppression.
- Holds on slopes for erosion control.

Application

- Apply over soil after planting or around existing plantings.
- An application rate of six to nine cubic yards per 1000 square feet is recommended for a two to three inch thick mulch layer.
- Avoid direct contact with plant stems by pulling mulch several inches back from the plant crown or stems.

