## Field trials Gut Heinrichshof

Gut Heinrichshof is an equestrian business located near Dresden. Approximately 80 horses are housed here in an open stable arrangement.

Three years ago, the stable decided against the use of chemical fertilizers and insecticides. The objective is to sustain ecological management of the horse pastures using organic

fertilizers for composting horse manure on site.

The business estimates an annual production of manure of close to 2000 m<sup>3</sup>.

In April 2016, approximately 100 m³ of horse manure were treated with BioAktiv Professional Compost and then turned over. Simultaneously turnover during treatment is extremely important so that the BioAktiv can be evenly distributed.



A positive result was visible already after two months. The picture shows a fresh manure pile on the left while on the right is a manure pile that was treated once with BioAktiv Professional Compost, turned over and left for two months.



The composting process is significantly accelerated while volume decreases.

A subjective impression suggests considerable warming and a very negligible production of odour in the compost.

The composted horse manure could be spread onto the pastures as early as the beginning of September 2016.



## General information about composting horse manure:

Over the past several years, organic manures produced locally by many horse farms have experienced considerable losses in value. The high cost of nutrient additives and increasing demand for sustainable operation, manure produced on site has returned to the spotlight.

Why compost?

Compositing is defined as the aerobic decomposition of organic substances; in other words, the rotting process takes place in conditions where oxygen is present.

Horse manure that has undergone thorough decomposition is an outstanding fertilizer with long-lasting action and serves as a basis for long-term preservation and enrichment of soil fertility.

The benefits of fertilizing with composted manure:

- 1. The nutrients contained in the horse manure are returned to the soil and hence are preserved in the soil organism and plants
- 2. Horse manure is a source of nutrients for organisms living in the soil and ultimately forms humus. The amount of humus in the soil can only remain constant over time if organic matter is regularly added to the soil
- 3. The quantity and activity of soil organisms is increased through regular addition of composted horse manure.

BioAktiv Professional Compost promotes and accelerates the rotting process. Aerobic bacteria proliferate and help maintain constant temperature within the compost heap. Microbes and fungi break down undesirable weed seeds, disease pathogens and parasites. The dramatic reduction in harmful gas emissions is a key advantage for people and the environment.