

ADVANCED NATURAL SOIL PRODUCER



After decades of working for other companies blending potting soils, landscape mixes, and turf grass blends, Matt Biegler took his experience and moved into the growing wave of pioneers who create a unique premium quality compost. Southeast Soils uses their proprietary Ferti-Comp as a base to custom blend mixes replacing much more expensive components. This allows Southeast Soils to offer a high quality product at a cost savings to its customer base.



Four loaders working at Southeast Soils, all of them the new Kawasaki Z7 Tier 4 models.

“I knew that there was an organic way to create a unique product derived from a proprietary compost process developed by our partners at Harvest Quest”, says Biegler, President of Southeast Soils located in Central Florida. “The secret has been to go back to the basics by lowering operational costs while producing the highest quality products, and providing a natural, cost

effective way of manufacturing optimal soil fertility.”

The “Secret” Southeast Soils utilizes is several feed stocks including; clean greenwaste, animal manures, waste water residuals, and other organic materials, to produce a mature, stabilized Class AA EQ (Exceptional Quality) compost. Ferti-Comp is produced using a bacterial catalyst which

enhances the natural biological process of composting. The end result is a product that is proved to have vastly increased numbers of beneficial bacteria when compared to compost produced by traditional composting methods.

Ferti-Comp with its stabilized organic matter content and unusually high and diverse population of beneficial micro-organisms,

will greatly improve the properties of soil physically (structurally, chemically (nutritionally), and biologically). Its use will reduce soil compaction, promote rapid feeder root establishment, provide a vast array of macro and micro nutrients, reduce nutrient losses through improved cation exchange capacity, supply of beneficial soils microbes, greatly improve the soil's ability to absorb and store water, and improve overall plant health.

"The secret is what comes next," exclaims Beigler. Ferti-comp reduces the need for other expensive soil components by adding high quality organic material allows the grower to reduce synthetic fertilizers, watering requirements, and fumigants.

"Our product contains naturally occurring microorganisms to help suppress soil borne populations of some plant diseases. These beneficial microorganisms do not typically eliminate the disease organism, but reduce their population." With all the added benefits and comparison tests at multiple Florida nurseries have shown that synthetic fertilizer usage can be reduced as much and 1/3 in most applications. "Growers don't have many opportunities to increase their prices, so their only way to increase profit is by lower costs. We provide these savings," says Biegler.

"SES uses a variety of soil components including pine bark, perlite, sphagnum peat moss, wood fines, etc., to produce our custom blend. We also provide a pH adjusted Ferti-Comp when needed. SES guarantees the highest quality products and provides a natural, costs effective way of producing optimal soil fertility. Ferti-comp is manufactured at regulated and permitted facilities. The material is samples and



Tom Marks, GSE and Matt Biegler, President, Southeast Soils.

tested as required by the Seal of Testing Program (STA) of the US Composting Council," says Biegler.

LOADERS ARE KEY

"Our four Kawasaki wheel loaders provide the core work in our operations: notes Biegler. I do use three other mixing/ screening systems for custom blending but otherwise, the loaders do all the work.

The company creates compost piles of various feed stocks. After the material is processed, it is either loaded directly on a truck for distribution, or moved into large stock piles for procurement. The materials are delivered to nurseries, landscape contractors, golf courses, and agriculture.

"The Kawasaki loaders are the best loaders for our application" says Biegler. In my

previous position, I was responsible for the purchasing of loaders. Over many years, and more than 40 loader purchases, I have learned that Kawasaki is the most reliable and dependable wheel loader on the market. We typically get 40,000-50,000 hours service from our Kawasaki loaders. I'm hands on for making sure equipment runs with the best petroleum products and clean filters. With our stringent maintenance programs, our Kawasaki loaders don't let us down. When I decided to start my own business, there was no question what brand of wheel loader to buy, Kawasaki. I have been successful with, Kawasaki. Loaders are what they specialize in and they do a great job.

Southeast Soils is serviced by Great Southern Equipment, Orlando, Florida.



The loaders run 10 hours a day turning windrows, feeding screeners, producing soil blends and loading trucks.