Introduction

Driven by developments in the industries that make and use composts and in the 'End of Waste' criteria for compost 'products' derived from controlled biowastes, the 2005 edition of PAS 100 has been updated. Replacing it, the 2011 edition has been developed by WRAP with AfOR and the British Standards Institution. It is downloadable from WRAP's website via this link.

A review group comprising representatives from industry and regulatory bodies contributed to PAS100's development and the finalised edition takes account of feedback from consultation with the UK's biowaste management industry and other stakeholders. The review process also took into account recommendations from WRAP sponsored reviews of compost stability testing, plant growth and weeds testing as well as evaluations of test results data on the PAS 100 obligatory parameters.

PAS 100 applies to the centralised, on-farm and community composting of biodegradable wastes and materials that have been kept separate from those that are not biodegradable. It does not apply to composts made by householders for use in their own gardens.

The latest edition incorporates references to current legislation, guidelines and recent scientific reports. It continues to require the composter to supply composts that are fit for purpose, supported by Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point planning, operation of a Quality Management System (QMS), and the supply of clear information to the customer.