

# QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

December 1st, 2007 – February 29th, 2008

**PROJECT TITLE:** Chemical Characteristics of Yard Waste in Florida

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**COMPLETION DATE:** 2/29/2008 **PHONE:** 352-392-1951 x208

## OBJECTIVES

The overall objective of this study is to determine the characteristics of yard trash including mulch and compost. The specific objectives are:

- Collect representative sample in Florida
- Characterize the waste chemically and physically including selected 503 metals and organic contaminants
- Evaluate the potential adverse impact on environment

## WORK ACCOMPLISHED DURING THIS PERIOD

1. Under took four sampling trips on 1/29/08, 1/31/08, 2/12/08 and 2/26/08.
2. A total of 16 compost and mulch processing facilities visited in 13 Counties across Florida. 26 samples were collected during sampling trips with the following breakdown:
  - Trip 1: Visited 5 facilities and collected 8 samples
  - Trip 2: Visited 3 facilities and collected 6 samples
  - Trip 3: Visited 2 facilities and collected 4 samples
  - Trip 4: Visited 6 facilities and collected 8 samples
3. Out of the collected samples, 18 samples have been dried and bagged awaiting size reduction
4. 8 remaining samples under going drying

## WORK TO BE ACCOMPLISHED DURING THE NEXT THREE MONTHS

1. Visit remaining 38 facilities out of the shortlisted number of 54 across Florida
2. Dry collected samples and size reduce them
3. Extract samples for analysis