

# Composting Biomass

(that's jargon for tree trimmings)



## Managing Woody Waste in a Changing World

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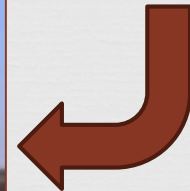
# A bit of history to begin



- ☞ On the third day, God created the grass of the field, the herbs, and the trees...
- ☞ And there He put the man that He had formed, to tend the garden...
- ☞ And we are still working on where to take all those trimmings!

# Previous Solution

## Ag and Urban Wood Made Electricity



# Greenwaste in Lieu of Soil for Alternate Daily Cover at Landfills

(Mostly a Southern California Approach)



But...  
AB 1826 stops  
recycling credit  
for greenwaste  
landfill cover  
in 2020.

# Can We Compost Excess Wood Chips?



# Compost Facility Capacity



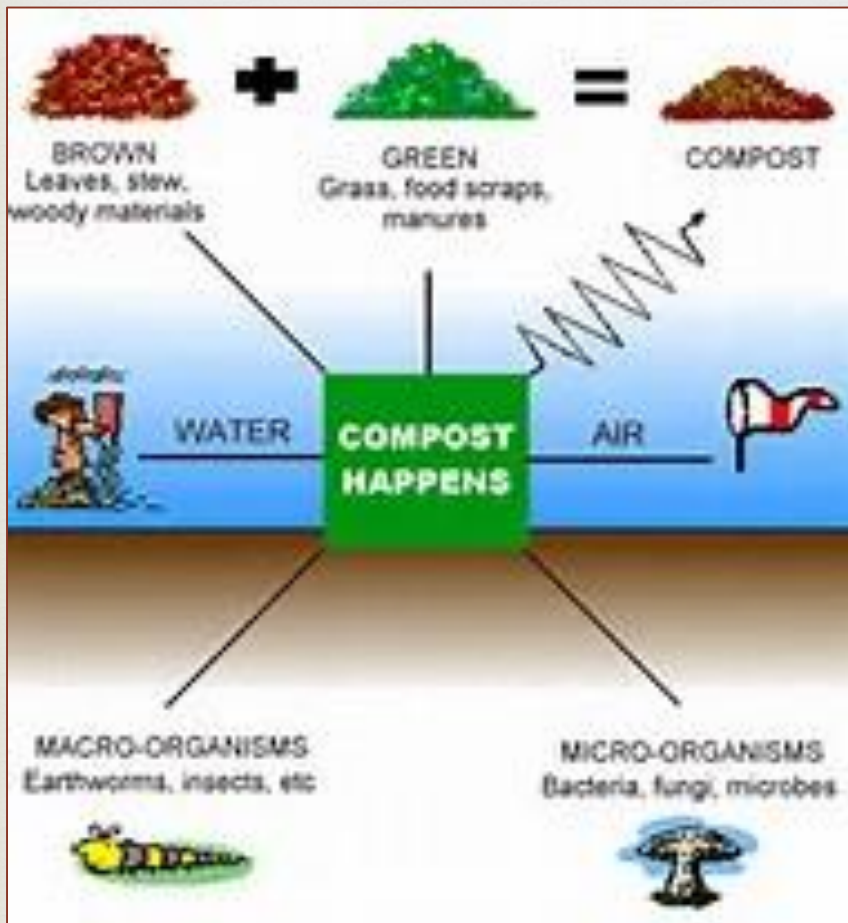
- ❧ Ag and urban composting differ greatly.
- ❧ CalRecycle needs 100 new facilities for compliance with urban waste mandates.
- ❧ Ag volumes could dwarf urban volumes.
- ❧ Woody material is most challenging.

# Main Components of Composting



- ❧ Organic Feedstock – Need carbon/nitrogen balance
- ❧ Water – Need up to 400 gallons per ton
- ❧ Energy – Up to 1 gallon of diesel per ton
- ❧ Space & Transportation – Need lots of trucking

# Composting - Good for the Soil But Too Much Wood Spoils the Recipe



So...  
Composting can only absorb  
limited amounts of excess  
wood.

# Conclusions



- ❧ Agricultural biomass won't fit in the urban system.
- ❧ Nitrogen and water are limiting factors.
- ❧ Composting is possible but economics and logistics can be challenging in the ag/orchard setting.

# Contact Info



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Come get  
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