

# MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET



## Health Warning

This product contains micro-organisms. Avoid breathing in dust when liberated as it is likely to contain respirable sizes. Wear particulate mask, gloves and safety glasses when utilising the material. Wash hands immediately after use.

## Composts, Mulches, Potting Mixes and Organic Mixes

### Important Notice

This Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) #1 is issued by NuGrow in accordance with the:

- National Code of Practice for the preparation of MSDS sheets, [NOHSC:2011(1994)];
- List of designated Hazardous Substances [NOHSC:10005(1999)]; and
- The Approved Criteria For Classifying Hazardous Substances, 3rd Edition, October 2004 [NOHSC:1008(2004)].

Under normal storage conditions the products mentioned in this MSDS are not considered hazardous. However dust, particulate and liquid mists (bioaerosols) liberated via the wind, mechanical movement and or spreading for example could be classified as an Irritant (XI) under the Approved Criteria For Classifying Hazardous Substances, 3rd Edition, October 2004 and thereby attracting the following risk phrases portrayed under the List of designated Hazardous Substances:

- R36 - irritating to eyes
- R37 - irritating to respiratory system
- R38 - irritating to skin

Please read the following MSDS for advice on safety measures pertaining to the prescribed materials.

As such, the information contained in this MSDS must not be altered, deleted or added to. NuGrow will issue new MSDS when there is a change in product specification or in associated guidelines. NuGrow will not accept any responsibility for any changes made to its MSDS in content by any other person or organisation.

### Identification

#### Product Name:

**Compost, Mulch, Potting Mix and Organic Mixes.**

**UN Number:** Not applicable

**Dangerous Goods Class:** Not applicable

**Hazchem Code:** Not applicable

**Poisons Schedule Number:** Not applicable

**Use:** Utilised in nurseries, for landscaping, general horticulture and agricultural purposes.

#### Physical Description and Properties:

**Appearance:** Black to brown blend of natural organic and mineral materials.

**Odour:** Earthy odour

**Boiling Point:** Not applicable

**Melting Point:** Not applicable

**Volatility:** Not applicable

**Flashpoint:** Not applicable

**Flammability:** Not flammable

**Specific Gravity:** Varies due to composition and the addition of water.

**Molecular Weight:** Not applicable

**Solubility in Water:** Not soluble

**pH:** 6.5-7.5

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## Ingredients:

Materials utilised to make compost, mulches, potting mixes and soil blends include such items as: plant mulch, vegetable material, soil, sand, clay, sawdust and animal manures. Microbial degradation transforms the above mentioned items into stabilised compost and mulches. Compost contains a variety of living microorganisms, including bacteria, protozoa, fungi and nematodes.

## Health Hazard Information

### Acute Health Effects:

**Swallowed:** Unlikely to occur under normal circumstances. Swallowing composts, mulches, potting mixes and organic soil blends may cause abdominal discomfort and increase the risk of gastro-intestinal infection occurring.

**Treatment:** Administer water to patient and seek medical advice if patient experiences abdominal discomfort or any adverse symptoms.

**Eyes:** The dust and/or liquid mist (bioaerosols) may be irritating to the eyes resulting in redness and watering, or eye infection.

**Treatment:** Flush eyes thoroughly for ten minutes with plenty of clean water. If irritation persists, seek medical attention.

**Skin:** Skin contact with these products, including dust and/or liquid mists (bioaerosols) liberated may result in skin irritation and in some cases, skin sensitisation, dermatitis or skin infections.

**Treatment:** Wash skin with mild soap and clean water.

**Inhaled:** Inhalation of dust and/or liquid mists (bioaerosols) may irritate, inflame or sensitise the nose, throat and lungs, and may aggravate pre-existing conditions such as asthma and bronchitis.

**Treatment:** Cease inhaling and move to area where fresh air can be breathed.

### Chronic Health Effects:

Repeated inhalation of dust and/or liquid mists (bioaerosols) from these products may result in respiratory irritation, inflammation or sensitisation resulting in illness ranging from hay fever and asthma to pneumonia like illnesses. The elderly,

those with pre-existing respiratory diseases, and the immuno-compromised are at particular risk from these illnesses. All people working with these and other landscaping and horticultural products should ensure that they are adequately protected from tetanus.

**Advice to Doctor:** Treat symptomatically.

**Medical Attention and Special Treatment:** Not relevant.

## Precautions for Use

### Exposure Controls & Personal Protection:

**National Exposure Standards:** No Exposure Standard allocated.

### Biological Limit Value:

No Biological Limit Value allocated.

**Engineering Controls:** All work with these products should be carried out in such a way to avoid skin contact and minimise exposure to dust and/or liquid mists (bioaerosols).

### Personal Protective Equipment:

**Eye/Face Protection:** Non-fogging dust resistant goggles or safety glasses(AS/NZS1336) should be worn if there is a risk of dust and/or liquid mist (bioaerosols) getting into the eyes.

**Skin Protection:** Wear standard duty gloves (AS2161), loose comfortable clothing, and boots. Long sleeved shirts and long trousers are recommended to prevent skin irritation. Wash skin with mild soap and clean water immediately after working with these materials. Work clothes should be laundered regularly.

**Respiratory Protection:** Avoid breathing dust and/or liquid mists (bioaerosols). Wear an appropriate respirator suitable for respirable particulates and conforming with AS/NZS 1715 and 1716 when exposed to dust and/or liquid mists (bioaerosols). These standards should be followed in the selection, fit-testing, use, storage and maintenance of the respirator.

### Environmental Toxicological Information:

**Eco-toxicity:** NIL

However as a precautionary measure do not allow to enter a water way.

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## Disposal Considerations:

**Disposal Methods, Including Disposal of Containers:** Waste material can be disposed of as trade waste in accordance with Local Authority requirements and approval or at an approved landfill.

**Special Precautions for Landfill or Incineration:** Not relevant.

## Transport Information:

**UN Number:** Not allocated

**UN Proper Shipping Name:** Not allocated

**Class and Subsidiary Risk(s):** Not relevant

**Packing Group:** Not allocated

**Special Precautions for User:** Not relevant

**Hazchem Code:** Not allocated

## Safe Handling and Storage:

**Precautions for Safe handling:** Personal Protective Equipment must be used as listed Personal Protective Equipment under the heading "Exposure Controls & Personal Protection" below.

**Conditions of Safe Storage:** Store composts, potting mixes and other organic gardening materials in an open and dry area.

## Fire Fighting Measures:

Not generally flammable due to moisture, sand or clay content. However, if compost is burning;

- Douse with water and or soil to suppress flames.
- Pull apart sequentially and slowly whilst continuing to douse with water.
- Do not pull stockpiled material apart in windy conditions.
- Ensure fire and smoldering is out.  
This can be achieved by temperature testing.

## Accidental Release Measure:

**Emergency Procedures:** Not relevant.

Keep from entering stormwater drains or water ways.

## Methods & Materials for Containment Clean Up:

Waste materials can be disposed of as trade waste in accordance with Local Authority guidelines and approval or to an approved landfill.

## Labeling Requirements for Large Volumes

### Hazardous:

**Compost, Mulch, Potting Mix and Organic Mixes**

This product is made from organic materials, which have been composted and contains living microorganisms including bacteria, fungi and protozoa. The product may also contain mineral and fertilising additives.

**Risk:** Inhalation of dust and/or liquid mists (bioaerosols) may irritate, inflame or sensitise the nose, throat and lungs, and may aggravate pre-existing conditions such as asthma and bronchitis. Repeated inhalation of dust and/or liquid mists (bioaerosols) from these products may result in respiratory irritation, inflammation or sensitisation resulting in illness ranging from hay fever and asthma to pneumonia like illnesses.

**Safety:** Avoid contact with skin. Wear standard duty gloves (AS2161), loose comfortable clothing, and boots. Long sleeved shirts and long trousers are recommended to prevent skin irritation. Wash skin with mild soap and clean water immediately after working with these materials. Wear dust resistant eye protection (AS/NZ 1336) and an appropriate respirator suitable for respirable particulates and conforming with AS/NZS 1715 and 1716 when exposed to dust and/or liquid mists (bioaerosols).

**First Aid:** If swallowed, administer water to patient and seek medical advice if patient experiences abdominal discomfort or any adverse symptoms. Flush eyes thoroughly for ten minutes with plenty of clean water. If irritation persists, seek medical attention.

**Disposal:** Waste materials can be disposed of as trade waste in accordance with Local Authority guidelines and approval or to an approved landfill.

For further information please refer to MSDS #1 prepared by NuGrow

## Emergency Telephone

**Poisons Information Centre: 13 11 26**

**Manufacturer: NuGrow**

### Contact Information:

**NuGrow** 31 Nelson Rd, Wellington Point Qld 4160  
Phone: 1300 684 769 Fax: 3207 4738

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