



# Paper Sludge

## What is paper sludge?

Paper sludge is a nutrient-rich by-product of the paper recycling process, produced at paper mills in Kent. This biologically digested material is packed with organic matter and key nutrients, offering a cost-effective and environmentally responsible alternative to artificial fertilisers.

## Environmental Compliance and Support:

As a waste-derived product, the use of paper sludge is regulated by the Environment Agency. FGS Organics manages the entire process for you, including:

- Soil sampling and analysis
- Environmental risk assessments
- Agricultural benefit statements
- Full permit application and deployment submission

Deployments are required before any stockpiling or spreading. A deployment is limited to 3,000 tonnes in a stockpile or 50 hectares of land—whichever comes first.

Timescale: Please allow 6–8 weeks for a deployment to be registered. Planning ahead is essential to ensure land is available when needed.

## Benefits to Soil & Crop Performance:

- Slow release of nitrogen - high in total nitrogen but low in available nitrogen
- Provides valuable amounts of phosphate, potassium and sulphur
- Enhances Soil Structure: Improves texture, stability, and moisture retention, increasing resilience to erosion and drought.
- Boosts Soil Health: Encourages microbial activity and organic matter levels, improving infiltration and long-term soil fertility.
- Supports Crop Growth: Supplies valuable nutrients, such as carbon and calcium carbonate, with the latter helping to neutralise acidic soils and promote balanced pH levels.
- Aids Soil Recovery: Particularly effective on degraded or low-fertility soils, helping to restore productivity.
- Good source of organic matter
- Not subject to closed periods - low RAN



**Dry Matter: 39.10%**

**Fines/Dust: Minimal**

**Colour: Grey**

**Odour: Moderate**

**pH: 7.3**

**Options:**

**Tipper deliveries**

The above stats are based on typical analysis



## Application:

Paper sludge is delivered using tipper and broadcast spread using our fleet of trailed spreaders, ranging from 9 to 20 tonne capacity. Our fleet offer low ground pressure tyres, unrivalled spread pattern and GPS guidance. The larger spreaders are also fitted with weigh cells and onboard printers to verify application rate and total applied.

Due to the odour concerns, the Environment Agency allows for stacked paper sludge to be covered and capped by paper crumb - this waste material is similar to paper sludge but is odour free which means it is a great material to cover the paper sludge.



### Recent analysis for paper sludge - target application rate of 40t/ha:

	Kg's of nutrient per fresh t of by-product (kg/t)		Kg's of applied nutrient per hectare (kg/ha)		Kg's per hectare potentially available nutrients in year 1
Nitrogen	3.93 [as N]	⇒	157.25 [as N]	⇒	2.28 [as N]
Ammonium Nitrogen	0.06 [as N]	⇒	2.28 [as N]	⇒	2.28 [as RAN]
Phosphate	1.38 [as P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> ]	⇒	55.2 [as P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> ]	⇒	27.61 [as P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> ]
Potash	0.30 [as K <sub>2</sub> O]	⇒	12 [as K <sub>2</sub> O]	⇒	9.48 [as K <sub>2</sub> O]
Sulphur	2.93 [as SO <sub>3</sub> ]	⇒	117 [as SO <sub>3</sub> ]	⇒	58.66 [as SO <sub>3</sub> ]
Magnesium	1.67 [as MgO]	⇒	67 [as MgO]	⇒	33.43 [as MgO]

## Complementary products/services:

10mm & 20mm PAS100 compost, gypsum, paper crumb, paper sludge, soil testing & compliance services



Please contact our office for any questions or any further information. Latest analysis and samples available upon request. Visit our website and join our mailing list to keep up-to-date on our latest news and products.