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Effects of Applying Composted of Apple Prunings on Apple Nursery Trees and Physico-chemical Properties

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To investigate the effects of the application of apple prunings compost on apple nursery trees and on the chemical properties and aggregate stability of soil, kinds of composted apple prunings were applied to soil in Wagner-type apple nursery trees. The composts used were piled for one year and two years. The recycled-use compost, i.e. compost mixed with highly decayed apple prunings, was piled for one year. For control purposes, plots treated with rice-straw compost were also prepared. The growth of apple nursery trees on

with composted apple prunings was similar to that on the plot treated with compost. The chemical properties of the soil were improved by the composted apple prunings, especially the recycled-use compost, with exchangeable bases and available nitrogen contents of the soil. While soil aggregates by composted apple prunings was not ascertained, organic matter in the applied compost clearly tended to accumulate in soil aggregates. Therefore, the application of composted apple prunings promotes the growth of apple trees and is an effective method of improving the chemical properties of the soil.

Key Words: [shoot length](#), [soil aggregates](#), [soil chemical properties](#)

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