

Digestate Information Sheets No.6 – Nutrient Content Solid Digestate



Solid Digestate is available as separated fibre and can have a variable nutrient content. Full details of nutrient content for a standard range of Digestates can be found in [Technical Note \(TN699\) – Agricultural use of biosolids, composts, anaerobic digestates and other industrial organic fertilisers](#). Table 1 below provides an extract of the nutrient values from TN699 with a comparison with solid farm manures using data taken from [Technical Note \(TN650\) – Optimising the application of bulky organic fertilisers](#).

Table 1 Standard nutrients of solid Digestate from technical notes TN699 and TN650

Solid Organic fertilisers	Dry matter (%)	kg/tonne (solids)					
		Total N	Readily Available N	Total P ₂ O ₅	Total K ₂ O	Total SO ₃	Total MgO
Food-based digestate, separated fibre	27.0	8.9	2.2	10.0	3.0	4.1	2.2
Farm-based digestate, separated fibre	24.0	5.6	1.4	4.7	6.0	2.1	1.8
Cattle FYM – fresh	25.0	6.0	1.2	3.2	8.0	2.4	1.8
Pig FYM - Fresh	25.0	7.0	1.8	6.0	8.0	3.4	1.8
Layer manure	35.0	19.0	9.5	14.0	9.5	4.0	2.6
Broiler / Turkey litter	60.0	30.0	10.5	25.0	18.0	8.0	4.4

In addition to the standard values from the technical notes Table 2 provides values that have been taken from individual Digestate analyses that have been collected recently.

Table 2 Nutrients from analyses of solid digestate

Organic fertilisers	Dry matter (%)	kg/tonne (solids)					
		Total N	Readily Available N	Total P ₂ O ₅	Total K ₂ O	Total SO ₃	Total MgO
Distillery based digestate 1 (separated fibre)	19.8		2.0	3.5	1.8	2.2	1.0
Distillery based digestate 2 (separated fibre)	31.0	7.1	1.7	4.0	1.8	1.9	1.8
Distillery based digestate 3 (separated fibre)	28.8	5.4	3.9	4.3	2.4		
Distillery based digestate 4 (separated fibre)	22.0	9.0	4.4	2.5	1.5	1.6	0.7
Distillery based digestate 5 (separated fibre)	27.0	7.6	2.6	6.4	1.7	2.6	2.9
Distillery based digestate (cake)	19.7	44.8	3.8	23.9	3.2	9.3	3.2
Industrial based digestate (separated fibre)	26.0	21.0	0.7	1.3	1.9	0.7	0.5