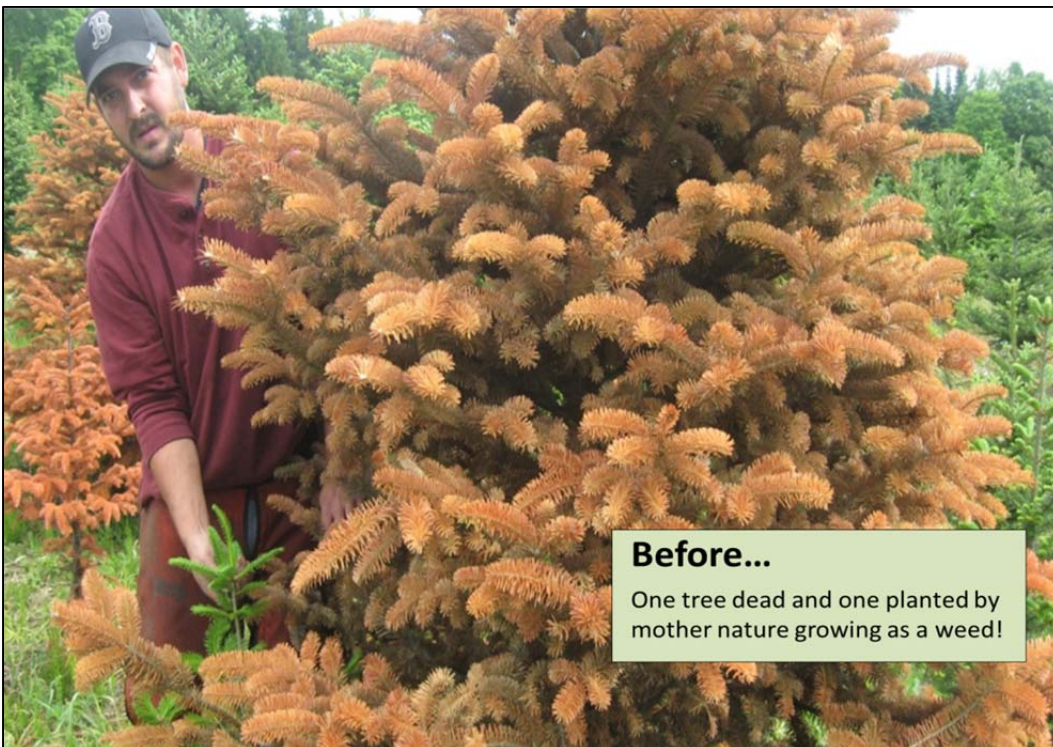


Coring-Injection Method of Applying Compost to Christmas Tree Plantations

-
Fred Salo, Salomaa Tree Plantation

Northeast SARE Program
University of Vermont Extension

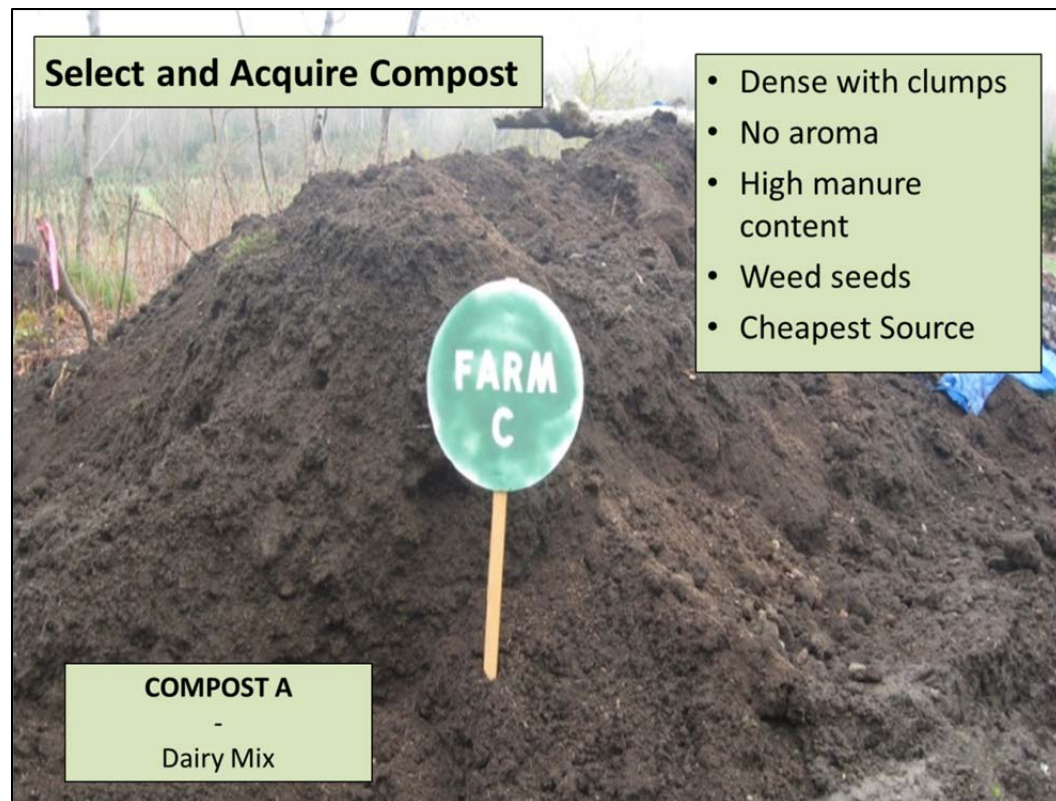


Before...

One tree dead and one planted by
mother nature growing as a weed!



- Armillaria?
- Planted too deep?
- Too much water?
- Not enough water?
- Soil health?



Select and Acquire Compost

- Dense with clumps
- No aroma
- High manure content
- Weed seeds
- Cheapest Source

COMPOST A
-
Dairy Mix

Select and Acquire Compost

- Engineered mix
- User friendly
- Weed free
- More costly
- Lighter weight
- No aroma

COMPOST B

-
Highfields composting

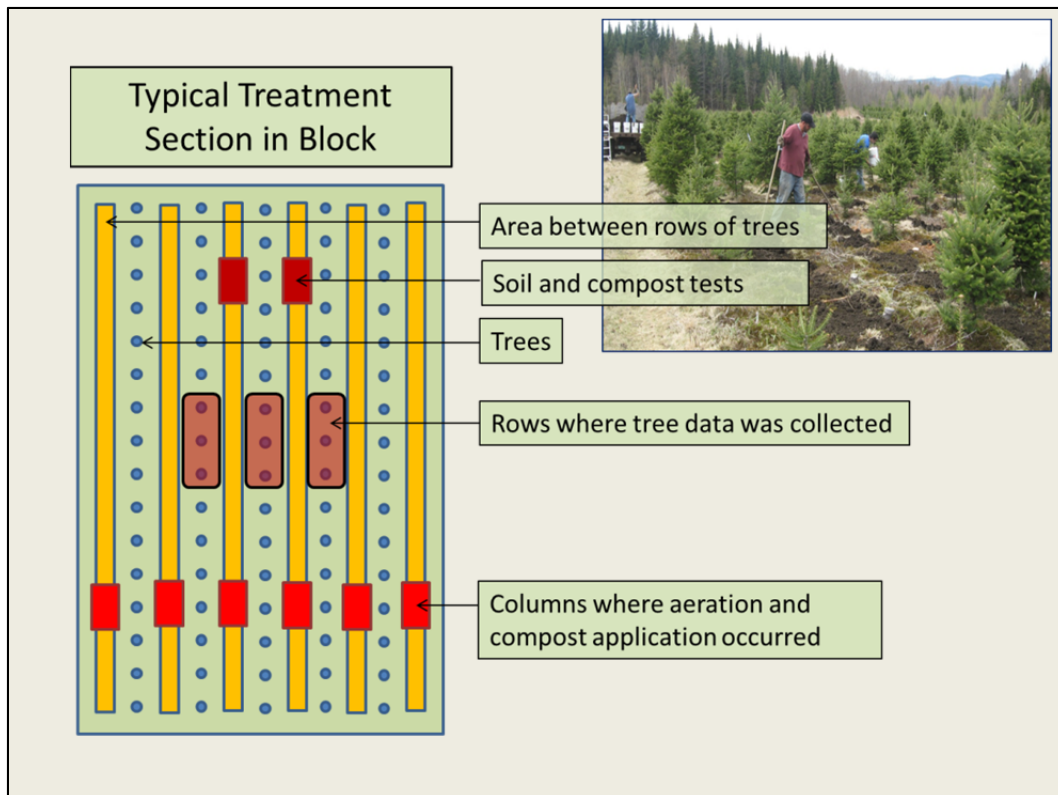
Coring Machine

- Approximately 300 lbs.
- 2 to 3 inch cores, size of index finger
- 9 cores per square foot
- 26 inch width of cores



Compost Application





Soil Moisture

- Aerated
- Composted

August 5th –
Year 1

- No Aeration
- No Compost



- 945 trees measured
- 9 Different characteristics
- Measured in 2012 and 2013
- = 17,010 measurements taken

- Trial block #1
- Compost B
- Tree # 5
- Planted in 2012