

Field A- Consists of four quadrants 30 ft by 400 ft (.27 acre) each. A-1 and A-2 were planted on 10/8 and 10/9 respectively. The seeding rate was 2 (55 pound) bushels per acre equivalent. The fine compost covering the seed yielded twice as many germinating seedlings as the coarse compost. Note that at the time of planting there had only scant rainfall for the previous three months. The ground was very dry. The fine compost held more moisture allowing better germination. The looser nature of the coarse compost allowed faster drying and reduced germination. Plots A-3 and A-4 were planted on 10/12 and 10/13 respectively at the same seeding rate as A-1 and A-2 with the same dry conditions. Discing the seed into the compost reduced germination by more than half as compared to the similar treatment in the first 2 plots (A-1 and A-3, fine compost and A-2 and A-4 coarse compost). Discing the seed into the compost loosened the material, whether coarse and fine, allowing it to dry more quickly and reducing seed to moist surface contact thus reducing germination. Significant rain did not return until late October/early November at which time the temperatures also dropped. The seedlings will be counted again in the to see if more germination occurs over winter.

Plot A-1 (Seed on ground, 1 inch fine compost on top).	Average 26 plants per sq ft.	1.6 oz biomass
Plot A-2 (Seed on ground, 1 inch coarse compost on top).	Average 13 plants per sq ft.	.9 oz biomass
Plot A-3 (1 inch fine compost on ground, seed disced in).	Average 12 plants per sq ft.	.3 oz biomass
Plot A-4 (1 inch coarse compost on ground, seed disced in).	Average 5 plants per sq ft.	.1 oz biomass

## Field B

Plot B-1. ( 3 to 4 inches of coarse compost on ground, seed disced in).	Average 48 plants per sq ft.	.3 oz biomass
Plot B-2. (3 to 4 inches of fine compost on the ground, seed disced in)	Average 34 plants per sq ft.	.3 oz biomass
Plot B-3. (seed on bare ground, 3 to 4 inches of fine compost on top)	Average 43 plants per sq ft.	.2 oz biomass
Plot B-4. (seed on bare ground, 3 to 4 inch of coarse compost on top)	Average 31 plants per sq ft.	.2 oz biomass.

Field B- consists of four quadrants 60 ft by 300 ft (.41 acre) each. Plots B-1 and B-2 were planted between 10/19 and 10/22. Plots B-3 and B-4 were planted between 10/26 and 10/27. The seeding rate was 4 bushels to the acre equivalent for all plots. The counts for all four plots were very similar and it didn't seem to matter if the seed started on the ground under the compost layer or disced into the compost layer. By these dates there had been some significant rain which promoted better germination across the board and it didn't seem to matter if it was fine or coarse compost. Recounts in the spring may reveal more obvious differences. The weight of the seedlings was similarly low for all trials in this field, presumably because the later planting date (and cooler temps) did not allow as much growth. The seedlings were just younger

