

FOCUS ON FOOD WASTE

YOUR BROWN NOW TAKES FOOD AND CARDBOARD ITEMS AS WELL AS GARDEN WASTE. AFTER COLLECTION, THE CONTENTS ARE TAKEN FOR RECYCLING TO OUR NEW PLANT AT CUMBERLOW GREEN, NEAR BALDOCK. THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS TO IT:



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1 UNLOADING

The truck unloads the green waste into the covered reception area

2 SHREDDING

The unloaded green waste is then put through a shredding machine.

3 IN VESSEL CLAMPS

The digger transports the shredded material to the 'in vessel clamp'. This is just like a shed, with a lifting roof which compresses the contents.

4 Once the in vessel clamp is full with shredded organic material the roof is brought down to contain it.

The compost has to remain in the in vessel clamp for two consecutive days at a temperature of 65°C. This is monitored through temperature probes in the roof of the in vessel clamp.

The compost is then moved into another bay where the process is repeated. This enables the compost to be turned making the system more efficient.

5 In order to produce efficient compost the oxygen has to be regulated through a system of fans that blow straight into the clamps. Bio filters are also in place to reduce smells.

6 MATURATION PAD

When the in vessel period is complete the compost is moved to the maturation pad. Because the compost contains food waste, it will be tested for salmonella and E. Coli.

7 When the compost has been tested and cleared it is moved again to the maturation pad and is put through the shredder again and again until it starts to resemble the final product –

8 'Ace of Herts' compost which can be used by farmers and gardeners.

