



NEWS RELEASE

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GREEN WASTE PARTNERSHIP GETS ROYAL SEAL OF APPROVAL

A UNIQUE partnership between two farmers and a North Yorkshire recycling and waste management company has prevented around 8,000 tonnes of garden waste being sent to landfill.

In 2005 John Seymour and his son Tom, who own and run Dromanby Farm in Kirby in Cleveland, near Stokesley, began accepting garden waste (otherwise known as green waste) from Yorwaste, as part of the kerbside collection scheme the company operates in partnership with Hambleton District Council.

Each fortnight green waste is taken to the farm where it is shredded and eventually transformed into a soil conditioner that is used on the farmers' fields.

And in the four years that the partnership has been operating it is estimated that 8,000 tonnes of garden waste has been composted and prevented from being sent to landfill.

Taking the locally produced garden waste directly to the Seymours' farm has also helped the environment, providing a local processing site for the green waste collected in the Stokesley and Great Ayton area, thereby reducing carbon emissions.

News of this scheme also came to the attention of Royalty recently when the Seymours were asked by Buckingham Palace if they could loan their shredding machine for three weeks – an offer they could obviously not turn down!

John Seymour said: "The partnership with Yorwaste has proved very effective and we are delighted that we have been able to play such an important role in helping the environment by composting approximately 2,000 tonnes of green waste each year, providing a local solution for a local recycling initiative.

"It is also pleasing for us that by composting the green waste we produce a high quality soil conditioner we can use on the farm and this has helped towards the quality of the barley and oilseed rape we produce."

Tony Sharkey, Yorwaste's Director of Future Developments, said: "Partnerships like this are the way forward for the waste management industry because not only do

they have a very positive environmental impact, they also promote the use of local solutions for dealing with waste.”

Once the green waste is shredded by the Seymours’ tractor-powered machine, it is put onto a concrete pad and laid out in the form of a windrow. These rows are turned regularly to help oxygen get into the green waste and as it generates heat in the process, water is also added to ensure it remains moist.

Mr Seymour added: “To produce a good soil conditioner it is important not to have contaminants in the original green waste so we would like to remind people about the importance of ensuring that only garden waste is put in their wheely bin, as we often also find other material such as plastic.”

Other green waste that Yorwaste handles is taken to its Tancred recycling facility, where it is also turned into soil conditioner. The company has received national accreditation to sell the compost it produces at Tancred and it is being sold to the general public and farmers/horticultural workers in 50-litre bags for just £2.50.

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Notes to Newsdesks/Reporters: A photograph of Tony Sharkey (left) and Tom Seymour standing on top of a pile of compost is attached on email.

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About Yorwaste:

Yorwaste is an innovative waste management and recycling company owned by North Yorkshire County Council and City of York Council. Managing more than one million tonnes of waste each year, it provides a comprehensive range of services from engineered landfill and recycling to liquid waste treatment and supply landfill gas for power generation.

The company’s Yorventure operation supports local communities and has provided more than £7m in grants for approved projects over the past ten years. Further information can be found at www.yorwaste.co.uk