



ROBINSON

C O N T R A C T S E R V I C E S

Robinson Contract Services is a family business with over 80 years of experience within the Agricultural and Recycling sectors throughout Yorkshire and the surrounding regions. It is one of the region's most established and trusted contractors, providing first rate customer care and high-quality products.

RCS are the sole supplier for Yorkshire Water Biosolids, having won the contract in 2012.

Breakfast ADVICE Meetings



We hold regular breakfast meetings, giving our customers and agronomists, the opportunity to find further information and discuss any issues you'd like to raise. If you or a neighbour would like more information please contact us for details of our next event. BASIS points are awarded.



YORGrow is the branded name for Yorkshire Water's sewage sludge product.

Working in conjunction with Yorkshire Water, RCS recycle over 350,000 tonnes of biosolids to agriculture each year.

YORGrow is a high nutrient and organic matter product containing Biosolids (Sewage Sludge) to give a valuable and safe organic fertiliser.

YORGrow contains valuable quantities of organic material, Nitrogen, Phosphate, Sulphur, Magnesium and other trace elements.

It offers enormous potential to make savings on agronomic inputs, as well as having excellent soil conditioning properties.

Around 16,500 hectares (less than 2% of Ag land) in the UK benefit from biosolid treatment annually (Water UK)

The YORGrow service provided by RCS offers exceptional value for money, including soil analysis, delivery, in-field stockpiling and fertiliser guidance from a dedicated FACTS qualified Area Manager.

The aim is to build long term relationships with our YORGrow customers and to provide them with a professional, consistent and efficient service.

BENEFITS

A primary advantage in applying biosolids is to increase soil organic carbon levels which will in turn:

🌱 Improve soil structure, reducing cultivation and fuel costs

🌱 Increase available water holding capacity and water infiltration during a heavy rainfall event

🌱 Increase productivity and yields

Biosolids are worth £25 million per year to British Farming.
(BAS website)

IMPORTANT NUTRIENTS IN BIOSOLIDS THAT PLAY A KEY ROLE IN CROP PRODUCTION



Nitrogen

Essential to plant growth and increasing crop yield. Plants deficient in nitrogen experience stunted growth and discolouration in their leaves (yellowish).

Biosolids can supply around 10% of the nitrogen for use in Agriculture, it is slowly released as the soil warms and stays persistent throughout the crop growth cycle.

Phosphate

Examples of crops benefiting from the phosphate provided by Biosolids are cereals and oilseed rape. The phosphate soil index can be increased from Biosolids which is necessary to ensure that the target indices on actual yield is met and maintained.

Sulphur

Biosolids supply both rapidly available S and slow release S. It is estimated that Biosolids can provide 15–40% of the plant available form in the first year following Biosolids application.

Magnesium

Biosolids provide valuable amounts of magnesium to improve soil fertility.

COMPLIANCE

YORGrow complies with



The Sludge Use In
Agriculture Regulations



Department of Environment
Codes of Practice



The Codes of Good
Agricultural Practice for Air,
Soil and Water.



BAS (Biosolids Assurance
Scheme) combines legislation
and best practice to regulate
the recycling of Biosolids in a
safe and sustainable manner,
certified by NSF.



The NVZ regulations affect
applications of biosolids in terms
of maximum nitrogen rates
(closed periods do not apply
as YORGrow products are not
classified as high available N).


The Safe Sludge Matrix

The Safe Sludge Matrix is an agreement between Water UK and the British Retail Consortium (BRC). It consists of a table of the crop types, together with clear guidance on minimum acceptable standards of biosolids, which may be applied to a particular crop or rotation.

YORGrow has joined The Biosolids Assurance Scheme, which combines legislative and non-legislative requirements. Best practice is audited and certified by an independent body – NSF Certification. The scheme was set up to provide a single transparent assurance scheme standard subject to independent inspection to give reassurance to food chain stakeholders that recycling biosolids to land is a safe and sustainable thing to do.

If you need further information on any of the regulations we follow please ask your Area Manager.

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS OF BIOSOLIDS



Less Contribution to Nutrient Pollution of Waters – Nutrients in biosolids are not as water soluble than those in chemical fertilisers which means they are less likely to end up in a watercourse following field application. Additionally, the organic matter in biosolids can improve soil structure and reduce erosion which can prevent the unwanted movement of nutrients that are bonded to the soil particles.

Research shows that biosolids can establish a crop quickly and cost effectively. Your RCS Advisor will help to ensure that the biosolids application is tailored to your rotational requirements, whilst adhering to all relevant Regulations and Good Practice Guidance.

USES

Biosolids will principally build and maintain soil organic Nitrogen (N) and provide very good amounts of crop available Phosphate (P), important for the growing tips of plants, to help roots and crops thrive. It also supplies Sulphur (S), Magnesium (Mg) and trace elements. Biosolids provides Organic Matter which improves soil structure over time.

Wheat

Biosolids will provide your 1st or 2nd wheat with a good start in the Autumn and continue to supply nutrients throughout the growing season. Soil N Supply should increase with the use of biosolids in your rotation.



Oilseed Rape

Biosolids are an excellent source of nutrients when establishing an Oilseed Rape crop in in the Autumn or Spring, providing Nitrogen, Phosphate and Sulphur, helping establish a healthy high yielding crop.



Sugar Beet

Biosolids will help with the establishment of Sugar Beet and will improve soils over time boosting their resilience to trafficking, and drought conditions in the growing season.



POTATOES

When used in the rotation with at least a 12-month harvest interval following application:

Research has shown that peas, beans and potatoes benefit significantly from Biosolids applications in the rotation, particularly as roots flourish with good soil P levels alongside soil structural improvement.



Barley

Management of N is a priority with Malting barley. By using biosolids prior to drilling, manufactured N use can be reduced over time and replaced by slow release of N from soils fed with biosolids.



Maize

Phosphorus (P) plays an important role in early root growth of maize. Any shortage, especially in the very early stages, reduces root growth and nutrient uptake and this can adversely affect the growth of the crop for the rest of the season.





1

An Area manager will visit you to discuss your fertiliser requirements and cropping rotation to help decide the best fields for application that season.



2

A suitable location is chosen and assessed for environmental regulation and field access.



3

Your fields are then mapped and soil sampled.



4

Trackway is laid if necessary, to avoid compaction or damage to verges.



7

Stockpiles are monitored after delivery right up until the point of spreading.



6

A delivery permit is produced and biosolids are delivered and stockpiled in the field.



5

Lorries reverse onto field and tip.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

SPREADING

All Spreading of Yorkshire Water Biosolids must be undertaken by a member of the RCS Approved Contractor Register, an up to date list of approved contractors is available at www.robinsoncontractservices.co.uk

All contractors use a bespoke spreading app which covers all aspects of regulation and requirements under the Farming Rules for Water. Please liaise with your Area Manager who will allocate your fields to your preferred contractor. The contractor is supplied with your spreading permits and maps, which includes tonnages, application rates, maps including no spread zones and field margins.

RCS have their own fleet of rear discharge spinning disc spreaders all equipped with dynamic weigh cells.

PRICING

Your RCS Area Manager will be able to provide you with a data-sheet detailing the nutrients biosolids provide. The price will include the product, soil sampling, soil analysis, delivery and stockpiling. The price will be agreed with the Area Manager at the point of order.

Typical Application of Biosolids

Application Rate: 20t/ha

Nutrient	Total Applied (kg/ha)	Year 1 Available (kg/ha)	Year 2 Available (kg/ha)
Nitrogen	250	37	22
Phosphate	280	70	70
Potash	9	8	1
Sulphur	120	22	

Phosphate Availability is shown as 25% available per year over a 4 year rotation

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CONTRACT SERVICES

Agricultural and Recycling Services

Robinson Contract Services
Weighbridge Yard, Catfoss Lane,
Brandesburton, Driffield YO25 8EJ

T 01964 544415
E rcs@robinsoncontractservices.co.uk
www.robinsoncontractservices.co.uk



General Enquiries
01964 544415

Transport Office
01964 541882