

# **Effects of Various Levels of Municipal Solid Waste Compost on Growth and Yield of Apple Trees.**

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## **Abstract**

**In an attempt to decrease the use of chemical fertilizer and for extension of organic farming, an experiment to evaluate the use of municipal solid waste compost in apple orchard as an alternative to chemical fertilizers and livestock manure, carried out in Ferdowsi University of Mashhad. Completely randomized block design (CRD) with four levels (0, 30, 45 and 60 ton per hectare) of municipal solid waste compost (MSWC) in five replications were used. Golden delicious apple cultivar was grafted on MM106 rootstocks. Results showed that application of urban compost improved the soil characteristics and consequently increased Trunk cross-sectional area, Area under-canopy and Canopy volume. Application of compost at the level of 60 ton/ha.**

**increased the average yield and also the number of first grade fruits significantly.**