

## [Statutory guidance: SR2011 No 1 500t: composting biodegradable waste \(in open and closed systems\)](#)

*Updated:* Added to 'details' section: You can apply online for most standard rules environmental permits.

Standard rules guidance to operate a composting activity involving the storage, physical treatment and composting of specified biodegradable wastes in either an open or a closed (in-vessel) composting system.

You can apply online for most standard rules environmental permits.

[Apply for a standard rules environmental permit.](#)

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## [Official Statistics: Rural economic bulletin](#)

*Updated:* Published today, revised version to correct some rural redundancy rates due to an error in original ONS figures.

The indicators currently used are:

- claimant count
- economic activity
- redundancies
- house prices
- business insolvencies

### **Additional information:**

- [older versions of the rural economic bulletins](#)
- [Defra commissioned research on the rural economy](#)

### **Defra statistics: rural**

Email

[rural.statistics@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:rural.statistics@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

You can also contact us via Twitter: <https://twitter.com/DefraStats>

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## **Collection: ACRE: advisory reports on requests to release genetically modified organisms**

*Updated:* Added the advice on a trial of GM Streptococcus pneumoniae (18/R51/01).

All requests to release GMOs into the environment, like GM crop trials or clinical tests of GM vaccines, are referred by government to ACRE.

ACRE assesses each request against the possible risks to human health or the environment. If more information is needed to review the application then ACRE will request this from the applicant directly.

Finally ACRE publishes a report that sets out a summary of its findings in each case. This recommends government either approves or denies the request, and may also contain conditions or monitoring measures that ACRE thinks should be included.

The most recent advisory reports from ACRE are:

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## **Research and analysis: London basin chalk aquifer annual status report**

*Updated:* 2018 report added.

This report describes current levels of groundwater and abstraction within the London basin chalk aquifer, and why changes may have occurred. It also describes the current abstraction licensing policy and groundwater management issues.

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# Collection: Small Business Survey reports

*Updated:* Small Business Survey 2017 Panel report added.