

# The Impact of Composted Manure Combined with Biochar on the ISAT Hillside

Authors:

Jonathan Brittell  
Grant Rabalais

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Dr. Teel

The purpose of this study was to analyze the impact of a biochar-manure mixture application to plots on the ISAT Hillside and create a foundation for a continual study of biochar application on the Hillside. Four biochar plots were established, along with four control plots adjacent to the biochar plots. The biochar-manure mixture was applied to the plots in early Spring of 2018. To analyze the impact of the mixture, soil samples were collected before and after the biochar-manure application. They were then sent to Waypoint Labs for analysis of various metrics including organic matter(OM), phosphorus, magnesium, and potassium. A soil OM survey was conducted by the team. Soil OM survey showed OM content to be higher in the biochar plots by an average of .29%. The plant biomass survey showed inconclusive results and was not included in the report, but the data can be seen in Appendix I. Overall, the results from the study showed inconclusive evidence that biochar-manure application increased soil quality in a single growing season.