

**Table 1. Some physical and chemical properties of the tested calcareous soils and rice straw compost**

**a) Physical properties**

Soil	Particle size distribution (%)				Texture class	Total CaCO <sub>3</sub> (%)	CaCO <sub>3</sub> fraction (%)			
	c. sand	f. sand	silt	clay			c. sand	f. sand	silt	clay
1	68.20	24.20	2.50	5.10	Sandy	15.1	11.42	0.87	2.42	1.99
2	26.58	31.33	17.05	24.99	Sand Clay Loam	31.2	10.81	14.41	2.88	2.12

**b) Chemical Properties**

Soil	ECe (dS/m)	pH soil paste	Soluble ions in saturated soil extract (meq/l)								Organic matter (%)	Olsen-P (mg/kg)	P- Q/I parameters		
			K <sup>+</sup>	Na <sup>+</sup>	Ca <sup>+2</sup>	Mg <sup>+2</sup>	Cl <sup>-</sup>	HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	CO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-2-</sup>	SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-2</sup>			Q <sub>0</sub>	EPP	PBC
													(mg/kg)	(µg/l)	(L/kg)
1	1.40	7.34	0.78	6.90	4.00	2.00	8.10	3.30	0.00	2.30	0.22	10.2	7.30	54.5	134
2	2.60	7.92	0.64	7.00	14.0	4.40	15.1	2.90	0.00	8.04	0.51	4.75	6.10	61.9	99

**c) Used Rice Straw Compost**

Compost	pH 1:10 suspension	EC (d S/m) 1:10 extract	Organic matter (%)	Total Nutrients (%)			C/N ratio	Available nutrients (mg/kg)		
				N	P	K		N	P	K
Rice straw	8.02	1.81	54.7	1.30	0.61	2.44	24.5	295	373	472