

How to use this compost when it is ready?

Avoid that compost is just applied on the soil surface unprotected; otherwise a lot of nutrient will be lost. It is better to mix it with soil to a depth of at least 10 cm or to cover it with a layer of grass.



Compost added at the average rate of 50 quintal or 5000kg per hectare (a small bucket per square metre) can improve yields

What kind of results a farmer can expect?

Especially with a poor soil deficient in Nitrogen, a farmer can expect very good results and can increase the yield of his farm. For testing, he can apply compost in only one part of the field to compare the yield with and without compost.



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Resource-Oriented Sanitation concepts
for peri-urban areas in Africa

Compost

A natural fertilizer that
comes for free.



- ROSA -
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What is the purpose of composting activities?

The purpose is to reuse the nutrition in waste plants and Human urine & dry faeces. In comparison to other kinds of chemical fertilizers compost increases not only the fertility of the soil, but also the water holding capacity and health of the soil. At the end compost increases the yield of the farm.

How to collect Human urine & dry faeces.

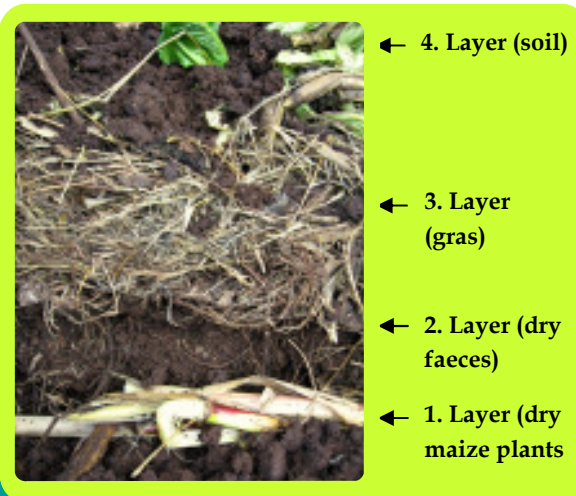
Human urine and dry faeces should be collected with an EcoSan toilet (A toilet that collects urine and faeces separately and has the capability to dry the faeces). The faeces have to be kept at least during 6 months to be DRY before to be mixed with compost.



ECOSAN toilet on the Condominium house const-

How to produce compost with human urine and dry faeces?

- Find a shady, even place with an area of at least 2x2 meters.
- Build a protection around the place (one side open), for example with Karta.
- Prepare a bottom layer with dry material like dried maize plants or branches.
- Then put alternating layers of 15 cm each, as follows:
- Make a layer of faeces and/or vegetable waste
- Then put a layer of grass on top,
- Followed by a layer of soil.
- Repeat the last 3 steps until you obtain a heap of 1.5 meters max.



50 litres of urine for 1m³ should be added each month. It should be good to mix it each month to improve the ventilation and speed up the decomposition. If dry, water has to be added to keep the moisture in the compost.

Normally after 3 months when the compost looks like soil, it can be used in the field.

What kind of problems a farmer could have?

Problem

If the compost heaps stinks it might be because it's too dry or there isn't enough ventilation.

Solution:

water it if it is dry

plant hollow sticks (bamboo) vertically into the heap

Problem

The compost heap attracts flies

Solution

Cover with dry grass

Problem

Temperature is too low (test the temperature by putting your hand inside the middle of the compost. It should feel hot)

Solution

Mix more kitchen waste or fresh manure into the compost.

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