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Vermicomposting: An Alternative Method for Organic Waste Management

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Abstract—Generation of the huge amount of solid waste around the globe is a major ecological and technical problem. Vermicomposting may be the viable option to handle solid waste in an environment friendly way. Vermicomposting is a process by which all types of biodegradable wastes such as: farm waste, kitchen waste, market waste, bio waste of agro based industries, livestock waste are converted to nutrient rich vermicompost by using earthworms as biological agent. The integrated approach of composting and vermicomposting processes provides better result. Feeding, stocking density, PH, C/N ratio, temperature and moisture by inference seem to be the critical factors that influence the vermicomposting process. In recent years the disposal of organic waste from domestic, agricultural and industrial sources has caused increasing environmental concerns. Vermicomposting is the process of using earthworms to turn organic waste into a black, earthy-smelling, nutrient rich humus. Recycling of organic wastes through vermicomposting bio technically is an emerging trend as an "environmentally sustainable", "economically viable and socially acceptable" technology all over the world.

Keywords: Earthworm species, solid waste, vermicomposting process, nutrient measurement of vermicompost.

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