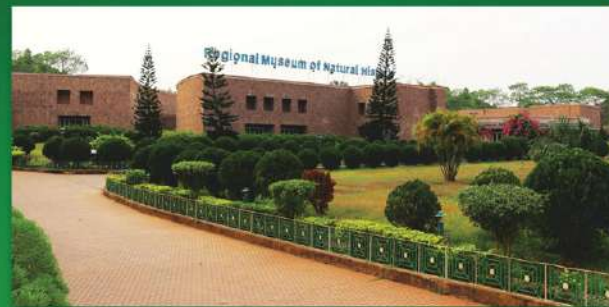


Vermi-composting in RMNH BBSR

RMNH BBSR has a dedicated area for Vermicomposting along with an interpretation area where children or anyone may learn everything about Vermicomposting. This Area provide sitting and learning facilities to the wanderers coming to the museum in search of knowledge. RMNH BBSR offers opportunity to learn the method of making vermicompost through handson and how to use it in kitchen garden to crop fields.

RMNH BBSR is facilitating to Farmers learn, making of Compost at its best and sharing resources. Farmers and Museum are helping each other through mutually exchanging cow dung as raw material and providing compost as product occasionally and on restricted events. RMNH not only uses its vermicompost product in its own garden but also shares with similar organizations selectively.



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Nature's gifts and their recycling in RMNH Bhubaneswar : Vermicompost



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Vermicompost

Various species of worms, usually earthworms are used to create a mixture of decomposing vegetable or food waste, bedding materials, and vermicast. Vermicast or worm castings, worm humus, worm manure, or worm feces is the end-product of the breakdown of organic matter by earthworms.

Earthworms, given suitable food and habitat produce vermicompost, mostly in restricted areas. Beds are prepared with soil, paddy, degrading biological material and then earthworms are introduced to it. In next 20-30 days a layer of casting is visible over the beds which may be collected separately or once entire food is converted in to compost.

Vermicompost has all essential ingredients necessary for increasing fertility of soil. It aerate the surface of soil when mixed properly. Top surface of soil once enriched by vermicompost slowly releases nutrients to lower soil layers with the flow of water. Vermicompost naturally controls growth of pathogens which may affect plants. Presence of vermicompost also increases water holding capacity of the top soil.

It is easy to convert domestic trash in to vermicompost and further use in kitchen garden or backyard garden. In many western countries making of vermicompost in kitchen garden is a regular practice which also offers possibility of organic farming at domestic level. Due to its extreme goodness and usefulness vermicompost is called black gold.

Earth worms: Farmers of Nature

An earthworm is a tube-shaped, segmented worm found in the phylum Annelida. They are commonly found living in soil, feeding on live and dead organic matter. Earthworms are hermaphrodites; that is, they have both male and female sexual organs. Several common earthworm species are parthenogenetic, meaning that growth and development of embryos happens without fertilization. They naturally turn the soil upside down increasing fertility of soil hence called farmers of nature.

Vermi Wash or Vermicompost tea

Compost is filtered with water in 2-3 layers by dripping method inside vessels. Filtered almost clear golden yellow water as substrate is called vermiwash. Vermiwash contains several enzyme, plant growth hormones, vitamins along with micro and macronutrients on concentrate form which increases the resistance power of crops against various diseases and enhance the growth and productivity of crops. Generally, foliar spray of vermiwash would offer more nutrients to higher plants rapidly than providing vermicompost in soil and root application.

