

How to make pit manure

Overview

The goal of this step-by-step guide is to teach households how to make manure from their own household waste, including organic and food scraps..

Material needed

Hoes, shovel, rubbish pit, plastic, water, watering can, house organic waste, dried garden rubbish, pit manure mix, topsoil

Steps in Making Manure

Step 1

Dig the Pit:

Prepare a rubbish pit with dimensions of 1x1, 1x2, or 2x2 meters



Step 2

Wet the Pit:

Use 2-3 watering cans of water to moisten the pit lightly.



Step 3

Add Starter Manure:

Add previously made manure that isn't fully decomposed to introduce microorganisms.



Step 4

Layer Organic Waste:

Add garden and household organic waste to form a 30 cm layer.



Step 5

Add Manure Soil:

Sprinkle 4 shovels of manure soil on top of the waste layer.



Step 6

Water Again:

Moisten the layer with 2-3 watering cans of water.



Step 7

Repeat Layers:

Continue layering organic waste, manure soil, and water until the pit is full.



Step 8

Top with Loam Soil:

Cover the final layer with loam soil.



Step 9

Water the Top:

Add 2-3 watering cans of water to moisten the loam soil.



Step 10

Insert Stick and Cover:

Place a stick deep into the center of the pit, then cover the pit with black plastic to retain heat.



Step 11

Monitor Weekly

Check the pit weekly, and after 21 days, the manure will be ready for use.



Benefits:

- Manure enhances soil fertility
- Improves water retention,
- Money saving investment for local households as it reduces the need for chemical fertilizers.

Common Mistakes:

- Not balancing the waste, soil and water can lead to strong or weak manure.
- Not observing dates to keep the manure covered.

Note: Manure is used for home gardens and for arable land used for growing maize and other crops such as Irish potatoes. The pit must be dug at a good place, where the sun can hit it and where household water cannot flood the pit.