

Vuyyuru-521165, Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh

(Managed by: Siddhartha Academy of General & Technical Education, Vijayawada-10)
An Autonomous College in the Jurisdiction of Krishna University

Accredited by NAAC with "A" Grade

ISO 9001:2015 Certified Institution

2022-2023



DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

Value Added Course
Title: Vermicomposting

Name of the Lecturer : K.Padmaja

Class : I B.Sc BZC(EM)

Duration of the Course : 30 Days

VAC Code : ZOOVAC -07

Vuyyuru-521165, Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh

Value Added Course

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Objectives

- The chief objective is to compost organic wastes not for the disposal of solid organic wastes but also to produce superior quality manure to feed our "nutrient/organic matter hungry" soils.
- Large volume of organic matter generated from agricultural activities, dairy farms and animal shelters—usually dumped in corners emanating foul smell, can be utilized by properly composting it into a value-added end product

Methodology

• Vermiculture is a technique based on utilizing some species of earthworms to convert organic waste into Vermicompost which is again, the product of decomposition by various worms. It is a practice of harvesting worms that take part in decomposing organic waste and turning it into nutrient-rich fertilizer.

Duration : 30 Days

Vuyyuru-521165, Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh

Value Added Course Student Enrolment Sheet

Class: I B.Sc BZC (EM)

S. No	Roll No.	Name of the Student	Signature
1	22-501	P.UMA	P Uma.
2	22-502	CH.HARITHA	Ch. Hanelha.
3	22-503	V.NITHYA SRI	V. No thy a Sof
4	22-504	B.SUMATHI	& Sunother
5	22-505	M.BHUVANA SRI	M. Bhuvana Srp
6	22-506	ABDUL AYESHA BEGUM	AB. Alpha Bega K vijaya svi
7	22-507	K.VIJAYA SRI	
8	22-508	G.DHANEESHA	G. Donisha
9	22-509	S.VISHNU PRIYANKA	S. Vishnotsiyavka B. Jahanawi
10	22-510	B.JAHANAVI	^
11	22-511	K.SARWAN CHOWDARY	KSaonwan dowdan P. Kar Iti Kaya
12	22-512	P.KARTHIKEYA	P. Karlhikeya

B.A. Ciranmayer

Head, Department of Zoology.

AG&SG Siddhartha Degree College.

(Autonomous)

VUYYURU - 521 165.

AG & SG Siddhartha Degree College of Arts&Science (Autonomous), Vuyyure

A.G. & S.G. Siddhartha Degree College of Arts & Science Vuyyuru-521165, Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh

Value Added Course Title: Vermicomposting

Content	Module No.
General Vermiculture/ Vermicompost 1.1ntroduction to vermiculture. definition, meaning, history, economic importance, their value in maintenance of soil structure, role as four r's of recycling reduce, reuse, recycle, restore. 1.2The role in bio transformation of the residues generated by human activity and production of organic fertilizers. How does nature works. 1.3 The matter and humus cycle (product, qualities). Ground population, transformation process in organic	Unit-I
Earthworm Biology and Rearing 2.1Choosing the right worm. Useful species of earthworms. Local species of earthworms. Exotic species of earthworms. 2.2 Key to identify the species of earthworms. 6 Biology of Eisenia fetida. a) Taxonomy Anatomy, physiology and reproduction of Lumbricidae. b) Vital cycle of Eisenia fetida: alimentation, fecundity, annual reproducer potential and limit factors (gases, diet, humidity, temperature, PH, light, and climatic factors). Complementary activities of auto evaluation	Unit-II
Vermicompost Technology (Methods and Products) 3.1 Vermicompost Technology (Methods and Products) 3.2 Conventional commercial composting - Earthworm 3.3 Composting la Conventional commercial composting - Earthworm Composting larger scale rger scale	Unit-I11
4.1Nutritional Composition of Vermicompost for plants, comparison with other fertilizers 11 Vermiwash collection, composition &use 4.2 Considerations about economical aspects of this activity. Research and ratability according to different exploitation orientations	Unit-IV

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Test Exercise:

- 1. What is Vermiculture??
- 2. How does Vermiculture work??
- **3.What is the importance of vermiculture products?**?
- 4What should I feed the worms? What should I avoid adding to the vermicomposting bin??
- 5. How do I maintain the worms in the winter?
- 6. What are some of the materials required for Vermicomposting?
- 7. What are the Advantages of Vermicompost Over Regular Compost?
- 8. What are the Benefits of Vermicomposting?
- 9. . What are earthworms like?
- 10. What are the three techniques of Vermiculture?

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Key:

1. Vermiculture can be defined as culture of earthworms. Earthworms are divided into two groups: humus formers and humus feeders. The first group dwell on the surface and feed on nearly 90% organic materials. They are generally darker in colour, and are also called epigeic or detritivorous earthworms. It is these worms that are generally harnessed for vermicomposting. The second group, the humus feeders, are burrowing worms some of which are useful in both compost preparation as well as making the soil porous. Generally the burrowers help in mixing and distributing humus through the soil.

It has been proved that earthworms can degrade organic wastes speedily and efficiently. However, to increase the efficiency of vermicomposting, care should be taken to see that worms thrive well on organic matter, breed faster adapting to moisture and climatic fluctuations. The most beneficial feature of vermicomposting is that it eliminates foul smell of decaying organic wastes, as it is a fully aerobic system. The concept of vermiculture became well known in the 50s of this century when facilities were set up in industrialised countries of Western Europe for the mass breeding of earthworms. Subsequently, USA, England and France conducted several experiments related to vermiculture technology for efficient disposal of organic wastes.

- **2.** Earthworms feed on organic waste, consuming two to five times their body weight. They use a relatively small amount of their intake for their growth and excrete the mucus coated undigested matter as vermicasts. Vermicasts consist of organic matter that has undergone physical and chemical breakdown through the activity of the muscular gizzard that grinds the material. The nutrients present in the vermicasts are readily soluble in water for uptake by plants. Vermicast is a rich source of macro and micronutrients, vitamins, enzymes, antibiotics, growth hormones and microflora.
- 3. The products of vermiculture act as environmentally friendly long-term soil conditioners containing nutrients readily available to plants, which greatly improve soil performance and crop yields. Scientific research conducted into the effects of vermicast has found 30-50% increases in nitrogen uptake, 100% increases in potassium and phosphate uptake, increases in root length, root numbers, and shoot length, and 40-60% increases in cucumber and tomato yields. There are also reported increases in flavour and shelf-life, though these findings are not as easily quantified.
- 4. I tell my students that worms are vegan and therefore should only be fed scraps from fruit and vegetables. No meat, no dairy, no cheese, no bones, no manure, or any other animal product should be added to the vermicomposting bin. Shredded newspaper, copy paper, or even shredded cardboard is beneficial. Avoid adding plant material that has been sprayed with insecticides or other chemicals. Also avoid adding plastic, metal, or other non-biodegradable products.

- 5. Red wigglers prefer temperatures between 55-75 degrees Fahrenheit. Most homes maintain these temperatures during the winter months so it is best to bring vermicomposting bins indoors during the winter. Dark locations like a basement corner or under the kitchen sink are ideal. A well-maintained vermicomposting system has little or no odor. Indoors the worms can be continually fed throughout the winter months as they do not go dormant. Ideally vermicomposting systems are not allowed to freeze, as this will kill the worms.
- 6. Crop residues, vegetable waste, dried leaves, cattle dung, earthworms, water supply, a container, and a few other materials are needed for Vermicomposting. These need to be ready prior to Vermicomposting. Vermicomposting is good for the soil and plants as it enriches them with nutrients and is a great alternative to chemical fertilizers and pesticides that make any plant unhealthy. The page on Vedantu Vermiculture has ample information on the subject and can be read by all students to quell all their doubts.
- 7. Worm-made compost material is far superior to normal compost
 - 1. The compost material size of Vermicompost is less than 2 microns which is smaller than regular compost
 - 2. Vermicompost improved soil water retention, drainage, aeration, and soil stability.
 - 3. Vermicompost contains high amounts of natural plant growth hormones and has more antibiotic properties than regular compost.
- 8. Worm-made compost material is far superior to normal compost
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 - Vermicompost improved soil water retention, drainage, aeration, and soil stability.
 - Vermicompost contains high amounts of natural plant growth hormones and has more antibiotic properties than regular compost.
- 9.Earthworms have no eyes and ears but five hearts. They breathe through their skin. More about them is covered if the students read from Vermiculture Meaning, Technique, Methods, Process, Preparation, and FAQ. This page on Vedantu is completely free of cost for all those who need access to it. It can even be downloaded in PDF format and then be referred to. It has all the details on earthworms and Vermicomposting that's needed by the students before a test on the same.
- 10 The three techniques of Vermiculture are manual, migration, and mechanical. More about this has been explained in Vermiculture on Vedantu's platform. This page has all the answers for the students to read from and then find out. The techniques of Vermiculture are each used for the purpose of harvesting worms. This page has been created by expert Biology as well as environmental science teachers. It contains only the most relevant inputs needed by students.

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Marks List

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S. No	Roll No.	Name of the Student	Marks
1	22-501	P.UMA	40
2	22-502	CH.HARITHA	45
3	22-503	V.NITHYA SRI	42
4	22-504	B.SUMATHI	46
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Feed Back Form

1.	Is the programme interested to you	(Yes/No)
	Have you attended all the session	(Yés/No)
	Is the content of the program is adequate	(Yeş/No)
	Have the teacher covered the entire syllabus?	(Yes/No)
5.	have at hours adequate?	(Yes/No)
6.	- Law suggestions for enhancing or reducing the	(Yes/No)
7.	On the whole, is the program useful in terms of enriching your knowledge?	(Yes/No)
8.	Do you have any suggestions on the program?	(Yes/No)

B. Jahanavi I. B.2c - 22-510

19. A. Miranmayer

Head, Department of Zoology, AG&SG Siddhartha Degree College, (Autonomous) VUYYURU - 521 165. PRINCIPAL

AG & SG Siddhartha Degree College of
Arts&Science (Autonomous), Vuyyuru

Vuyyuru-521165, Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh

<u>Department of ZOOLOGY</u> <u>Value Added Course</u>

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1.	Is the programme interested to you	(Yes/No)
2.	Have you attended all the session	(Yes/No)
3.	Is the content of the program is adequate	(Yes/No)
4.	Have the teacher covered the entire syllabus?	(Yes/No)
5.	Is the number of hours adequate?	(Yes/No)
6.	Do you have any suggestions for enhancing or reducing the number of weeks designed for the program?	(Yes/No)
7.	On the whole, is the program useful in terms of enriching your knowledge?	(Yes/No)
8.	 Do you have any suggestions on the program? 	(Yes/No)

T. B.2c. 22-501

b. A. larunmayer

Head, Department of Zoology,
AG&SG Siddhartha Degree College,
(Autonomous)
VUYYURU - 521 165.

PRINCIPAL

AG & SG Siddhartha Degree College of Arts&Science (Autonomous), Vuyyuru

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Department of Zoology

VALUE ADDED COURSE: Varmicomposting

CERTIFICATE

k. pud may'a. **Co-ordinator** Head of Department

Head, Department of Zoology, AG&SG Siddhartha Degree College, (Autonomous)

VUYYURU - 521 165.

Adusumilli Gopalakrishnaiah & Sugarcane Growers Siddhartha Degree College of Arts & Science, Vuyyuru-521 165, Krishna District.



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k. paelmaja. Co-ordinator Head of Department
Head, Department of Zoology.

AG&SG Siddhartha Degree College.

(Autonomous)

VUYYURU - 521 165.

Adusumilli Gopalakrishnaiah & Sugarcane Growers Siddhartha Degree College of Arts & Science, Vuyyuru-521 165, Krishna District