(d) Put the bag into the water container for fermentation and decomposition process. Cover the container using mats or canvas



Animal waste products in water

5. Shaking and Stirring your tea

After seven days begin shaking your bag and stirring your products in order to allow free air circulation in order for fermentation process to continue normally.

6. WHEN TO USE

Animal tea can be ready for use after 2 to 4 weeks depending on the immediate need and materials used. Chicken droppings tend to take a shorter time to get ready while cow dung takes long. The residues from the process can be taken out for making compost.

7. CONCLUSION

It is cheap to produce animal tea and it can be ready for use in the field in a short time, compared to other types of organic fertilizers. We need to feed the soil if the soil is to feed us.

For more information, please contact:

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PREPARING LIQUID ANIMAL MANURE (TEAS) FOR IMPROVING SOIL FERTILITY



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NARO

1. Introduction

In order to promote soil fertility and compete on World market the government of Uganda under the Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industries and Fisheries is encouraging farmers to undertake organic farming. Organic farming is basically aimed at reducing use of inorganic fertilizers that prove to have bad environmental effects by promoting use of organic fertilizers. Animal teas are among
the organic fertilizers that can be used for improving soil fertility. It is a process of fermenting and decomposing products such as cow dung, chicken droppings, and/ or goat droppings in water for about three weeks.

2. Advantages of using animal teas.

(a) Animal teas have readily available plant food that can easily be absorbed by plants. They are especially good for establishing new seedlings in to the main field.

(b) It has no bad environmental residual effects.

(c) It is easy and cheap to prepare as it requires use of local materials that are available to the reach every household.

(d) Animal teas can double yields in vegetable fields and citrus

(e) It increases vigor and health of the plant

3. Requirements for preparing animal tea.

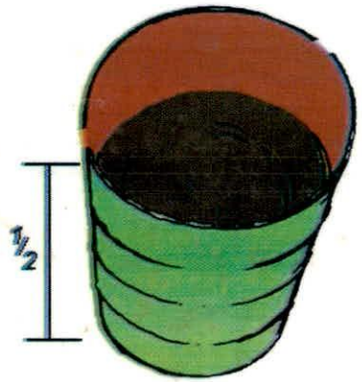
(a) Water containers – A drum, a pot, a brick-built cemented tank of any capacity can be used depending on the amount of manure required and the quantity of material available.

(b) Animal waste -- Cow dung, chicken droppings or goats' droppings.

(c) Others – Any porous material like jute/sisal bag/cloth, crossbar/stick, rope, jerrican, water, and a mat /canvas.

4. Steps in Preparing Animal Tea.

(a) Fill the container (a pot, a drum or a tank) half way with water



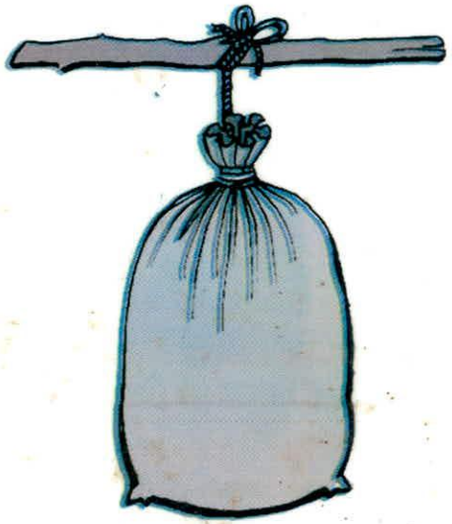
A drum half full of water

(b) Pack the cow dung, chicken droppings or goats' droppings into a bag that is porous enough to allow water in and out of it e.g. sisal bag, jute bag, cloth etc.



Packing the animal waste

(c) Tie the neck of the bag with a strong rope and tie it to a stick or crossbar.



Animal waste in a bag tied to a cross bar