

The Effect of EM on the Production of Wood Chip Compost

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Abstract: *Wood chips are a by product of many industries and are stockpiled in large quantities. Under normal circumstances, the highly ligneous character of wood chips retards their decomposition. If incorporated directly into soil, wood chips bind nutrients, thereby affecting crop production adversely. Thus studies were initiated to determine the effects of EM on decomposition of wood chips at two sites. A blend of 90% wood chips and 10% manure was used and was treated with EM. Within 4 months, which was over winter at temperatures at as low as 30 °C, 80% of the material was composted. Hence further experiments were initiated using larger quantities of wood chips and many concentrations and combinations of EM products. The successful results of composting wood chips using EM and its potential of managing an industrial waste are discussed.*
