

How to make inoculant Compost for Compost Tea

- **Equipment**

- **Chipper, grinder**
- **Thermometer**
- **Pitch fork, front-end loaders, turners**
- **Oxygen probes, CO2 probes**
- **Moisture**

– The Composting Process

- **Temperature** > 135 F or 55 C for 3 days,
No higher than 155 F or 70 C
- AEROBIC** - Not below 5 to 6 mg/L oxygen,
not above 7 to 9% CO₂
- **Physical structure** – percent “chunkiness”
5% > 1 inch diameter
- **Monitor Temperature, CO₂**
- **Turning** – When temp or CO₂ reaches trigger
point

The Composting Process

- 50% Moisture
 - Too low, no decomposition
 - Too high, lack of oxygen
- Maturity – microbial activity finished
 - Temperature does not elevate when turned
- Stability – nutrients are available
 - Immobilization phase ended

Bacterial Starting Materials:

25% Hi N – lucerne chaff or pellets, bean meal, pea chaff or meal, processed manure pellets, blood and bone etc.

Caution - unprocessed manures contain

- Salts, Antibiotics, Heavy Metals and pathogens
- Cow < poultry < pig = human

45% Green – Diversity of material desired

30% Woody – Chunky chips 15 - 25mm

Fungal Starting Materials:

25% Hi N– lucerne chaff or pellets, bean meal, peachaff or meal, processed manure pellets, blood and bone etc.

unprocessed manures contain

- Salts, Antibiotics, Heavy Metals
- Cow < poultry < pig = human

30% Green - Diversity desired

45% Woody– Chunky chips 15 - 25mm