

Background material for Compost Dialogues - Session 1

This document contains open-source background material and can be used to inform debate or as basis for discussion on compost and compost preparation. The sources range from videos to research papers, podcasts and manuals. Included topics are method of preparation, input requirements, labor and time investment, C:N ratio, layering, the use of organic waste, best practices and others.

Feel free to view and/or read any material and share with colleagues or other interested parties. We kindly invite you to use the comment section under the Compost Dialogue tab, Session 1, of the website www.Nakurulivinglab.org to share your findings and leave your remarks.

Videos

- The land gardeners (2021). Climate Compost – full film. URL: [Climate Compost - full film - YouTube](#)
- High Valley Dawn Permaculture (2020). The ultimate Biodynamic compost. URL: [The ultimate Biodynamic compost - YouTube](#)
- Sustainable Agriculture Tanzania (2016). Sustainable Farming: Compost Making Tutorial. URL: [Sustainable Farming: Compost Making Tutorial - YouTube](#)
- Sustainable Food Trust (2017). Making Compost at Blaencamel farm. URL: [Making compost at Blaencamel farm - YouTube](#)
- Institute for Local Self-reliance (2019). Webinar Community Composting Done Right: A Guide to Best Management Practices. URL: [Webinar: Community Composting Done Right: A Guide to Best Management Practices - YouTube](#)

Note: this video comes with the similarly titled manual, URL: [Compost-BMP-v1.pdf \(ilsr.org\)](#)

- Local Food Movement (2013). Black Gold: The Secrets of Compost, Garden Africa. URL: [Black Gold: The Secrets of Compost, Garden Africa - YouTube](#)

Websites

- FAO 1) Composting process and techniques, 2) Small-scale composting, 3) Large-scale composting and 4) Vermicomposting. URL: [On-farm composting methods \(fao.org\)](#)
- Almanac (2022). How to Compost: A Guide to Composting at Home. URL: [How to Compost: A Guide to Composting at Home | The Old Farmer's Almanac](#)
- Farming Magazine (2016). Making and Using On-Farm Compost. URL: [Making and Using On-Farm Compost - Farming Magazine](#)
- eOrganic (2022). Making and Using Compost for Organic Farming. URL: [Making and Using Compost for Organic Farming | eOrganic](#)

Papers

- Meena, A. L., Karwal, M., Dutta, D., & Mishra, R. P. (2021). Composting: phases and factors responsible for efficient and improved composting. Agriculture and Food: e-Newsletter, 1, 85-90. URL: [\(PDF\) Composting: Phases and Factors Responsible for Efficient and Improved Composting \(researchgate.net\)](#)
- Misra, R. V., Roy, R. N., & Hiraoka, H. (2003). On-farm composting methods. Rome, Italy: UN-FAO. URL: [Modello.ai \(vt.edu\)](#)
- Onduru, D. D., Diop, J. M., Van der Werf, E., & De Jager, A. (2002). Participatory on-farm comparative assessment of organic and conventional farmers' practices in Kenya. Biological agriculture & horticulture, 19(4), 295-314. URL: [Participatory On-Farm Comparative Assessment of Organic and Conventional Farmers' Practices in Kenya: Biological Agriculture & Horticulture: Vol 19, No 4 \(tandfonline.com\)](#)

Manuals & Guidebooks

- FAO Composting manual (2015). Farmer's Compost Handbook. URL: [Interior manual compostaje ingles.indd \(fao.org\)](#)
- Agromisa Foundation (2005). The preparation and use of compost. URL: [Microsoft Word - 08-e 2004.doc \(journeytoforever.org\)](#)
- Institute for Local Self-reliance (2019). Community composting done right, a guide to best management practices. URL: [Compost-BMP-v1.pdf \(ilsr.org\)](#)
- Institute for Local Self-reliance and Highfields Center for Composting (2014). Growing local fertility: a guide to community composting. URL: [growing-local-fertility.pdf \(ilsr.org\)](#)
- Organic Agriculture Centre of Canada (N.D.). Manual of On-Farm Vermicomposting and Vermiculture. URL: [Introduction: Vermiculture and Vermicomposting \(wormfarmingsecrets.com\)](#)

Podcasts

- 'Muddy Boots' EP 1: Composting with Vince
- 'Epic Gardening: Daily Growing Tips and Advice': Good Composting Habits
- 'Building Local Power': How Black Gold (composting) Combats the Climate Crisis
- 'Rooting for You': ANYTIME – hot composting – a step-by-step guide for hot composting

Audio Books

- Composting – How to compost successfully using basic techniques and instructions