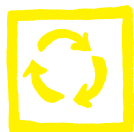


VERMICOMPOSTING



➤ Fill in some of the words used in vocabulary.



VERMICOMPOSTING. Although not _____ in terms of waste diversion, vermicomposting is being used in some places and is popular in classrooms as a teaching _____. This method of composting uses a container of food _____ and a special kind of _____ known as a red wiggler. Over time, the food is replaced with worm _____, a rich brown matter that _____ as an excellent natural plant food. Vermicomposting requires less space than normal composting methods, and is, therefore, ideal for classrooms, apartments, and other settings in high-density urban areas.

[U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, <http://www.epa.gov/msw/compost.htm>]

VOCABULARY TO THE ARTICLE

| | | | |
|-------------|---|-------------|---|
| container | – nádoba, kontejner | scraps | – nepoužité zbytky, kousky, odpadový materiál |
| diversion | – zrušení | serves | – slouží, plní úkol |
| droppings | – trus | significant | – podstatný, významný, důležitý |
| earthworm | – žížala | tool | – nástroj, prostředek |
| matter | – výměšek, věc, podstata | | |
| red wiggler | – žížala hnojní či vyšlechtěná žížala kalifornská | | |

➤ Build your own container for worms.

You can use wood or plastic as a building material for your container. Size depends on the quantity of your waste for composting. For 1 kg per week you will need about 0,2 m². A number of smaller containers are easier to manage. The depth of containers should be about 20 cm. If you use your imagination you may recycle something like an old dresser drawer or old boxes for fruit. Do not use chipboard or materials treated with toxic paint.

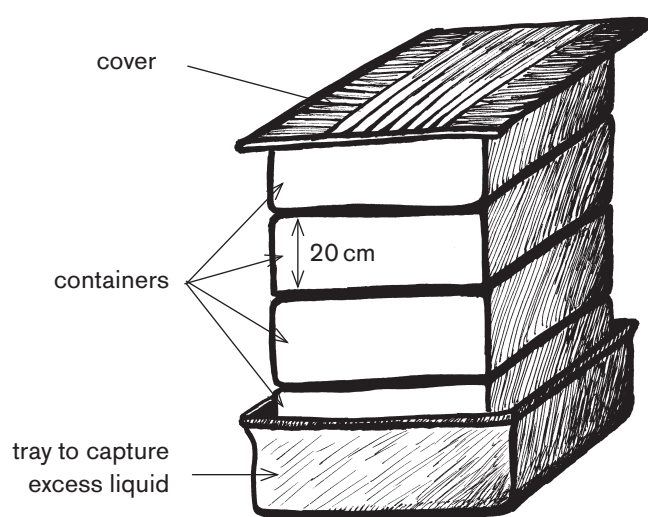
Drill holes (0,5–1,25 cm) in the bottom of containers for aeration and drainage. You can place containers one at the other. Also place a tray underneath to capture excess liquid which can be used as liquid plant fertilizer. The bin needs a cover to conserve moisture and provide darkness for the worms. Like us, worms need air to live, so be sure to have your bin sufficiently ventilated.

[Adapted from <http://www.cityfarmer.org/wormcomp61.html>]

VOCABULARY TO THE ARTICLE

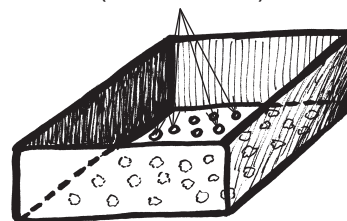
| | | | |
|-----------|---------------|--------------|--------------------|
| drawers | – zásuvky | capture | – zachytit |
| chipboard | – dřevotříska | liquid | – kapalina, tekutý |
| treated | – ošetřený | fertilizer | – hnojivo |
| drill | – vyvrtat | moisture | – vlhkost |
| drainage | – odvodnění | sufficiently | – dostatečně |





The bottom of the lowest container should be raised above the water level (for example with waterproof material)

holes for aeration and drainage
(0,5 – 1,25 cm)



bedding and food scraps



➤ What to feed worms with?

| MATERIALS TO INCLUDE: | MATERIALS TO EXCLUDE: |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | |

MEAT LEFTOVERS

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE
SCRAPS

NONRECYCLABLE PAPER

FAT OR OILY FOOD

COFFEE GROUNDS

DIARY FOODS

TEA BAGS

GROUND EGG SHELLS

PAPER WITH COLORED
PRINTING ON IT

➤ Discuss the questions in pairs.

What do worms need for their satisfied living?

What can you see as advantages of vermicomposting? And disadvantages?

What temperature, do you think, is suitable for worms?

What kind of material can you use for worms feeding?

What kind of bedding would you use in a vermicomposting bin?

