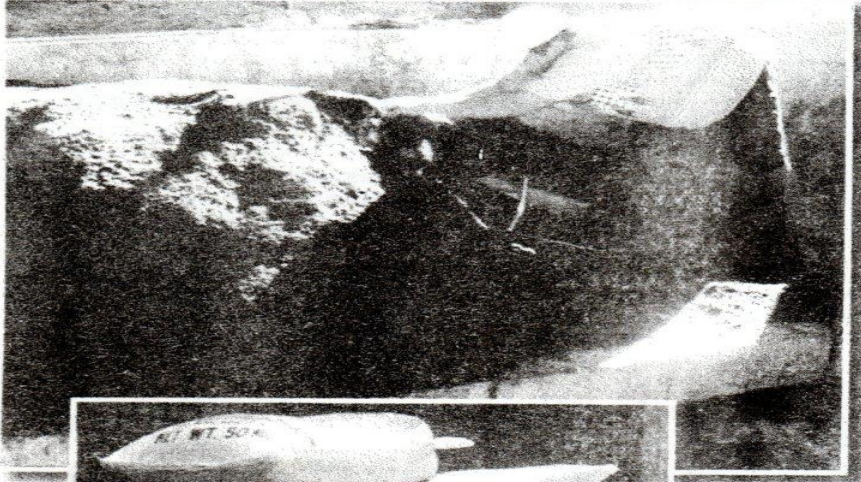


How to Make Fertilizer from Wastes

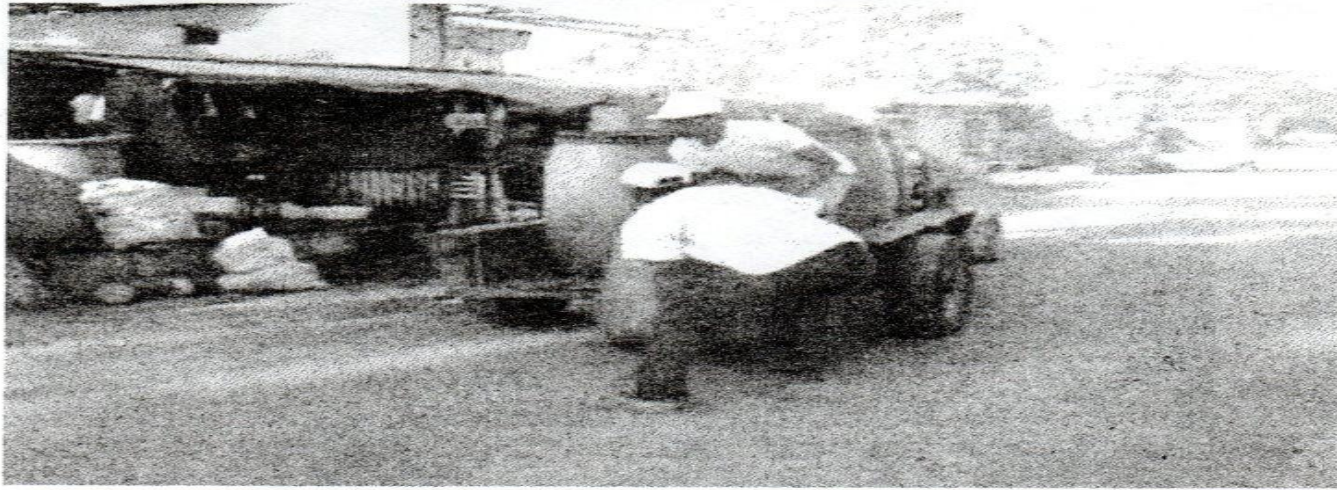


Introduction

The Central Luzon State University (CLSU) is a leading institution of higher learning but is a home to more or less 8,000 people and a huge agricultural production area. As such, it is not spared from the problem of waste generation and its subsequent accumulation. This problem is often aggravated by improper waste disposal.

Results of the initial survey on waste generation in the campus indicate that a household consisting of four to five members generates an average of 500–600 g of waste in a day. The volume of wastes collected in a month is approximately 200 cubic meters. The composition of wastes collected particularly in the dormitories is about 40–60% biodegradable, the rest are non-biodegradable mostly plastic, foil, wrappers, styrofoam, bottles and cans. Considering this huge volume, and guided by the principle that "Waste is a Resource", the CLSU has devised ways to convert solid wastes into a valuable resource—organic fertilizer.

This resource is now the prime input in organic-based vegetable production and plays valuable role in improving soil health and productivity.



How to Make Organic Fertilizer

Assemble all the needed materials.

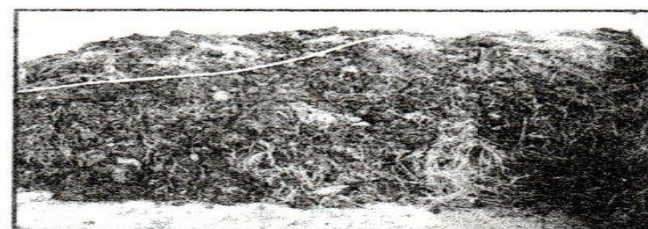


Shred and sieve in 2 mm mesh.



Dry and cool for 1-2 weeks.

Mix the raw materials, activators, stabilizers (2:1:1 or 3:1:0.5).



Spread the compost in the drying area.



Monitor the temperature weekly. Moisten with manure tea.

Moisten and shred the mixed materials. Pile the shredded materials, 0.8-1 m high and allow to decompose for two weeks. Cover the top to increase the temperature.



Turn the pile thoroughly after 2-4 weeks.



Incubate for 2 or more weeks.

Pack at 50 kg/bag.

