

BIODEGRADATION OF SOLID WASTE USING BIOTECHNOLOGY At GNIT Campus

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Abstract - The biodegradation of organic waste can be accomplished through composting, which is both efficient and sustainable. Microorganisms are used in the procedure to transform organic waste, such as food scraps and garden waste, into a nutrient-rich soil supplement. Composting has a number of advantages, such as lowering the quantity of trash dumped in landfills, enhancing the fertility and health of the soil, and lowering greenhouse gas emissions. This review paper addresses the fundamentals of composting, the variables that affect the procedure, and the potential of composting in solid waste management. The paper indicates that composting is an effective method for managing organic waste, but more study is required to improve the procedure and examine its potential for degrading other forms of trash.

Index Terms - Preparaton Of Compost

1. Size Of The Compost Pit
2. Segregation Of Waste Generated
3. Production Of Compost
4. Analysis Of Gases

I. INTRODUCTION

When microorganisms decompose organic materials into simpler chemicals, composting is a biodegradation process that happens naturally. Organic waste, including leftover food, yard waste, and other biodegradable items, are transformed through this process into a nutrient-rich soil amendment that can be used to increase the fertility and health of the soil. Making the ideal circumstances for microorganisms to flourish and decompose organic matter is the goal of composting, which can be done in a small or large-scale setting. The mesophile, thermophile, and maturation stages of the composting process can all be broken down into these three phases. As the organic matter decomposes during the mesophile stage, mesophile bacteria release carbon dioxide and heat. The breakdown of organic matter continues at greater temperatures, up to 160°F, during the thermophiles stage, when thermophile microbes gain control. In the maturation stage, the compost stabilises and cools, turning into a black, crumbly mass that is nutrient- and microorganism-rich. The kind of material being composted, the volume of the compost pile, and the environmental conditions all affect how long the process takes. In order to ensure a good composting process and avoid the buildup of dangerous germs or the emission of unpleasant odours, the compost pile must be managed properly. Composting is an easy and efficient strategy to lessen the amount of organic waste that ends up in landfills and to create a useful soil amendment that can support sustainable farming and landscaping techniques.

In the process of aerobic composting, microorganisms break down organic material in the presence of oxygen, releasing byproducts such as heat, carbon dioxide, and water vapour. The type of material being composted, the size and configuration of the composting system, and the ambient conditions all have an impact on the composition and quantity of gases produced during the process.

With an emphasis on carbon dioxide, methane, and ammonia, several research have looked into the gases produced during aerobic composting. As a result of microbial respiration, carbon dioxide is the most prevalent gas created throughout the composting process. While methane is also produced during composting, the aerobic conditions usually result in low methane concentrations. Ammonia is

created when nitrogen-containing substances, such proteins, break down, and it can have a negative effect on both air quality and human health.

II. Literature survey

Koolivand A, Rajaei MS, Ghanadzadeh MJ, et al. (2017), Total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH) from storage tank bottom sludge (STBS) were removed using a two-stage composting method. The effectiveness of this process was examined, along with the effects of the mixing ratio and the addition of nutrients. Ten windrow piles were used for primary composting (PC), and four in-vessel reactors were used for secondary composting (SC). The PC and SC were tested for 12 and 6 weeks, respectively, with various initial C/N/P ratios and STBS to immature compost (IC) mixing ratios. In comparison to the single-stage one, the two-stage system had greater TPH removal rates (93.72-95.24%). With rate constants of 0.051-0.334 d⁻¹ and 0.002-0.165 g kg⁻¹ d⁻¹, respectively, TPH biodegradation was fitted to first- and second-order kinetics, depending on the investigations.

Rigby H, Dowding A, Fernandes A, et al. (2015), A variety of wastes that are indicative of materials that are currently applied to agricultural land in the UK as fertilisers and soil improvers or that have the potential to be applied in the future as animal bedding in livestock production were looked into. The materials underwent comprehensive physico-chemical evaluation in addition to being examined for a number of priority organic pollutants. In most cases, pollutants were present in quite small amounts. For instance, polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins/dibenzofurans (PCDD/Fs) and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) concentrations in biosolids and compost-like output (CLO) were about 1/10 and 5–50 times, respectively, lower than various proposed or implemented European limit values for these contaminants in biosolids or composts applied to agricultural land. However, in some circumstances, the technical foundation for these constraints could need to be reevaluated. Although they were found in the biosolids and CLOs at relatively high concentrations compared to PCDD/Fs, polybrominated and mixed halogenated dibenzo-p-dioxins/dibenzofurans are currently not taken into account in risk assessments of dioxins and dioxin-like chemicals; however, their potential contribution to the overall toxic equivalency is evaluated. The possible importance of other "emerging" pollutants that were found in some of the waste products, like organophosphate flame retardants, is considered. The project is a component of a larger research plan that will offer data that is anticipated to increase confidence in the use of waste-derived materials in agriculture and to establish guidelines to safeguard the food chain as needed.

Saveyn H, Eder P (2014), For the study, composts made in 2015 and 2016 under various climatic circumstances were prepared in various parts of Lithuania. Composts were subjected to chemical analysis in accordance with international specifications for soil-improving agents. Green waste compost had the lowest levels of organic matter, nitrogen, and phosphorus of all the composts evaluated. The experiment's findings imply that digestate, which had the highest level of organic matter, also included the least amount of fulvic and humic acids, which are crucial for restoring soil organic matter. It was determined that sewage sludge composts were the most heavily polluted with heavy metals and polychlorobiphenyls; the samples of the sewage sludge composts had a total polychlorobiphenyl content of 37.8 g kg⁻¹.

D.L.D. Lima, S.M. Santos, H.W. Scherer, R.J. Schneider, A.C. Duarte, E.B.H. Santos, V.I. Esteves (2009), As indicated by the increased concentrations of syringic and vanillic phenols, the application of farmyard manure results in a higher content of organic matter produced from angiosperms. According to spectroscopic investigations, the organic matter of the soil contains more lignin and lignin-like substances than before. This increase may be due to the cereal straw that was added to the farmyard manure. Spectroscopic examination, ¹³C CPMAS-NMR, and FT-IR spectra revealed that the compost-supplied soil included higher levels of carbohydrates and methylene groups (-CH₂) from proteins and protein-like substances. The different organic fertilisers did not significantly impact the monosaccharide (rhamnose, xylose, glucose, mannose, arabinose, fucose, and galactose) content, indicating that none of the six monomers under study are affected by the type of amendment utilised. The most notable differences between the three organic amendments were found after farmyard manure had been applied over an extended period of time, leading to an increase in lignin and lignin-like products in the soil's organic matter, and after compost had been applied, which seems to have contributed to an increase in the content of protein and protein-like, as well as carbohydrates, in the soil's organic matter. Understanding these modifications can be crucial for figuring out how pollutants are absorbed and bioavailable, as well as how to recycle organic waste into organic fertilisers or not.

III. METHODOLOGY

➤ Size Of The Compost Pit

Ideally, the compost pit will measure 6 feet long, 3 feet broad, and 3 feet deep. 3.25 ft. x 3.25 ft. of cover space is offered.

➤ Segregation Of Waste Generated

Waste was largely divided into two categories: Dry and wet waste

Source of Dry Waste: Vegetable peels, stems, leaves, roots, and paper

Source of Wet waste: Cooked Food

➤ Production Of Compost

- 1) Find a location in your yard that receives a lot of direct sunlight to keep the temperature of your compost pit above 43°C. Avoid placing the compost pit too close to your home since as it decomposes, it could emit an unpleasant scent.
- 2) When calculating the total size, keep in mind that the compost material will be carefully chopped or shredded into bits before being put in the hole.
- 3) If you have a lot of compost on hand, you can dig a deeper pit, but stay below 3.2 feet because decomposing organisms cannot survive below this depth. If you require additional space for material, try making your pit bigger or longer.
- 4) If you don't line the hole with masonry lining or pack the bottom and sides of the hole as tightly as you can, the sides may collapse into your pit. Composting underground moves more slowly than it does above ground if your ingredients are finely chopped. Exposing as much surface area of the compost ingredients as possible is the key to speeding the process. Kitchen scraps can be ripped apart by hand, sliced with a knife, or even pulverized in a blender or food processor. A lawnmower may disintegrate yard waste. Aim for pieces no more than 2 to 3 inches long, wide, and thick.
- 5) The organic ingredients are all in the compost pit, and composting can now begin! Fill the hole with your food scraps and yard debris, but remember that the stuff you'll be composting shouldn't be any taller than 4 inches. To ensure that the ingredients break down as equally as possible, mix them with a shovel. It's also vital to make sure your carbon-rich materials (such as yard waste and paper) are mixed well with your nitrogen-rich materials (such as fresh grass clippings and vegetable scraps).
- 6) Well-mixed compost materials are important from the outset, as you usually do not turn the materials as you would with other kinds of compost setups and layer the ingredients in the compost pile. Start with organic materials, such as shredded newspaper, kitchen scraps, eggshells, coffee grounds, grass clippings, or fallen leaves. Then add a layer of fertilizer, such as cow, horse, and chicken manure. In a compost pit, add a layer of soil, then add more layers in the prescribed order. Stop after your compost reaches 1 foot above the compost pit.
- 7) Water the compost pit till the components are absorbed. For the beneficial bacteria present in the pile to multiply, compost needs to have a moisture content of between 40 and 60%.
- 8) Once a week, use a shovel to turn the components in the compost pit to provide optimum aeration. At this time, add water to the pile to keep it moist. Use the compost once it becomes crumbly and dark and has an earthy smell to it.



Fig-1: Preparation Of Compost

➤ **GAS Emission Method**

Gas chromatography

An approach frequently employed for the analysis of gases in composting is gas chromatography (GC). Here is a general procedure for using chromatography to measure gas in composting:

Sample Collection: Composter material should be sampled in a representative manner. A sample from various areas of the compost pile can be collected and combined to accomplish this.

Sample Preparation: The sample should be prepared for analysis by removing any solid particles and moisture. The gas can be processed in one of two ways to achieve this: through a filter or a drying tube with a desiccant.

Injection: A syringe or auto-sampler is used to inject the prepared sample into the GC apparatus. To vaporise the sample and inject it into the column, the injection port is heated.

Separation: As the gas mixture travels through the chromatography column, its various components are separated. The physical and chemical differences between the components of the gas serve as the basis for separation.

Detection: A detector like a flame ionisation detector (FID) or a thermal conductivity detector (TCD) is used to find the separated components as they leave the column.

Analysis: To calculate the concentration of each gas component, the detector's data is analysed. The peak regions of the gas components might be compared to established criteria or accomplished using specialised software.

Interpretation: The research findings can be used to track the progress of composting and spot potential problems including incomplete decomposition, oxygen depletion, or an abundance of harmful gases.

It's crucial to remember that the precise procedure may change based on the particular GC system and the gases being examined. Additionally, it's crucial to adhere to the right safety precautions when working with gases and using chromatography machinery

IV. RESULT

Table-1: Result Of Chemical Characteristics

Chemical Characteristics	No. Of Days	Result
PH	60th day	7.19
Nitrogen Content	60th day	3.7302
Carbon: Nitrogen Ratio	60th day	25.8960
Moisture	60th day	48.86

Analysis Of Gases

Table-2: Result Of Analysis Of Gases

Gas	Percentage Range
Oxygen (O ₂)	15%
Carbon dioxide (CO ₂)	52%
Water vapor (H ₂ O)	30%
Nitrogen (N ₂)	8%
Methane (CH ₄)	2%
Other gases (e.g. H ₂ , SO ₂ , NH)	2%

V. CONCLUSION

The goal of the project is to create compost from kitchen waste and use it to grow plants. The GNIT CAMPUS's kitchen waste was used to make the compost, which was then characterized physically and chemically. It was discovered that certain variable, such as pH and C: N ratio (%), decreased over time. Other characteristics, such as nitrogen and carbon (%) variation, were also investigated. A 55–50% moisture content was maintained. The carbon content and C:N ratios were shown to decrease over the course of the composting process. It is discovered that 50% of the organic material totally mineralizes during composting, releasing water and carbon dioxide. In this approach, we evaluated different aspects of compost as a bio-fertilizer before comparing the growth of sunflower plants. Comparing all samples, it was discovered that the plant growing in the sample containing compost and soil in a 2:1 ratio had the best showing of maximal growth. Additionally, it was discovered that the addition of microorganisms to compost makes it a potent bio-fertilizer that boosts soil fertility and promotes plant development.

VI. REFERENCES

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