

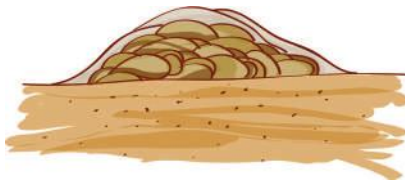


4. 4 Wormy Compost

This concoction uses the natural development of earthworms (*Eudrilus eugeniae*) to cultivate microorganisms required for effective composting.

Collection of earthworms

Pick an area with dense, moist soil with a small quantity of cow dung and spray molasses mixed with water and cover it up with a cloth.



A number of earthworms will have emerged by the next morning.



How to set it up

1. Add approximately 300 earthworms to a plastic, cement, or clay container with partially decomposed compost filling 3/4th of the container.
2. Keep the container in a dry location, away from direct sunlight, but spray water on the top daily to keep the compost moist.

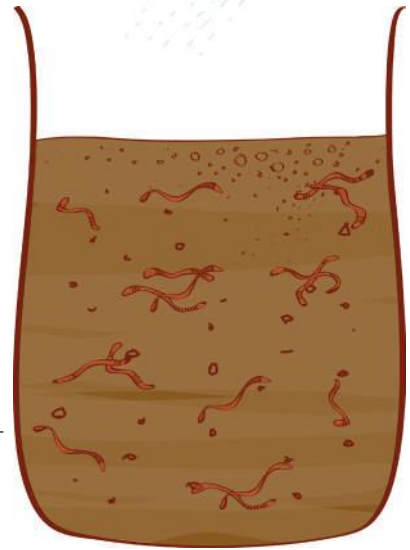
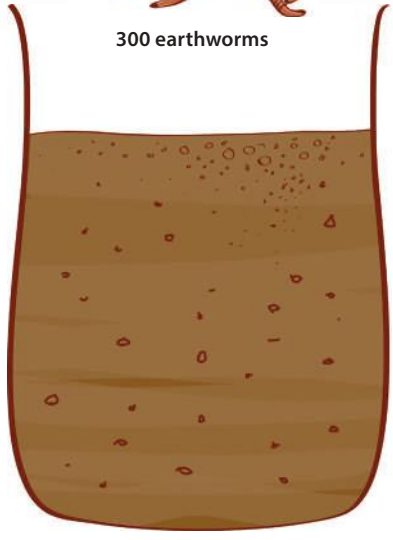


Collection of compost

When it is time to collect the compost, stop watering the container. The earthworms will then move to the moist soil at the bottom. Compost can be collected from the top for usage, and more partially decomposed compost can be added to fill the container so that the earthworms can restart the process. This compost is high in carbon and nitrogen and is better for plants than artificially-produced fertilisers.



300 earthworms



Tip

Add cow manure, curd and jaggery to increase the population of the earthworms.

Spray water on the top daily.