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Research Article

Influence of crop residue and earthworm species on quality and decomposition rate of vermicompost

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MEMBERS OF RESEARCH FORUM : Summary

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S.R. PATIL, A.S. GAJARE AND S.K. GHODKE, Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, College of Agriculture (M.A.U.) LATUR (M.S.) INDIA Email: ashish_gajare31@rediffmail.com A pot culture experiment was conducted at college of Agriculture, Latur, during the year 2009-2010. The crop residues *viz.*, sugarcane, soybean, sorghum, pigeonpea, wheat, sunflower were inoculated with earthworm species *Eudrilus eugeniae* and *Eisenia foetida* and monitored for the rate of decomposition of crop residues and quality of vermicompost. Periodical observations were taken for 80 days. Among the different crop residues vermicompost prepared from soybean gave good quality vermicompost followed by pigeonpea. Vermicompost prepared from soybean is rich in N, P, K as compared to remaining all the crop residues. The quality of vermicompost was found superior due to earthworm species *Eisenia foetida* (S₁) because of higher nutrient concentration in vermicompost.

Key words : Crop residues, Vemicompost, Earthworm species

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