

Management of Biodegradable waste by Composting

S.D. NARKHEDE, R.N. JADHAV, V.A. KHATIK, S.T. INGLE AND S.B. ATTARDE*

School of Environmental and Earth Sciences, North Maharashtra University, JALGAON (M.S.) INDIA

ABSTRACT

Composting has always existed on every field and forest floor, and intuitively it makes sense to compost the organic fraction of the Municipal solid waste stream. Composting is a cornerstone of sustainable development, yet it is often neglected within integrated Municipal solid waste management programs. This informal paper argues that composting should be a more widespread practice, especially in developing countries. Composting is obviously not a panacea to today's vexing waste management problems, but it should be an important component within most integrated Municipal waste management strategies. Over 50 per cent of an average developing country city's Municipal solid waste stream could be readily composted. Composting is a simple process where optimization efforts are used to increase the rate of decomposition (thereby reducing costs), minimize nuisance potential and produce a clean and readily marketable finished product. Composting helps to increase the recovery rate of recyclable materials—household source separation of recyclable paper, metal and glass, already common in many developing countries.

Key words : Composting, Solid waste, Benefits of composting