

Bocashi – An organic fertilizer



Bocashi originally comes from Japan and is very easy and quick to produce. Within 20 days it is possible without major (financial) efforts to get a good quality fertilizer. Because most of the ingredients are by-products of agriculture, these are easy to get. In addition, the composition can be adjusted depending on availability of materials. You need rice chaff, coffee-husks, manure, leaves of legumes, forest soil, charcoal, molasses, yeast and water.

The leaves should be cut into small pieces, in order to favor the decomposition. The molasses is stirred together with yeast and water. Now all the ingredients are mixed to form a homogeneous rent and poured with water, so that the compost when compressed in the hand does not fall apart. Finally the heap has to be covered with a plastic sheet. In the next 20 days it is important that the compost is turned over 2 to 3 times a day. The application of organic fertilizers has many advantages. It enables with low costs and little expenditure of time the user to increase the quality and the rate of yield at in the long run.

In order to simplify the production, there are video guides on the Internet. Some of them are listed here:

Videos:

Proyecto Cadena Alimentare: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wysVd2dtSsg>
9.39 min.: Shows and discribes the manufacturing process

Ministerio de Agr. Costa Rica: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xl4Sp7Jgt34>
7.44 min: Shows and discribes the manufacturing process

Ministerio de Agr. Costa Rica: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6ziP6cR5HGU>
13.43 min: Explains the theory beyond the process

Guides:

Guide “Buenas prácticas”, from FAO:
http://coin.fao.org/coin-static/cms/media/10/13195641328090/aboneras_final_alta_resolucion.pdf