

Directions for Casting Tea

Brewing Earthworm Casting Tea

- Do Not Use chlorinated water or water with a lot of sulfur. You can remove the chlorine and sulfur by aerating with the aquarium air pump and air stone. Aerate the water for 12 hours before putting in the castings.
- It is best to make the tea when the weather is relatively warm 60 degrees or more. In colder weather brew tea longer.
- Put 3 lbs of castings in 5 gallons of water
- Add 1 cup of de-sulfured molasses (available at Publix). Mix it in the water. If you heat the cup of molasses in the microwave for about 20 seconds it will make it much easier to mix into the tea.
- The molasses is necessary to keep the beneficial microbes alive until the tea is sprayed out on the soil where the microbes can live.
- Put an aquarium aerator and an air stone in the 5 gallons with the castings and molasses and aerate the water for 24 hrs. Also stir 3 or 4 times during the 24 hrs could be helpful
- You will need to screen out the casting residue so it doesn't clog sprayers. The residue can be screened out by pouring the tea through cloth such as an old T shirt or use several paint strainers.
- The 5 gallons can now be added to 25 gallons to equal 30 gallons for spraying if necessary aerate any water used to get rid of chlorine. You need to make sure this is thoroughly mixed.
- Use the casting tea ASAP definitely within 4 - 5 hours as the microbes start dying from lack of food and oxygen.
- You can not use too much casting tea it will not hurt any plants. Probably spraying until plants are wet and do it once a month would be effective. You

Directions for Using Earthworm Castings/ Vermicompost

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- Potted Plants and Seeds/Seed Flats-New Potting mix-use 1 part earthworm castings to 3 parts soil. Or can use up to 100% castings with good results but lower concentrations are very effective
- Potted Plants Add 1-2 inches of Earthworm castings to top of soil. Mix in taking care not to damage shallow roots - water repeat every 2-3 months.
- Vegetables and Annual Flowers Line furrows and plant holes with 2" of earthworm castings. Before placing seeds and plants then cover seeds and plant roots with soil. Side dress during growing seasons at a rate of 1/2 cup per plant or 1 cup per linear foot of row once every 2 months.
- Larger growers use 60 100 lbs per 100ft row. 7 to 15 tons per acre. Generally vegetable plants need only one application per growing season
- Roses, Trees, Shrubs and Berries When planting mix 1 part earthworm castings to 3 parts soil. Surround newly dug hole with mixture. Spread roots over a mound of the mix in the hole and cover.
- Roses Established Mix 4 cups of earthworm castings into soil 2-3 inches below the surface for each plant.
- Lawns New Apply 10 lbs. per 100 sq. ft. into the topsoil. Mix in grass seed and water well.
- Lawns Established Top dress 10 lbs. per 100 sq. ft.
- Trees (fruit, citrus, nut, ornamental) Apply by topdressing from the trunk to the edge of the drip line. With established trees top dress with 5 lb. castings per 1-inch diameter of the tree two to three times a year. It is important to get the worm castings applied during the spring blossoming period.
- Compost Piles Spread a thin layer of earthworm castings between each new layer of material to be composted

may find you can spray less often. and after brewing the tea screen out the casting residue before pouring the tea into the sprayer.

