

# How to make natural manures for plants at home

Organic manures derived from natural sources are a valuable addition to soil because its rich in nutrients and organic matter. These help increase soil fertility, promote healthy growth of plants, and promote a sustainable approach to agriculture. Compost is a fantastic organic manure that can be made at home by decomposing organic wastes like kitchen waste, grass trimmings, and leaves. When added to the soil, this enriches the soil with organic matter, improves soil structure, retains soil moisture, and provides a slow-release source of nutrients for crops.

## Other organic manures

**Worm castings.** These are also known as vermicompost and are produced by earthworms consuming organic materials. They are rich in nutrients, humus, and beneficial microorganisms. Worm castings improve soil fertility, enhance plant growth and help suppress plant diseases.

**Green manures.** This refers to specific cover crops that are grown and then tilled into the soil to add organic matter to the soil. Examples of green manure crops include legumes which fix nitrogen in the soil. Grasses like rye and oat add organic matter to the soil.

**Seaweed and kelp.** These are excellent sources of organic matter and trace minerals. They can be used as mulch, added to compost, or made into a liquid fertilizer known as seaweed extract. Seaweed and kelp improve soil structure, enhance nutrient uptake and promote plant growth.

**Animal manures.** These can be good organic manures if properly composted. Composting helps breakdown the raw manure eliminating weed seeds and pathogens while stabilizing the nutrient content.

Bone meal and fish meal are excellent sources of phosphorous and nitrogen respectively.