

Benefits Of Composting Horse Manure

The benefits of composting are often underestimated when it comes to using horse manure. The raw manure is converted into a more usable material with many benefits:

Saves on space and money

Compost heaps are not only more space efficient than dumping manure in mounds but once the manure breaks down into compost it's easy to give away or use on the garden instead of paying to have it removed.

Kills weeds and pests

Horse manure is famous for being good on the garden but notorious for spreading weed seeds. The heat generated in composting thoroughly kills and breaks down any seeds that are hidden in the manure so that they end up fertilising the garden instead of growing in it. Composting kills worm eggs and fly larvae, reducing the chance of horses become reinfected.

Gentler on plants

Fresh horse manure is known to wilt or burn plants when used as fertiliser. This is because it's fresh and full of heat. Placing it in a compost system or letting it sit for awhile will make it less harmful to plants.

Reduces odour

Composting takes away the bad odours common to horse manure and reduces flies too. It keeps a property neater and cleaner.

Improves soil health

Compost doesn't lose its nutrients in the weather like raw manure does. It can be dug into the soil of paddocks and pastures to grow better fodder for livestock.

Helpful links:

<http://cs.thehorse.com/blogs/smart-horse-keeping/archive/2011/12/13/a-5-step-guide-to-composting-horse-manure.aspx>

<http://aussieorganicgardening.com/?p=620>



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