

What changes in compost will help it decompose the fastest?

Aim: To test which conditions compost decomposes faster: with manure or without manure?

Hypothesis: We think the compost bottles with manure will decompose faster than the ones without manure because manure gives compost more micro organisms which helps compost decompose faster.

Equipment: A ruler, a piece of paper for recording, a pencil, a plastic bottle, soil, food scraps, manure, mulch, tape, permanent marker and coffee grounds.

Method :

1. Pour 2 cm of soil into the bottle.
2. Spray the soil with water.
3. Add 3cm of food scraps into the bottle.
4. Add a layer of mulch and then 1cm of soil and water.
5. Repeat until bottle is full.
6. Measure height and temperature on 3 different days.
7. We calculated the average height + temperature based on the averages of the recordings.

Conclusion: Our hypothesis was proven correct as the compost with manure decomposed more than the ones without because it got hotter and it's volume decreased faster.

