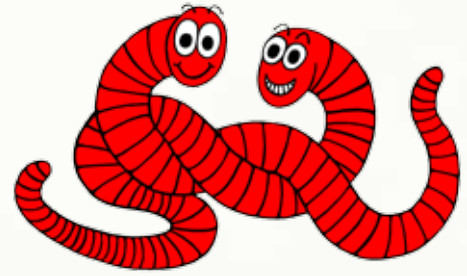


wormlovers



Wormlovers is an Australian Vermiculture enterprise founded in 2002 to produce high quality compost worms and worm products, and advocate for the environmental, economic and health benefits of vermiculture production. At Wormlovers we believe the promotion of worm farming and the use of vermi-products at all scales of production can provide cost effective and sustainable solutions to soil health issues, waste disposal challenges, organic food production and sustainable high yield fertiliser needs.

Wormlovers Products

Worms: We breed compost worms for domestic and garden use in custom built or commercially available worm farms. Worms are a mixture of the three most common compost worm species, the Red worm, Blue worm and Tiger worm. Tiger worms are not suitable for fishing as they emit a repellent. Worms are available in 10 litre retail boxes (approximately 1000 worms weighing 250 grammes). We recommend 1000 worms for each member of your household to start a well functioning worm farm. For larger quantities (over 10,000) we require an advance order.

Vermicompost / Worm Castings: Worm castings are the secretions left by worms after they have digested organic matter. Vermicompost is castings plus small traces of composted matter which have not been completely broken down. Both are high value slow release soil conditioners which add life to soils and greatly increase plant growth and vitality. Beneficial micro organism numbers are many times higher than the soil and organic matter the worm ingests. Worm castings are widely believed to be amongst the best complete plant food known.

Liquid Castings (“Worm Juice”): A liquid form of castings, Worm Juice is made by collecting the leachate which seeps through the worm beds. This ‘juice’ is then pumped through the beds repeatedly to increase potency. It can be used as a convenient plant food by diluting 1:10 and applying to soil or used as a foliar spray. Plants treated with Worm Juice and Castings/Vermicompost tend to be larger, and grow faster and more vigorously. Treatment with vermiproducts help plants to repel insect attack, as nematodes and diseases will not ruin plants if the soil is rich enough for the plants to grow fast. Vermiproducts are usually PH neutral, contain high levels of coliform units (a measure of microbial activity), and trace elements such as nitrogen potassium, calcium, magnesium, sodium, phosphorus, iron, manganese, zinc, copper, cobalt, sulphur and molybdenum.

Worm farms: We can supply commercially designed and customized wormfarms at competitive prices, complete with instructions and appropriate worm populations if required



Community Wormfarm set up in Vegetable Market, Okinawa 2005

Applications

Vermiculture and vermiproducs have wide applications in sustainable development, market gardening, broadacre pasture improvement, aquaculture, horticulture and permaculture systems and the waste management industry.

Vermiculture systems also have a role to play in the fight against climate change. It can be argued that organic waste that is processed through vermiculture systems reduces greenhouse gas emissions by diverting waste that would otherwise end up in land fill as toxic sludge and producing methane (which is many times more potent as a GHG than carbon dioxide).

Wormlovers Services

Educational: Wormlovers believe that the education of the next generation in sustainable practices in all aspects of life is imperative in securing a viable future for the planet's inhabitants and ecosystems. We therefore offer a range of educational services around vermiculture and vermiproducs, including:

- School visits including practical advice on setting up a school worm farm
- Presentations to community groups, organic gardening societies etc
- Field trips to the Wormlovers worm farm on the Bellarine Peninsula to see how vermiculture works in practice
- Educational literature and video which is in production.

Consultancy: Wormlovers are available in a consultancy role to assist with setting up and managing vermiculture facilities on any scale from the domestic to the industrial. We are happy to provide basic information on an informal basis for which there is no initial charge, and charge reasonable hourly rates for a more formal advisory role. We can assist with the following:

- Domestic wormfarm set up and advice
- Medium to large scale vermiculture projects
- Vermiculture methodologies and information
- Bed and box design
- Appropriate feedstocks, quantities and watering rates
- Harvesting and packaging
- Vermiculture product application rates and methods

For further information on our services and products please contact:

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