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Module-10

Other forms of Organic Management



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1. Biodynamic Agriculture
 - a. Turning in plant materials such as green crops and straw.
 - b. Not using chemical fertilizers and pesticides.
 - c. Avoiding soil compaction by machinery or animals, particularly in wet weather.
 - d. Keeping soil covered by pasture, crops or mulch not destroying the soil structure by poor farming practices such as excessive use of rotary hoe or cultivation in unsuitable weather (too wet or too dry).
 - e. Fallowing the land by planting deep-rooting permanent pasture species or using green crops.
 - f. Use of preparations BD-500 and BD-501.
 - g. Compost made with preparations BD-502 – BD-507.
 - h. Liquid manure made with preparations BD-502 – BD-507
 - i. Cowpat pit manure made with preparations BD-502 – BD-507



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Biodynamic formulation-500 (BD-500)

As per the established norms of biodynamic process while cow-dung is full of astral and ethereal powers; the cow-horn shell has the potential to absorb astral powers. In this formulation the inherent potential of these two components is harvested in making a biologically active formulation.

- Method of preparation
- Method of application

Biodynamic formulation 501 (BD-501)

- In this formulation fine powder of quartz silica is filled in empty cow-horn shells and kept buried in soil for six months during hot summer season. Opposed to BD-500, the silica filled horns are buried during March-April (Chaitra Navratra) and taken out during Oct.-Nov (Kwar Navratra).



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- BD-501 is used as foliar spray and is known to be promoting photosynthetic activity of the plants, resulting into better growth of the plants and better quality of grains and fruits.
- 1gm BD-501 is sufficient for one acre. Mix 1gm BD-501 in 13 lit of water and mix by whirling for one hour. Apply this suspension in the field as fine mist spray.
- BD-501 should be applied in early morning hours when there is mild breeze. BD-501 is to be applied first at 3-4 leaf stage followed by two more application at an interval of 30 days.
- BD-501 also acts as prophylactic agent and helps in prevention of many fungal diseases such mildews and blights.



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Other biodynamic preparation Besides 500 and 501 there are seven other biodynamic preparations having numbers from 502 to 508, but as their method of preparations are difficult, they are not very popular in India and are not being used in large scale. Their methods of preparation in brief are as follows:

BD-502 – Moistened yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*) blossom gathered in spring, are packed into the bladder of deer stag or hart. The bladder is hung into the sun over the summer and buried into good soil over the winter. The contents, dug up in the spring, will aid the compost to regulate potassium and sulphur processes.

BD-503 – Chamomile blossoms (*Matricaria chamomilla*) gathered in the summer are moistened with chamomile tea and stuffed into the small intestine of a freshly butchered cow, made into little links of sausages and buried into good humus soil in the fall. The burial place should be close to melt water flow of snow after the winter. This preparation helps regulate the calcium processes of compost.



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BD-504 – Stinging nettle (*Urtica dioica*) is buried in the soil for one full year, enclosed in a mantle of peat moss. It aids in humification of the compost.

BD-505 – Scrapings of the outer rind of Oak bark (*Quercus robur*) are placed in the skull cavity of a domestic animal such as sheep or goat and buried in fall in ground that has water percolations through it (such as below leaking drain pipe). The contents are used in the spring. This preparation works on calcium processes and contributes to making plants disease resistant.

BD-506 – Dried flowers of Dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*) gathered in spring are moistened and folded into the mesentery (membrane that holds intestines) of a cow. This is buried in soil until the spring. It helps to regulate the silica processes in relation to the potassium processes.

BD-507 – Extract the juice of Valerian (*Valeriana officinalis*) flowers by squeezing. The juice is diluted in rain water and sprayed on the compost pile. This preparation regulates the phosphorus processes in the compost.



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Thank you