

**COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE EFFICACY OF *Trichoderma harzianum*
USING TWO DIFFERENT SUBSTRATES FOR THE PRODUCTION OF
BUFFALO-MANURE-BASED COMPOST AS A SUSTAINABLE
MANURE WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

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ABSTRACT

VALDEZ, RAMONCITA P., Department of Environmental Science, College of Science, Central Luzon State University, Science City of Muñoz, Nueva Ecija, Philippines, **July 2023**, **COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE EFFICACY OF *Trichoderma harzianum* USING TWO DIFFERENT SUBSTRATES FOR THE PRODUCTION OF BUFFALO-MANURE-BASED COMPOST AS A SUSTAINABLE MANURE WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

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Rapid composting is an essential process for organic manure waste management and the production of nutrient-rich soil amendments or organic fertilizer. This study aimed to investigate the efficacy of *T. harzianum* in composting by evaluating the time of full decomposition and comparative analysis of the physical qualitative analysis and physiochemical properties. The Institute of Biological Sciences (IBS) small scale rapid composting is used for the experimental set up. Results revealed that *T. harzianum* significantly accelerated the decomposition of organic matter mixture substrates compared to the control groups. The process consists of two steps: the use of a compost fungus activator or the *T. harzianum* as bioinoculants for active decomposer and the composting process itself. In the two substrates, 12 kg of pure buffalo manure and 2:1:1 ratio of manure, rice straw and CRH for organic matter mixture substrates. The combined mixture of 1.14 liters of distilled water with 14.4 grams of *T. harzianum* bioinoculant was equally applied and sprayed with 190 ml for each compost block in treatment 3 and 4. The composts post analysis comparison, PBM substrates shows significant results in a positively increase amount of N, P, K. The OMM substrates, moisture content and phosphorus are significantly difference. The pH level of all the treatments meets the standard of 5.5 to 8. The presence

of *T. harzianum* in the organic matter mixture compost also led to accelerated decomposition compared to the PBM substrates and the two control treatments. The days of full decomposition achieved in a shorter time period for about 53 days in treatment 4 (OMM with TZ) compared to the control group.

Keywords: *T. harzianum*; pure buffalo manure; rapid composting; rice straw

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