



Bucket Worm Farms

(Non-Draining / No Tap)

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Hi !

Thanks for buying a worm farm from me.

For further information about raising worms, links to information and how-to videos.

on my YouTube channel, books, courses, worm farm plans etc go to www.TheWormMan.com.au

I sell many different worm farms, for different purposes, and have a lot of good info listed on my website. There's also TONS on my Youtube channel.

I sell composting worms and also large BAIT WORMS for fishing.

If you're interested in looking at more info, or starting a worm farm yourself then that is the place to start :)

Bucket Worm Farms - What You Need To Know

Composting Worm Instructions, hints & tips: You should also have been given a copy of my composting worm instructions, "Quick Start Instructions For Composting Worms" - please read that for tips on feeding and many other things.

Moisture Control:

The main way a bucket farm differs from others is that it has no drain to collect the leachate.

So any excess moisture in the system will drain to the bottom of the bucket and have nowhere to go.

So, we have to be careful of adding water to the system, getting it "just right".

Take a handful of bedding and squeeze it - you should get a couple to 6 or 10 drops of water from a handful.

It should be "just damp" like a wrung out sponge.

If it becomes too damp, add some dry cardboard or other carbon - but cardboard is best for this.

Learn to moderate the amount of water added to the farm - the food usually holds enough water and new bedding is usually added dry underneath the food (see the pocket feeding method.)

Other Ways Of Creating A Liquid Soil Conditioner:

Removing the ability of collecting leachate isn't a totally bad thing.

Leachate has a bad reputation with some people, although using it the way I teach, I haven't had any issues with it.

Read up on making an Aerated Castings Tea, Non Aerated Castings Tea or Castings Extract here on my site:

www.TheWormMan.com.au/ACT

Starting The Bucket From Scratch:

Put some ripped up cardboard in the bottom of the bucket – but moisten it first (cardboard is really the best bedding). The cardboard is best from brown cardboard boxes, ripped into about palm sized pieces. Toilet paper tubes and egg cartons are also great. Make this about 10 cm deep.

Then put some handfuls of ripped newspaper balls in there. Just rip the newspaper from the spine into strips, moisten it and ball it up about as big as a tennis ball. Put about 6 balls in.

Then put another 5 cm deep layer of moistened cardboard in there. Then if you have it 2 or 3 handfuls of old well aged grass or leaves (moistened of course.)

Put a good shake of worm farm conditioner in on top.

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BWF/ND v:20-06.1

How To Harvest The Bucket:

Basically, the process is to remove the top "half" and set that aside – this will have most of the worms in it. Then you remove the VC from the bottom and put that aside – this will have few worms in it and can be used on your garden or potted plants. Then replace the top half into the bucket, add some bedding and keep going.

Starting The Bucket Again After Harvest:

Replace the half a bucket of material you set aside (that used to be the "top" of the bedding.) Then continue as before.

Put some new bedding in - to a depth of about 10-15 cm

- Put some moistened BEDDING in the bottom (about 1/4 to 1/3 of the total bucket depth)
- ADD a couple of handfuls of something "microbial" such as old leaves or old grass (Not too much or it may heat up.)

The cardboard is best from brown cardboard boxes, ripped into about palm sized pieces. Toilet paper tubes and egg cartons are also great. Make this about 10 -15 cm deep.

Then put some moistened ripped newspaper balls in there. Just rip the newspaper from the spine into strips, moisten it and ball it up about as big as a tennis ball. Put about 4 or 6 balls in.

Protect the worms from the sun and rain

This is one of the most common mistakes. Locate the bucket where it will not get ANY sun in the day. Protect it from the rain as the rain will fill up the bucket and potentially drown the worms, or make the conditions very bad for them. Excess moisture drives out oxygen - becoming anaerobic - and tends to make the bedding more acidic, hold ammonia and generate alcohols etc.

Feeding & Care:

Basically only feed about 1 to 2 cups of food at a time, each week, in the "pocket feeding manner". When you see them eating all of the food from 2 weeks before, increase the feeding size or frequency.

Read The Other Instruction Set:

This set is just for what's particular to bucket farms. I also have instruction sets for Garden Feeding Stations. The GFS is a bucket farm adapted so that you can place composting worms into a garden situation:

www.TheWormMan.com.au/garden

Please Read: Composting Worm Instructions, hints & tips: You should also have been given a copy of my composting worm instructions, "[Quick Start Instructions For Composting Worms](#)" - please read that for tips on feeding and many other things.

Please also read my other info piece (it should be attached) about raising composting worms. There's TONS of info on my website and Youtube channel.

I even have a FREE E-book available on my website - The Frequently Asked Questions Guide.

You can also ask me a question through my website (search it for "ask a question").

Thanks again for buying your worm farm from me. Good luck and happy gardening !!!

regards,

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