

1. *An adequate supply of available nitrogen*: This condition is more likely to be attainable by putting into the compost heap a mixture of a variety of substances than material of a particular kind. Cowdung and particularly urine earth provide nitrogen as well as the organisms needed for decomposition.

2. *Proper aeration and moisture*: As the fermentation is brought about chiefly by aerobic organisms, the heap must be so built as to allow sufficient air maintained at about 50 to 60 per cent of the material.

3. *A neutral reaction*: As the products of decomposition are likely to produce acid conditions in the heap and as a neutral or even a slightly alkaline reaction is considered favourable, sprinkling of wood ashes over every layer of the material is recommended.

The compost manure prepared as above has been found to compare very favourably with farmyard manure in respect of soil improvement and increased crop production. (Villagers' Calendar 1948.)



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Secretary,

M. A. S. Union.