



Introduction to Compost Tea Brewing

Materials:

5-gallon Bucket, Air Pump, Snake Bubbler, Sample Mesh Bag, Inputs

Tea Inputs:

- A) Samples: Fresh Compost & Castings
- B) Foods: BSFL Nutrient+ (or fish emulsion), Kelp Meal (or seaweed powder), and Humic Acid. Other optional inputs for teas of varying effects include bone meal, soybean meal, insect frass, chopped dandelions, basalt rock dust and many many others.

Procedure:

- 1) Fill bucket with water.
 - a) Let tap water sit out for 24 hours to offgas chlorine.
 - b) Leave some space to allow bubbling without spilling out.
- 2) Plug in aerator connected to snake bubbler; submerge bubbler in the water.
 - a) Use a weight attached to the bubbler to keep the bubbler submerged.
 - b) Bubble water for 1+ hour if starting with tap water to off-gas chlorine.
- 3) Add **1tbsp** Nutrient+ (or fish emulsion), **1/4tsp** humic acid stock solution directly into water.
 - a) Allow to bubble for 10ish minutes.
- 4) Suspend the sample bag that has been filled halfway full of compost and castings.
 - a) Allow to bubble for approx 24hrs.
 - i) Longer in the cold, less in the heat.

Quality Assurance:

Smell check - a little oceany/fishy is fine. A severe sour or rotten smell indicates anaerobic conditions, which are bad. Foul smelling tea should be discarded, equipment should be cleaned thoroughly, and you should wash your hands.

Ideal pH 6.5

The best assurance of tea quality is inspection under a microscope (diversity & abundance)

External Resources:

composttealab.com

<https://a.co/d/hoV5R0w> (Microscope - Amazon)

<https://compostteabrewing.com.au/collections/accessories/products/laminated-microbes-identification-poster> (Microbe poster)