
Bottle size experiments

Posted by WormMainea - 2006/07/01 08:20

Do any of you have experience with bottle-size compost experiments?

I'm interested in doing something like the following http://www.bottlebiology.org/investigations/decomp_main.html

This would be part of my worm talk at local schools and I'd leave the bottles for a few weeks then return to talk to the kids about their observations.

These little microcosms look very interesting, but I don't want to introduce something that others have found difficult.

Thanks!

Mark

Re:Bottle size experiments

Posted by Krow - 2006/07/07 23:45

Mark,
Neat little web site I'm going to try it with my 9 year old nephew this weekend. Gives me something else to do than shag fly balls all over the yard. the boy can hit a ball a country mile and I get worn out every time he comes over. I'll let you know the progress

Deane

Re:Bottle size experiments

Posted by markbrauer - 2007/12/13 10:56

I know this is an old thread, but wondering if you had any luck with this. My main question is, did you incorporate worms into this idea?

Re:Bottle size experiments

Posted by Kelly Cox - 2007/12/13 14:38

I have done that bottle biology activity before. Be prepared to go longer than what they recommend. Not a big deal, though.

Re:Bottle size experiments

Posted by markbrauer - 2007/12/14 11:14

Thanks Kelly!

Has anybody done this with worms in such a small area? Just thought it might be a fun kids project.

Re:Bottle size experiments

Posted by wellsworms - 2008/02/16 13:01

hi mark i tried 2lb plastic coffee cans with screening covering two- inch and a half holes they didn't die just didn't do much

http://www.wormdigest.org/components/com_joomlboard/uploaded/images/MVC_001E.JPG

=====

Re:Bottle size experiments

Posted by markbrauer - 2008/02/16 13:54

Yeah I'm thinking the "mass in numbers" concept has something to do with it. Probably good for composting, but not much worms can do. Thanks for the info!

=====

Re:Bottle size experiments

Posted by VermiChester - 2009/06/16 16:34

Look into "bokachi" with a search engine.

=====

Re:Bottle size experiments

Posted by vt_worms - 2009/07/18 19:10

A 2-liter soda bottle is probably too small to really work well with worms.

10-gallon aquariums cost about \$10 new (or a few bucks at yard sales), and are a practical size for a small demonstration bin. As long as you don't let too many castings accumulate, it will stay light enough to move around pretty easily (to bring to schools, etc.). Make a cover with a cardboard box or something to keep it dark inside and encourage the worms to be active right next to the glass.

5 gallon and 2.5 gallon aquariums are also commonly available, but actually cost a few dollars more than the more common 10 gallon. They're also probably too small for an easily sustainable bin.

=====