

General Landscape Applications of Wormcastings & Tea

Fall Fertilization

Put down 1-5 tons per acre of **Wormcastings** in the fall as top dressing or on top of the crop residue. Reduce fertilization by 1/3 each year. Micronutrients may be needed if not provided in the **Wormcastings**. The 1st year it may be necessary to add N, P, K (Nitrogen, Potassium, Calcium) through additions to **Wormcastings**, usually 30% less fertilizer is required, 2nd year usually drops even more, and may not be required. Check soil chemistry/nutrient analysis & biological analysis each year for reference.

Soil Drench

Initially apply 15 gallons of **Wormcasting Tea** per acre 2 weeks before planting. In the fall, as a soil drench, use 15 gallons per acre directly on top of the plant residue or **Wormcastings**.

Foliar Sprays

For foliar sprays, use 5 gallons of **Wormcasting Tea** per acre, monthly, mixed in the correct amount of water during the growing season starting at 2 weeks before bud break. Drench foliage and stems. Do not spray when bees are trying to pollinate.

Additional Nutrients

For any nutrient deficiencies that show up, do a petiole analysis, add the nutrients lacking to the **Wormcasting Tea**, and apply. Additional nutrients the 1st and possibly the 2nd year may be needed to be added in the **Wormcastings** or **Wormcasting Tea**. The organisms in the solution increase the ability of the plant to take up the nutrients faster.

Transplanting

For transplanting trees use 30-50% **Wormcastings** with site soil. Gradually mix into site soil away from the plug so there are no sharp demarcations. Water in with **Wormcasting Tea**.

Planting

Spray with **Wormcasting Tea** while planting to wet the seeds to promote rapid germination at the rate of 5 gallons per acre.

Pesticides

If any pesticides are used, apply ***Wormcasting Tea*** 3 to 5 days after application and continue with prescribed program. Then continue every 10-14 days until harvest.

Cover Crops

Cover crops can be planted between the rows.

Disease & Pests

When the extension service gives disease or pest warning alerts, apply the ***Wormcasting Tea*** (with an additional registered biocontrol agent in the ***Wormcasting Tea***, if available) weekly until the alert stops. Then continue every 10-14 days until harvest. If a disease outbreak occurs, apply the ***Wormcasting Tea*** immediately, every 3-5 days until disease leaves.

Water Usage

Water usage will decrease as the soil microbiology rebuilds the soil health. Typically, in the first year a 30% decrease in water use has been seen, and by the second and third years, up to 50-60% total decrease in water use. Please remember to reduce water applications when using ***Wormcasting Teas***.

Decrease Usage

After 4-5 years and the soil is healthy, solution usage will decrease to seasonally or during pest or disease alert.