

Vermicomposting of Coffee Waste: A Sustainable Approach to Organic Fertilizer Production Using Earthworms

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ABSTRACT

In this study, which examines the use of earthworms to treat coffee waste, he focuses specifically on three types of earthworms. Eisenia fetida, Perionyx excavatus, African nightcrawler. As a result, Eisenia fetida worms were found to be the most suitable for processing coffee grounds under both hot and cold conditions. Mixed cultures of the worms Eisenia fetida and Eudrilus eugeniae also showed promising results in improving treatment efficiency. Furthermore, the use of effective microorganisms as probiotics in original coffee grounds reduced the treatment time by worms. It has proven to be an option and offers high efficiency, short processing times, labor cost savings and environmental benefits. prologue

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I. INTRODUCTION

Coffee is one of the most consumed beverages in the world, resulting in large amounts of coffee waste during the coffee production process. In particular, coffee grounds are a large waste stream that can pose environmental problems if not properly managed. However, recent research has shown that coffee waste can be turned into a valuable resource through vermicomposting, a process that uses earthworms to turn organic waste into nutrient-rich fertilizer.

Earthworms are known for their ability to consume and decompose organic waste such as food scraps, leaves, and other plant debris, converting them into nutrient-rich excreta. This is a valuable form of organic fertilizer. Among the various earthworm species used in vermicompost, *Eisenia fetida*, *Perionyx excavatus*, and *Eudrilus eugeniae* are efficient in treating various types of organic waste. has been proven to be This article presents a comprehensive review of the current literature on worm composting of coffee waste, focusing on the potential use of these three species of earthworms for the treatment of coffee grounds. We discuss the ability of these earthworms to efficiently process coffee waste and compare their performance in terms of nutrient levels, degradation rates, and overall efficiency in producing high-quality organic fertilizers. It highlights the environmental benefits of earthworm composting coffee waste, including: B. Reduce waste generation, mitigate greenhouse gas emissions, and promote sustainable waste management practices. This paper explores the feasibility of composting coffee waste earthworms as a sustainable approach to organic fertilizer production, exploiting the unique ability of earthworms to convert coffee waste into valuable resources for agriculture and horticulture.

II. MATERIAL AND METHOD

The following materials were used for the experiments:

1. Coffee grounds: Serves as an organic waste substrate obtained from a local coffee shop.
2. Earthworms: Adults of three species of earthworms: *Eisenia fetida*, *Perionyx excavatus*, and *Eudrilus eugeniae*.
3. Worm farming tank: Used to contain worms and coffee grounds during the worm composting process.
4. Shredded paper: Used as a bedding material for earthworms and as an additional carbon source.
5. Experimental equipment: Includes temperature controlled incubator, pH meter, moisture meter and nutritional analysis tools.

The research methods used were:

1. Acclimatization:

Each species of earthworm was acclimated to the laboratory environment one week before her experiment.

2. Experimental setup:

For each treatment group, equal amounts of coffee grounds were added to separate vermiculture containers (*E. fetida*, *P. excavatus* and *E. eugeniae*). Shredded paper was mixed with coffee grounds as a litter.

3. Maintenance:

Earthworm culture containers were maintained under optimal conditions including temperature of 20-25°C, pH of 6.5-7.5, and moisture content of 70-80%. Earthworms were fed coffee grounds ad libitum for four weeks.

4. Monitoring:

Coffee grounds were monitored regularly for changes in degradation rates, nutrient levels, and whole earthworm activity.

5. Collection and Analysis of Castings:

At the end of the experiment, earthworm feces were collected, air-dried, and analyzed for nutrients such as nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium by standard laboratory methods. Results and conclusions

Preliminary results showed that all three of his species of earthworms effectively processed coffee grounds, with significant decomposition and texture changes observed during the 4-week earthworm composting period. rice field. Nutrient analysis of earthworm manure showed improved nutritional content compared to the original coffee grounds, but there was variability among the three earthworm species.

Table 1. Treatment Efficiency of three earthworm species

Worm Species	Treatment Efficiency at High Temperature	Treatment Efficiency at Low Temperature	Combined Culture Efficiency
Eisenia fetida	90%	85%	95%
Perionyx excavatus	80%	75%	85%
African nightcrawler	75%	70%	80%
Eisenia fetida and Eudrilus eugeniae	88%	89%	97%

The table above shows the results of coffee waste treatment effectiveness using various worm species and a combined culture of *Eisenia fetida* and *Eudrilus eugeniae*. The results show that *Eisenia fetida* performs best in processing coffee grounds under hot and cold conditions with processing efficiencies of 90% and 85% respectively. A mixed culture of *Eisenia fetida* and *Eudrilus eugeniae* also showed a high treatment efficiency of 97%. *Perionyx excavatus* and African Nightcrawler showed lower therapeutic efficacy compared to *Eisenia fetida*. These results demonstrate the efficacy of treating coffee waste using *Eisenia fetida* and mixed cultures of *Eisenia fetida* and *Eudrilus eugeniae*. The results of this study highlight the potential of *E. fetida*, *P. excavatus*, and *E. eugeniae* as efficient vermicomposting species for processing coffee grounds and producing nutrient-rich organic fertilizers. I'm here. Using earthworms for coffee waste management can contribute to sustainable waste management practices and promote circular economy principles. Further research is needed to optimize the earthworm composting process and explore the potential use of earthworm excreta as an organic fertilizer for agricultural and horticultural applications.

The results of this study showed that treating coffee grounds with *Eisenia fetida* earthworms resulted in the most efficient earthworm composting process under both hot and cold conditions compared to his two other earthworm species. showed. At elevated temperatures (25–30 °C), *E. fetida* exhibited rapid decomposition of coffee grounds, with significant changes in texture and color. This indicates a high level of activity and digestion. Even at low temperatures (15-20°C), *E. fetida* also showed efficient processing of coffee grounds, albeit slower than high temperature conditions. This suggests that *E. fetida* is adaptable to a wide range of temperature conditions and can effectively treat coffee grounds in different environments, making it a promising species for coffee waste treatment.

In addition, mixed culture results of two earthworm species, *E. fetida* and *Eudrilus eugeniae*, showed promising results for the treatment of coffee waste. Combined cultures showed a synergistic effect resulting in improved degradation rate and nutrient enrichment of earthworm manure compared to single species cultures. *E. fetida* and *E. eugeniae* complemented each other in terms of food preferences, digging behavior, and overall activity, resulting in more efficient processing of coffee grounds. This indicates a mixed culture of *E. fetida* and *E. eugeniae* are viable approaches to improve the pest composting process of coffee waste, potentially leading to higher quality organic fertilizer production.

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Table 2. Efficiency of EM with the process

Treatment	Processing Time (weeks)
Without effective microorganisms	11.6
Treated with effective microorganisms	8.3
Increase in processing time with effective microorganisms	1.4 times faster

The table above shows the treatment time for coffee waste treatment with and without active microorganisms. Results show that treatment with effective microorganisms resulted in a treatment time of 8.3 weeks. This is 1.4 times faster than the 11.6 week treatment time without active microbes. This demonstrates the effectiveness of using effective microbes in accelerating the worm processing process of coffee waste. It is important to note that the data presented in this table are based on very precise measurements and may vary depending on the specific conditions of the treatment process.

The results of this study are consistent with previous studies demonstrating the efficacy of vermicompost using *Eisenia fetida* worms to treat organic waste. A study by Yusoff et al. (2018) found that *Eisenia fetida* worms exhibited higher growth and reproduction rates when fed food waste compared to other worm species. Similar to the study by Singh et al. (2021) found that *Eisenia fetida* earthworms had the highest biomass production and nutrient content in vermicomposting of cow dung and food scraps.

Furthermore, the results of this study are also consistent with studies examining complex cultures of various worm species for vermicomposting. A study by Amusan et al. (2016) found that a combined culture of *Eisenia fetida* and *Eudrilus eugeniae* worms resulted in superior worm composting efficiency compared to using a single species alone.

In addition, the use of probiotically active microorganisms in the initial coffee grounds to improve the composting efficiency of the worms has already been investigated. A study by Kim et al. (2021) found that composting of earthworms by *Eisenia fetida* worms resulted in higher rates of food waste degradation when using effective microbes. In summary, the results of this study are consistent with previous studies on earthworm composting, demonstrating the efficacy of using *Eisenia fetida* worms and mixed cultures of different worm species to treat coffee waste. I am emphasizing. Using effective microorganisms as probiotics is also a potential strategy to increase the efficiency of vermicompost. We offer a promising solution for processing.

III. CONCLUSION

The results of this study demonstrate that vermicomposting with *Eisenia fetida* and *Eudrilus eugeniae* worms is a viable and effective option for treating coffee waste. The results show that treatment of coffee grounds by *Eisenia fetida* worms under hot and cold conditions yields the best results compared to other worms. Furthermore, combined culture of *Eisenia fetida* and *Eudrilus eugeniae* worms has been shown to improve the efficiency of coffee waste treatment. Furthermore, we found that using effective microorganisms as probiotics in the initial coffee grounds accelerated worm processing times by 1.3–1.8 times, thereby saving labor costs.

Composting offers a sustainable and environmentally friendly solution to coffee waste management with high processing efficiency and short processing times.

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