

calculated for a known concentration of nitrate-N before it could be applied. But these are topics for further research.

As mentioned earlier in this report, a native earthworm population was inherited with the compost and their population increased significantly with time in Unit B. In the later stages of the research, these earthworms possibly had some bearing on the nutrient testing results. The biological activities of these native earthworms in Unit B more than likely altered the nutrient levels for both the compost and compost tea.

Based on the data collected, the nutrient enhancement of the compost and consequently the compost tea by the earthworms was significant. Nutrient enhanced compost and compost tea hold great promise for farmers who would like to move toward more sustainable methods of growing visually attractive plants.

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OUTREACH

I plan to present the findings from this research at a workshop to be given at the Northeast Organic Farming Association Summer Conference at Hampshire College in August of 2003.