Compost Preps

To enrich the composts and bring a sensitivity to the plant

Introduction

- These are herbal preparations used to enrich the manures and composts and bring a sensitivity to the plant
- These are never used/sprayed directly but applied through the Compost, Liquid Manures and CPP
  - Buffering
- These are used in homeopathic doses
- These provide the trace elements ‘Life Chemicals’ which are very important for the balanced growth of the plant
- These are numbered BD502 to BD507
- These enhance all the bacterial, fungal and mineral processes that are found in the organic farming system

BD502

- Made from the flowers of the Yarrow plant (Achillea millifolium)
- It helps processes of Potassium (K) Sulphur (S) and trace elements

BD503

- Made from the flowers of German Chamomile (Matricuria chamomilla)
- It helps processes of Calcium (Ca) and Nitrogen (N)
- Chamomile tea has been long recognized for providing relief from indigestion problems
  - Chamomile helps with breakdown of protiens without putrefecation (prevents loss of ammonia)
- Because of Chamomile, there is less loss of ammonia from a BD Compost
  - Hence a BD Compost has 1.75% Nitrogen compared to a regular Compost which has 0.75%

BD504

- Made from the leaves of Himalayan Stinging Nettle (Urtica parviflora)
- It helps processes of Iron (Fe) and Magnesium (Mg)
  - Chlorophyll has 4 Nitrogen molecules attached to Mg molecule in the *middle*
- *This stinging nettle is indigenous to the northern* areas of India in Nainital
- Preparations made from Stinging Nettle are given to pregnant women to combat iron deficiency

BD505

- Made from the bark of the Himalayan Oak in India (Quercus glauca)
  - This is one of several evergreen oaks growing in the foothills of the Himalayas.
  - The bark of this oak was found to have 5% Ca - the European oak (Quercus robur) only 2.5%.
- It helps processes of Calcium (Ca)
- Uses the Homeopathic principle - Treat like with like

BD506

- Made from the flowers of Dandelion (Taraxicum officinalis)
- It helps processes of Boron (B) and Silica (Si)
  - Silica helps with development of support tissue
    - At the 2 leaf stage, the tender stalk needs Silica
  - Boron is a very important micro-nutrient. Helps make Silica mobile
    - Hence facilitates uptake of Silica from Soil
    - Reason why Boric Acid (Borosil) is used in the glass industry to make glass flow

BD507

- Made from the flowers of Valerian (Valeriana officinalis)
- It helps processes of Phosphorous (P)
- It is prepared as a liquid.
- This will only flower well when it is grown where there is a marked difference between winter daylight hours and summer daylight hours. This difference is needed to trigger the flowering process.
  - It grows and flowers in the Himalayan foothills. It will grow but not flower in the hills of Kodaikanal.
  - There is the Valerian hookeriana naturally growing in the Palni hills of Tamil Nadu which could be used.