

Organic waste is a problem – how can we solve it?

WHY IS ORGANIC WASTE A PROBLEM?

As much as 34% of mixed municipal waste is organic waste. About 60% of that is food waste. For example, in the USA, 48 million tonnes of food is wasted each year.

WHY IS SO MUCH FOOD WASTED?

Almost 61% of food waste is generated by us, consumers, and comes from the households, which is really concerning. The food supply chain also has many challenges, including storage, handling techniques, refrigeration, and transport. Thus, a lot of food gets spoiled before even reaching the consumers. Considering all the energy resources spent growing food, a lot of it is wasted when organic waste is mismanaged.

Most of the organic waste is not handled properly, which means it ends in landfills. There the decaying organic material emits greenhouse gasses. It is estimated that these represent 6% of total global emissions. Aside from enhancing global warming, rotting food also releases an unpleasant smell that attracts all sorts of pests and thus serves as a potentially dangerous breeding ground for a vast range of diseases. Most cities that focus on recycling organic waste report that bio containers are full of plastic bags. This means that the collected organic waste cannot be used properly.

HOW TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM WITH ORGANIC WASTE?

Luckily, this problem has a tangible solution. When organic waste is collected properly, it can be turned into a resource. As such, food waste and other organic materials can be properly recycled. An essential part of this solution is composting. However, while there are many different types of composting, bokashi composting, which is actually fermentation, turns out to be the most optimal way. It enables us to convert organic waste into nutrient-rich pre-compost mass and fertilizing liquid. These two products of this natural process serve as organic gardening and farming resources. And, since we know that the amounts of wasted food are massive, this means that using the pre-compost mass and fertilizing liquid can completely eliminate the need for artificial fertilizers.

Moreover, when proper compost is produced from pre-compost mass and then introduced into the soil, the overall quality of the soil improves a lot. This means a better structure, enhanced fertility, moist retention, and a natural microbiome. Thus, the crops produced in that way are healthier, more nutritious, and we do not deplete the soil. As such, the #bokashiloop is the most obvious solution for the problem with organic waste. It creates win-win results in all of its stages. Of course, things must be done correctly. As such, let's first ensure that you learn to collect organic waste properly. This part starts in your kitchen, where Organko Daily and Bokashi Organko make a world of difference.