



Step 12
Turn the compost.

Step 13
Water the turned compost.



Step 14
Cover the compost again.



Step 15
Make an airtight seal.

Steps 12–15 should be repeated weekly for a month until the temperature decreases.



Step 16
Expose the compost to the open air before you apply it on your farm.



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Soil and Water Conservation Practice

Compost making (one month)
Marshall Islands experience

Composting will increase the nutrients in the soil and increase biodiversity, which strengthens soil structure and resilience to drought and waterlogging. Compost will provide necessary nutrients to the soil to grow plants.

Use a water sprinkler or empty water bottle to minimise the amount of water used for compost making and watering plants.



Step 1

Select a site which is not exposed to direct sun and rain.



Step 2

The first layer is soil and sand. Add water.



Step 3

The second layer is animal manure or copra cake in Marshall Islands practice.



Step 4

The third layer is green plant material. (A substitute can be coconut meal, meal mud or fish meal.) This generates a lot of heat which is essential for compost making. This layer can be skipped if copra cake is added.

Step 5

Water the three layers.



Step 6

The fourth layer is organic material such as chicken waste or cow dung.

Step 7

Water the four layers (use a sprinkler rather than a hose to conserve water and keep the compost tight).



Step 8

Steps 1 to 7 are repeated three times.



Step 9

Cover the compost with tarpaulin or plastic and make sure it is airtight.



Step 10

Remove the tarpaulin after two days.



Step 11

Check the temperature by putting your hand into the compost and when it cannot stand the heat, the temperature is about 50°C