e-ISSN: 2745-9535
No. 105/E/KPT/2022
Jurnal Pengabdian Masyarakat
Member of: AJEBI
Editorial Office: Jl. Soekarno-Hatta, Rembuksari No. 1A, Malang, East Java, Indonesia, 65113
Contact: Phone: +62 (341) 478494 e-mail: jpm@asia.ac.id
The journal is published by Institut Teknologi dan Bisnis Asia Malang
Website: https://jurnal.stie.asia.ac.id/index.php/jpm
Indexed in: Google Crossref neliti GARUDA Journal Dimensions

Training on the Production of Organic Compost Fertilizer from Mushroom Baglog Waste

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Volume
xxx
Issue
xxx
Edition
xxx
Page
xxx-xxx
Year
xxx

Article History

Submission: xxx-xxx-xxx
Review: xxx-xxx-xxx
Accepted: xxx-xxx-xxx

Keyword

Keyword 1;
Keyword 2;
Keyword 3;
3-6 words (Arial, font size 10)

How to cite

Author Name. (2023). Article Title. Jurnal Pengabdian Masyarakat, Volume xxx, xxx-xxx https://doi.org/10.32815/jpm.vxxxxx.xxx

Abstract

Purpose: This study aims to evaluate the effectiveness of a training program on producing organic fertilizer from oyster mushroom baglog waste to empower the community in RW 03, Gayungan. It addresses the issue of poor organic waste management and seeks to enhance residents' knowledge and skills in sustainable agricultural practices while promoting environmentally friendly community development.

Method: This study used a mixed-methods approach, collecting quantitative data from pre- and post-training evaluations to assess participants' improvement in producing organic fertilizer from oyster mushroom baglog waste. Qualitative data from interviews and observations captured residents' experiences and perceptions. Data were analyzed using descriptive statistics and thematic analysis.

Practical Applications: The results of this study have practical implications for environmental management and community empowerment in RW 03, Gayungan Subdistrict. The training outputs can guide similar programs elsewhere, encouraging organic waste use and sustainable agriculture. These findings may also help policymakers and stakeholders integrate waste processing into community-based sustainable development strategies.

Conclusion: The study shows that the training on producing organic fertilizer from oyster mushroom baglog waste in RW 03 Gayungan effectively improved participants' knowledge and skills in waste management. It supports sustainable community development by reducing pollution and promoting eco-friendly farming. The findings emphasize the value of combining environmental education with hands-on training to foster sustainability and strengthen community resilience.

Introduction

The community of Gayungan sub-district cultivates oyster mushrooms in a designated area located in RW 03. This site includes one mushroom house (kumbung) with a capacity of 5,000 baglog units. In a single harvesting cycle, the waste generated from these baglogs can reach approximately 1 ton. This baglog waste—consisting of old and contaminated baglogs refers to the spent growing medium that is no longer productive. Without proper management, the accumulation of this waste may lead to environmental issues, such as air pollution and soil quality degradation in the disposal area. Therefore, sustainable waste treatment efforts are essential to minimize the negative environmental impacts.

The baglog waste still contains several essential nutrients required by plants and has the potential to improve soil nutrient content. The nutrient composition of baglog waste includes phosphorus (P) at 0.7%, potassium (K) at 0.02%, total nitrogen (N) at 0.6%, and a high organic carbon (C-organic) content, reaching up to 49.00%. These contents make baglog waste a valuable organic material for enhancing soil fertility and quality (Sulaiman, 2011). Due to this nutrient content, spent mushroom substrate holds significant potential to be processed into organic fertilizer. According to Farhana (2013), mushroom cultivation waste can be utilized through composting to produce organic compost fertilizer, which improves soil quality and supports plant growth.

In addition, Peniwiratri and Rahmah (2016) stated that one of the alternative methods for waste management is utilizing spent mushroom baglog as a raw material for organic fertilizer production through the composting process. Similarly, Alex (2013) emphasized that composting not only serves as a waste management strategy but also has the potential to reduce air pollution caused by waste incineration and to suppress methane gas emissions from decaying organic waste at disposal sites, due to the activity of methanogenic bacteria. Moreover, the use of compost is also known to improve soil structure and characteristics.

The conversion of baglog waste into organic fertilizer not only supports efforts to reduce environmental pollution but also utilizes its natural properties as an organic material that has already undergone partial decomposition. As a result, the composting process is relatively faster compared to other organic materials. While the general production of organic fertilizer typically requires 2 to 3 months (Indriani, 2012), the processing of mushroom waste into organic fertilizer takes approximately only 1 month (Hunaepi et al., 2014).

Method

The implementation of the training program on the processing of oyster mushroom baglog waste into organic fertilizer in Kelurahan Gayungan began with a needs assessment conducted through surveys of local residents. This assessment aimed to evaluate the community's knowledge, skills, and interest in utilizing baglog waste as raw material for organic fertilizer. The findings served as the foundation for designing a training curriculum that was relevant and tailored to the characteristics and needs of the community. The curriculum encompassed theoretical aspects such as the physicochemical properties and nutrient content of baglog waste, the basic principles of composting, and the concepts of sustainable agriculture. To enhance participants' understanding, the program also incorporated practical sessions.

The outreach and training activities were carried out in Kelurahan Gayungan, Gayungan Sub-district, Surabaya City, East Java Province, involving active participation from the community, particularly oyster mushroom cultivators. Baglog waste, which had previously been discarded without further processing, actually contains high levels of organic matter and can be utilized effectively if properly managed. Therefore, the program commenced with a socialization phase to raise awareness about the untapped potential of baglog waste.

Following the socialization, technical training sessions were conducted, emphasizing practical and applicable approaches. The training covered the stages of organic fertilizer production, including material collection, ingredient mixing, fermentation, and evaluation of

compost maturity. Participants were taught to use dry leaves and banana peels as additional materials to accelerate the decomposition process. These materials, along with baglog waste, were mixed in plastic containers and stirred until homogeneous. Subsequently, a solution of EM4, molasses, and water was added in appropriate amounts and stirred again to ensure thorough mixing. The containers were then sealed tightly to create optimal fermentation conditions. During the fermentation process, the mixture was stirred every 3 to 5 days to maintain aeration and support the activity of decomposing microorganisms.

Through this initiative, participants not only gained theoretical insights but also acquired practical skills that could be independently applied in their local environments. It is expected that the community will be empowered to manage oyster mushroom cultivation waste into useful and environmentally friendly products, thereby contributing to environmental quality improvement and the advancement of sustainable urban agriculture.

Result

The training program on the production of organic fertilizer from oyster mushroom baglog waste in Gayungan Sub-district has yielded positive results and significant impacts on the local community. One of the primary achievements of this program is the enhancement of participants' knowledge and skills in properly managing organic waste. Through this training, participants gained a comprehensive understanding of the nutritional potential of baglog waste and mastered composting techniques, including material mixing, fermentation processes, and the harvesting of mature organic fertilizer. These competencies have been directly applied, as several participants successfully processed baglog waste into organic fertilizer, which is now being utilized for home gardening and small-scale agricultural activities within their communities.

The utilization of mushroom baglog waste has also contributed to improved waste management efficiency in the area. By transforming previously discarded cultivation waste into a value-added product, dependence on chemical fertilizers can be gradually reduced. This has a positive environmental impact, including reduced soil and air pollution, and helps to maintain the balance of the micro-ecosystem surrounding local farmland. Moreover, the integration of waste processing into organic fertilizer within the framework of edutourism and urban farming adds further value—particularly for residents and visitors interested in sustainable agriculture practices.

Beyond its technical and environmental benefits, the program has also succeeded in raising public awareness about the importance of environmentally friendly and sustainable waste management. The training participants have become change agents, actively disseminating their knowledge to others in the community through outreach activities and practical application in their surroundings. In the long term, this is expected to encourage a shift in community mindsets and behaviors regarding organic waste management, while strengthening the culture of utilizing waste as an alternative resource.

Furthermore, the economic benefits of processing mushroom baglog waste have begun to emerge. The organic fertilizer produced during the training can be used to reduce agricultural production costs and holds potential as a commercially valuable product. In addition, this waste processing activity has opened up new business opportunities in the agricultural and environmental sectors, ultimately contributing to the overall well-being of the community. These outcomes demonstrate that the training program has provided not only technical advantages but also long-term socio-economic sustainability for the people of Gayungan.

Discussion

The training program successfully provided participants with a solid foundation in organic waste processing, particularly in transforming mushroom baglog waste into organic compost fertilizer. Through a combination of theoretical sessions and hands-on practice,

participants gained comprehensive insights into the decomposition of organic materials, effective composting techniques, and the application of compost in promoting sustainable agriculture and environmental greening. Beyond mere knowledge transfer, the program also focused on community empowerment and capacity building, encouraging residents of RW 03, Gayungan Subdistrict, to actively engage in independently managing organic waste. As their confidence grew, participants were motivated to implement and promote composting practices within their neighborhoods, fostering self-reliance and a sense of ownership over environmental conservation efforts.

Community involvement and active participation were key elements of the program. A preliminary needs assessment ensured that the training materials were tailored to the local context and potential of the community. Direct engagement in activities such as waste chopping, compost material mixing, and fermentation monitoring fostered a sense of shared responsibility and collaboration among participants. This engagement is essential to ensure the long-term success and sustainability of composting practices within the community. the program made a tangible contribution to reducing waste and environmental pollution. By converting mushroom baglog waste into compost, the community not only prevented waste accumulation and open burning but also produced a valuable product for agricultural and greening initiatives. This approach aligns with circular economy principles and supports the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Goal 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) and Goal 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production). From an economic perspective, utilizing mushroom baglog waste for compost production offers cost-saving benefits and potential additional income. Residents can reduce reliance on chemical fertilizers and explore micro-business opportunities centered on organic products. Furthermore, such activities may attract interest from eco-conscious communities and urban farming practitioners, opening up opportunities for collaboration and environmentally friendly product markets.

Another significant aspect of the training is its potential for replication and scalability. The documented methods, curriculum, and field experiences can serve as valuable references for other communities facing organic waste management challenges. By sharing these best practices, the program’s impact can extend further to build environmentally aware and economically empowered communities. In conclusion, the organic compost production training program using mushroom baglog waste in RW 03, Gayungan Subdistrict, has successfully equipped the local community with the knowledge and skills for sustainable organic waste management. The program has contributed to environmental conservation, community empowerment, and the strengthening of the local economy. By adopting effective composting practices, the community can become a pioneer in creating a cleaner, healthier, and more productive environment.

The arrival of the community service team that initiated this training aimed to enhance residents' knowledge regarding the utilization of organic waste into useful products, while simultaneously supporting the achievement of local-level sustainable development goals.

Figure 1. Example of a Diagram

Images must be numbered, for example: Figure 1. Example of a diagram

Source: xxx, Years

Figure 2 illustrates the UPN “Veteran” Jawa Timur team conducting training on the production of organic compost fertilizer from spent mushroom substrate (baglog waste). This figure presumably depicts the efforts and initiatives undertaken by the team to educate and train individuals or local communities on the techniques and benefits of transforming mushroom cultivation waste into high-value organic fertilizer. Training on Organic Compost Production from Mushroom Baglog Waste. This training program aims to equip participants with practical knowledge and technical skills in organic waste management, particularly focusing on the composting of mushroom baglog waste. The content includes theoretical instruction and hands-on activities involving the decomposition process, compost mixing techniques, and application of compost to support sustainable agriculture and environmental greening efforts. The program also emphasizes the environmental and economic benefits of waste-to-resource practices. It highlights how such training supports the circular economy by reducing organic waste, minimizing pollution, and providing communities with alternative sources of income through the production and possible commercialization of organic fertilizer.

Figure 2 visually captures the UPN team’s initiatives in community education and empowerment, illustrating their composting demonstrations, community involvement, and the interactive learning environment.

Figure 2. Example of a Diagram

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Source: xxx, Years

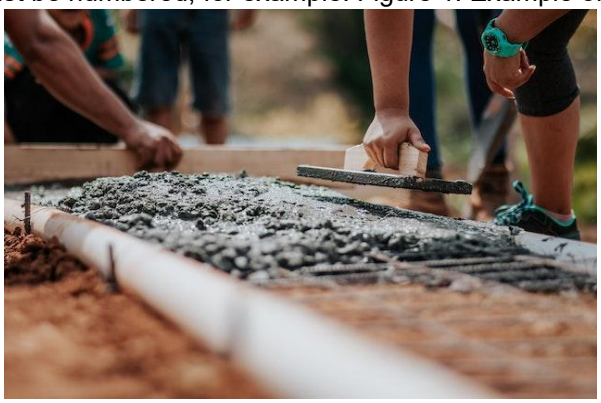
Figure 3 illustrates the high enthusiasm of residents in RW 03, Gayungan Subdistrict, in observing the outcomes of the training on the production of organic fertilizer made from spent mushroom substrate (baglog waste), along with its application in the local environment. This visual represents the active involvement of the community in utilizing the results of the training, reflecting an increased awareness of the importance of sustainable organic waste management. The residents’ participation is evident through direct application activities of the compost fertilizer, such as fertilizing green open spaces, home garden plants, and small-scale agricultural land. This indicates the community’s readiness and willingness to apply the

acquired knowledge in their daily lives as a tangible contribution to environmental preservation efforts.

Furthermore, the image also reflects the community's understanding of the strategic benefits of using organic fertilizer, including improved soil quality and fertility, reduced dependence on synthetic chemical fertilizers, and more environmentally friendly waste management. Therefore, Figure 3 illustrates the active participation and enthusiasm of the community in implementing the training outcomes as a concrete step toward sustainable agricultural practices and the development of a greener environment.

Figure 3. Example of a Diagram

Images must be numbered, for example: Figure 1. Example of a diagram



Source: xxx, Years

Conclusion

The training program on producing organic fertilizer from mushroom baglog waste held in RW 03, Gayungan Subdistrict has demonstrated significant success, marked by various positive impacts across social, environmental, and economic sectors. This initiative aimed to enhance the community's capacity in managing organic waste effectively, while simultaneously promoting environmentally friendly agricultural practices based on local resources.

Through a participatory approach, the program successfully empowered the community with technical knowledge and skills related to the conversion of baglog waste into compost fertilizer. The training materials included the fundamental principles of sustainable agriculture, the agronomic benefits of organic fertilizer, and practical techniques for design, decomposition processes, and quality maintenance of the compost. The knowledge gained not only improved the individual competencies of participants but also encouraged their transformation into change agents within their communities.

The success of the program was further supported by the active engagement of community members throughout the training process, which was contextually tailored to local needs. This collaborative approach fostered a sense of ownership and shared responsibility, which is essential for ensuring the long-term sustainability of the organic waste management initiative.

From an environmental perspective, the application of organic fertilizer derived from baglog waste has significantly contributed to reducing dependency on synthetic chemical fertilizers, improving soil quality and structure, and minimizing pollution caused by unmanaged waste disposal. Additionally, the use of organic fertilizer in home gardens, public green spaces, and small-scale farms has supported naturally enhanced agricultural productivity in an environmentally sound manner.

The success of this program suggests that community-based training models can be replicated in other regions facing similar challenges in organic waste management. The training methodology, curriculum, and implementation approach can be adapted to expand

the adoption of composting technologies based on local waste resources. Overall, this program has made a tangible contribution to community capacity building, environmental conservation, local economic empowerment, and the promotion of sustainable agricultural practices. With these achievements, RW 03, Gayungan Subdistrict has the potential to serve as a pilot model for community-based waste management solutions in support of sustainable development.

Acknowledgements

We would like to take this opportunity to extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed to the success of the "Organic Fertilizer Production Training from Oyster Mushroom Baglog Waste" program in RW 03, Gayungan Subdistrict. We deeply appreciate the enthusiasm of all training participants who willingly devoted their time and effort to learn and practice transforming baglog waste into organic fertilizer. Without their spirit and active involvement, this initiative would not have achieved its goals.

Our sincere thanks also go to the subdistrict authority, the local RT/RW units, and all related institutions for their moral support and for providing the facilities that ensured the smooth running of the event. The assistance and backing from these various parties have been invaluable in helping us carry out the program effectively. We deeply appreciate all forms of aid and support you have offered they have been an essential part of this activity's success.

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Reference List Example:

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