

Fall Worm Casting Application Guide

Worm castings are one of the most powerful natural soil amendments you can use in your fall garden. Packed with nutrients, beneficial microbes, and organic matter, they nourish plants gently without risk of burning. This guide provides application rates, crop-specific tips, and a simple compost tea recipe to help you make the most of worm castings this season.

Application Rates by Use

| Application Method | Rate | Notes |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| Top Dressing for Established Plants | ¼–½ inch layer around base | Keep away from direct contact with stems; water in after applying. |
| Soil Incorporation Before Planting | 1 part castings to 3 parts soil | Mix into top 2–3 inches of soil before sowing seeds or transplanting. |
| Potted Plants / Containers | 10–20% of total soil volume | Blend evenly into potting mix for consistent nutrition. |
| Compost Tea | 1 cup castings per gallon water | Brew for 12–24 hours and apply as a soil drench or foliar spray. |
| Mulch Layer Enhancement | Sprinkle thin layer under mulch | Feeds soil microbes through the cooler months. |

Crop-Specific Application Tips

- Leafy Greens (spinach, kale, lettuce): Apply a light top dressing every 4–6 weeks for steady growth.
- Brassicas (broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower): Mix into planting hole soil before transplanting.
- Root Crops (carrots, beets, radishes): Incorporate evenly into planting rows to promote even root development.
- Garlic and Onions: Mix into soil before planting; cover with mulch to protect through winter.
- Herbs: Top dress perennials before mulching for winter.



Worm Casting Compost Tea Recipe

1. Place 1 cup of fresh worm castings in a mesh bag or old stocking.
2. Submerge in 1 gallon of non-chlorinated water.
3. Add 1 tablespoon of unsulfured molasses to feed microbes (optional).
4. Aerate with an aquarium pump or stir several times over 12–24 hours.
5. Use immediately as a root drench or foliar spray.

Reflection

Worm castings are a reminder that transformation often happens quietly. What once seemed like waste is turned into something rich and life-giving. In our own lives, God can take what feels broken or small and use it to bring new growth.

Journal Prompt

What unseen work might God be doing in my life right now—like the transformation of organic matter into worm castings—that will nourish future growth?

