



GOULD LEAGUE  
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*Educating for the Environment*



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*Community Environmental Earth*

# THE GOOD COMPOST GUIDE

A DIRECTORY OF COMPOST BINS AND WORMERIES



A DIRECTORY OF COMPOST BINS AND WORMERIES

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## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

### Composting

There are two minor risks to the environment from home composting. According to the Centre for Innovation in Waste Management and the City of Greater Geelong, these are:

- the runoff of nutrient rich liquid into creeks from compost heaps on steep slopes with clay soils
- “the production of methane, a potent greenhouse gas, from the anaerobic breakdown of un-aerated composting systems.”<sup>1</sup>

Both these risks can be eliminated with careful management of compost heaps. These are:

- placing the bin away from areas that may drain into creeks, i.e. not on steep slopes, especially on clay soils
- covering the heap to reduce the leaching of nutrients during rain
- either turning the heap regularly or inserting devices that will increase air flow into the heap, e.g. agricultural pipes with slits in the sides.

### Mulching

It is important to be aware that weed seeds and plant pathogens (organisms that cause disease in plants) may survive in the production of mulch from green waste, unless the material has been treated at sustained high temperatures. Thus, depending on the product, mulch can spread unwanted weeds and/or diseases if used in either bush restoration projects, on native gardens, or on home or school gardens adjacent to bushland.

It is okay to use fallen leaves, grass clippings or chipped green waste from your own home as mulch on your gardens, but do not include weeds or diseased plants.

If you plan to use mulch made from green waste from other localities on your garden, you should make sure that the mulch has been properly treated to kill weed seeds and pathogens, especially if it is to be used on gardens that are adjacent to native bushland.

<sup>1</sup> Centre for Innovation in Waste Management and the City of Greater Geelong, 1996.

## HEALTH PRECAUTIONS

In the report, Home Composting: How and Why People Do It, 1996, Centre for Innovation and Waste Management and the City of Greater Geelong, the authors concluded that:

“Currently there appears to be no significant negative environmental or health impacts from home composting systems.

There are two potential health effects from composting which can arise in susceptible individuals.

They are:

- respiratory irritation in people allergic to the fungal spores produced in compost (*Aspergillus fumigatus*)
- illness from *Aspergillus* or *Legionella* in people with depressed immune systems.

Both of these problems can be eliminated by keeping the compost moist and therefore eliminating the dust which carries the spores and bacteria. For susceptible individuals, a dust mask can be worn or in extreme cases, contact with compost avoided.”<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Centre for Innovation in Waste Management and the City of Greater Geelong, 1996.

Information about the health impacts of home composting are not conclusive. However, based on currently available information, the following precautions are recommended.

### Composting

#### Precautions

Composted material is produced from natural materials and contains a variety of living organisms which, on rare occasions, have been associated with illness or allergies in humans. For health reasons, it is very important to take the following precautions when handling compost or soil:

- wash your hands after handling compost or soil materials
- protect broken skin by wearing gloves
- avoid confined spaces for handling compost or soil materials
- keep compost moist to prevent the spores or bacteria in compost from becoming airborne
- gently wet dry compost to allow dust-free handling. Avoid direct inhalation of dry compost.

For individuals who have either allergies to the fungal spores in compost or depressed immune systems, it may be necessary to wear a face mask when working with compost. Severely affected individuals may have to avoid contact with compost altogether.

Elderly gardeners should be especially careful when working with compost materials.

### Wormeries

#### Precautions

For health reasons, it is important to wash your hands after handling either compost worms or worm castings.

## INTRODUCTION

Composting, worm farming and mulching your garden offers many benefits. Not only will you improve the quality of your garden and save money, but your efforts will help reduce the amount of garbage going to landfill.

This booklet provides a wealth of useful information and handy tips for householders about composting and wormeries. This includes how to choose your own compost system and wormery, alternatives for composting systems and a detailed directory of manufacturers who can supply compost bins or worm farms.

The information in this booklet will also be useful to:

- schools
- child care centres
- preschools
- restaurants
- bowling clubs
- leisure centres
- any small businesses that have food and/or garden waste to dispose of on site.

### WHY COMPOST?

By using compost, worm castings and mulch on your own garden, you will:

- improve the quality of your garden soil
- save money, as you will use less water on your garden and have less need to buy fertilisers
- have healthy vegetables and shrubs.

About half of household garbage is made up of food scraps and garden waste. Most of these can be composted in home

composting units or fed to worms in special, easy to set up wormeries.

Garden waste, such as fallen leaves and grass clippings, can also be added to home composting units. Leaves can also be used directly on your garden as mulch.

If you have access to Council kerbside chipping schemes, larger branches from trees in your garden can be chipped by the council operator and left on the nature strip for you to spread as mulch on your garden.

There are a growing number of companies that run large-scale operations, composting green organics and even some food waste.

There are also many commercial worm farmers converting organic waste into worm castings. These commercial operators are effectively converting organic material, that was once landfilled, into useful products.

In Victoria alone, it was estimated that, in 1995, 500 000 tonnes of food and garden waste were recycled by commercial operators. This was about one tenth of the total amount of garbage produced by Victorians in that year.<sup>1</sup>

Overseas studies indicate that home composting can potentially divert up to 12% of the total amount of household waste, with huge financial savings to the community as well as benefits to the environment.<sup>2</sup>

By composting, worm farming and mulching garden waste at home, you are not only reducing the amount of garbage going to landfill, but you are dealing with the material on your own land, thereby eliminating the need to transport the waste to another site.

This reduces waste transport costs and the amount of fossil fuel used to transport the organic material. This in turn reduces the production of greenhouse gases and other air pollutants.

By having a range of options of compost bin and wormery to choose from, you will be able to find a product that suits where you live, your type of home, the size of your household and your budget.

**Some of the information contained in this booklet has been collected from many sources including manufacturers and retailers. No attempt has been made to verify the data provided, nor to test the products. The information provided by these sources was accurate at the time of data collection, but could be subject to change.**

<sup>1</sup> Recycling and Resource Recovery Council, *Report 1995 - 96*.

<sup>2</sup> Centre for Innovation in Waste Management and the City of Greater Geelong, 1996, *Home Composting: How and Why People Do It*, Recycling and Resource Recovery Council.

## CHOOSING A COMPOST SYSTEM

Composting is a natural process that turns organic material into compost – a rich soil-like material. A composting system just confines the organic material and often controls the conditions in the material so that the breakdown is accelerated.

The following table is a quick reference for choosing the type of composting system that would best suit your needs and budget. The categories used to describe the different types of composting are those outlined by Allen Gilbert in his book *No Garbage*.

Types of composting	Cost	Composting Time	Attending Time
Dome shaped, sealed bins	**	*	***
Open, three-bin system	***	* #	***
Tumbler-type bins	*	***	*
Plastic bags	**	*** #	***
Covered heaps	***	** #	**
Large mesh and wood bins	***	* #	**
Worms	**	**	*
Trenching	***	*	***
Large, open compost heap	***	* #	***
Composting toilet	*	*	*

### KEY

#### COST:

- \*\*\* Low (\$0 - \$20)
- \*\* Medium (\$21 - \$150)
- \* High (\$151 +)

#### COMPOSTING TIME:

- \*\*\* Fast (less than 1 month)
  - \*\* Medium (1 to 2 months)
  - \* Slow (6 months +)
- # The composting time can be sped up with regular (twice-weekly) turning of the material. If this is done, then the attending time would also increase.

#### ATTENDING TIME

- (In addition to adding material):
- \*\*\* Little (monthly)
  - \*\* Moderate (once per fortnight)
  - \* Often (at least twice weekly)

## TYPES OF DECOMPOSITION

When choosing a compost system, it is important to understand the types of decomposition that can occur in a compost heap or bin.

### ANAEROBIC DECOMPOSITION

Anaerobic means that decomposition occurs without oxygen. This process can be quite slow and can give off unpleasant odours and, more importantly, methane which is a powerful greenhouse gas.

### AEROBIC DECOMPOSITION

In aerobic decomposition, the breakdown is caused by the action of microorganisms that thrive in oxygen. This process is quite rapid and can cause the heap to become quite hot. Aerobic decomposition does not usually produce unpleasant odours.

Many references on composting refer to aerobic and anaerobic systems. This distinction is misleading, as under certain conditions, so-called “anaerobic systems” (usually closed plastic bins) can operate aerobically and so-called “aerobic systems”, if managed badly, can give off unpleasant odours, indicating that they are operating anaerobically.

Whichever bin you finally choose for your home, it is important that you operate it aerobically, so that it does not produce methane and other unpleasant odours. To do this you should:

- add roughly equal amounts of “greens” (kitchen waste and fresh garden waste) and “browns” (fallen leaves and shredded paper)

- keep the heap moist, but not too wet
- place the bin on well drained soil to improve drainage
- turn it frequently to aerate the organic material (if this is not possible, then insert a piece of plastic agricultural pipe, with slits in the side, into the centre of the heap. This will help to bring air into the centre of the heap).

With closed plastic bins, you can punch or drill small holes in the sides to improve aeration. Cover the holes with fly wire to prevent flies from entering the bins.

Adding compost worms to compost bins will also help to aerate the organic material and reduce anaerobic breakdown.

Tumbler type compost systems will, if operated correctly, involve rapid aerobic breakdown and produce compost in a very short period of time.

In commercial aerobic operations, provided that the heap is managed carefully, the heat of decomposition is sufficient to kill weed seeds and microorganisms that cause disease in plants. According to Agriculture Victoria, it is unlikely that these sorts of temperatures can be reached in small home composting units, unless the heap is greater than one cubic metre. Keep this in mind when adding materials to your home compost bin. If you don't want problems with spreading weeds or plant diseases in your garden, don't add weed materials or diseased parts of plants to your compost system.

If you do want to add weeds or fruits with seeds to your compost heap, you may need to kill the material first. Allen Gilbert suggests that this can be done by first placing the plant material in a sealed, clear plastic bag and leaving it in the sun for a few months, before adding it to the compost bin.

For hints on  
“Feeding your  
Compost Bin”  
see page 26

SOME METHODS OF COMPOSTING

1. THE LAYERING METHOD (Slow and cool)

Add a mixture of materials. Try to add alternate 10 cm layers of vegetable and fruit scraps, grass clippings and leaves and some shredded newspaper. Cover each layer with a thin layer of soil and a handful of fertiliser, such as blood and bone. Keep moist, but not too wet (like a damp sponge). The compost should be ready in three to six months. Breakdown will be speeded up if the heap is turned occasionally.

2. THE 'ALL IN TOGETHER' METHOD (Fast and hot)

Store enough kitchen and garden waste to make a heap of about one cubic metre. Add to a bin or a tumbler, or form into a heap with some fertiliser. Turn several times a week. This heap will generate a great deal of heat as the rate of breakdown is very high. The compost should be ready in three to six weeks.

3. THE COMPOST WORM METHOD (Moderately fast and cool)

Build the heap slowly as for the layering method, but add some compost worms (special worms that thrive in compost) to the bin. Start with about 2,000 worms. Keep the heap well watered but not too wet. Turning isn't necessary as the worms will turn the heap for you. The completed compost should be ready in about three months. (Adapted from Libby Elston from Earthcycle).

Worms don't survive in temperatures above 30°C. There is some doubt about whether they are capable of killing weeds and diseases – they might digest some weeds and seeds and ignore others. Worm farmers in the USA compost first to kill weeds and diseases, then feed the compost to the worms. More research in this area is needed.

Useful References

Armstrong, P, and Laffin, J., 1993, *Waste Matters - Environmental Education Activities about Waste*, Gould League.  
 Clayton, S., 1993, *The Reverse Garbage Garden*, Hyland House, South Melbourne.  
 Cullen, M. and Johnson, L., 1992, *Backyard and Balcony Composting*, Bookman Press, Melbourne.  
 Cundall, P., 1993, *Organic Gardening*, Gardening Australia Collector's series No. 1, Federal Publishing Company, Alexandria NSW.  
 Gilbert, A., 1992, *No Garbage*, Thomas C. Lothian Pty Ltd.

MULCHING

Organic mulch is simply chopped or shredded plant material that is applied to the surface of gardens or revegetation projects.

A thick (15-20cm) layer of mulch will reduce water loss from the soil while still allowing water to penetrate.

Mulch is used for many reasons, including to:

- suppress weed growth
- provide an alternative to landfilling the plant material
- reduce water loss from the soil and so reduce watering needs
- encourage a diversity of fungi and invertebrates and so reduce the need for chemical sprays
- create a natural appearance
- provide a soft surface for play grounds and paths
- reduce soil erosion

There are many organic mulches to choose from. Some of these are:

- pine or eucalpt chips
- straw or hay
- fallen leaves
- sawdust
- chipped tree prunings
- grass clippings
- compost

TROUBLE SHOOTING WITH COMPOST

PROBLEM	CAUSE(S)	SOLUTION(S)
<p><i>Compost takes too long to break down</i></p> 	<p>Too dry.                      Not right mix of 'greens' and 'browns'.                      Not enough air.</p>	<p>Add water.                      Add equal amounts of 'greens' (eg. vegetable scraps or fresh lawn clippings) or 'browns' (eg. fallen leaves or straw).                      • Either turn more frequently or add about 2,000 compost worms to the heap.                      • Punch some holes in the container.                      • Place a length of slotted agricultural pipe in the heap.</p>
<p><i>Smelly</i></p> 	<p>Too wet.                      Too acidic.                      Insufficient air.</p>	<p>See below.                      Add some wood ash or dolomite to neutralise the heap.                      • Turn more often.                      • Rebuild with some dry materials.</p>
<p><i>Flies</i></p> 	<p>Most of the flies in and around a compost heap are small vinegar flies which are quite harmless.                      If the flies are house flies or blowflies, then they are being attracted by meat or dairy foods.</p>	<p>Cover organic waste with a thin layer of soil, grass or leaves.                      Avoid adding meat or dairy products.</p>
<p><i>Too wet</i></p> 	<p>Too much water has been added.                      Organic waste is too moist.                      Inadequate drainage.</p>	<p>Improve the drainage under the heap.                      Mix in some dry material such as dry grass clippings or shredded newspaper.                      Improve the drainage under the heap.</p>
<p><i>A lot of slaters or ants</i></p> 	<p>Heap is too dry.</p>	<p>Add water or some moist organic materials.</p>
<p><i>Rats or mice and dogs or cats</i></p> 	<p>Attracted by uncovered food and/or warmth of heap.</p>	<p>Cover each addition of food with a layer of soil.                      Place the bin on a layer of fine wire mesh.                      Set traps around the bin.</p>
<p><i>Spiders under the lid</i></p> 	<p>Attracted by invertebrates, most likely small flies.</p>	<p>Have a handle on the top of the lid. Check for spiders before placing your hand under the lid. Wear gloves.                      Cover each addition of food with a layer of soil.</p>

## HOW TO CHOOSE A COMPOSTING SYSTEM

Some questions that you may need to consider when choosing a composting system are:

- is it the right size for my household? How many bins will I need?
- can the completed compost be removed easily?
- is the system made from recycled materials?
- is it the right weight and size so that I can move it around if I need to?
- will it fit into the boot of my car, if the need arises?
- is it rat, mouse or fly proof?
- how long is the warranty?
- where will I put it?
- can I afford it? (Some Councils supply compost bins at cost to residents. Check with your Council to see if they provide such a service).

These questions also apply when choosing a system for a school community. Further information about school composting is available in the Gould League publication *Composting Made Easy For Schools*.

### A CHOICE SURVEY

In December, 1994, *Choice* magazine conducted a six-month survey of a variety of composting systems ("Compost Bins: The Test"). The results of this study are summarised in the table below. Keep in mind that not all composting systems listed in this table may currently be available, nor does *Choice* have information available on current models, having not tested compost systems since December 1994.

BRAND/MODEL (in alphabetical order within types)	MANUFACTURER /DISTRIBUTOR	PRICE (\$)*	WARRANTY (YEARS)	WEIGHT (KG)	CAPACITY (L)	MATERIAL	COMPOST CHARACTERISTICS
<b>VENTILATED**</b>							
AUSSIE ROTTER	Palamont Rotor	62	10	5.5	280	UV-stabilised plastic	Crumbly but layered, pleasant earthy smell, brown in colour.
RELN	Reln Plastics	25	not stated	4.6	225	100% recycled plastic	Crumbly but layered, fresh grassy smell, light green in colour (sign of incomplete decomposition).
<b>NON-VENTILATED***</b>							
AURORA	Linpac Aurora	30	not stated	4.5	150	Plastic	Very lumpy, layered and wet, slight smell, dark brown in colour.
GEDYE	LR & NR Gedye	70	6	6.4	200	100% recycled plastic	Lumpy, layered and wet, slight smell, dark brown in colour.
<b>TUMBLERS</b>							
RAPID COMPOST TUMBLER	ComposTumbler Distributors	255	1	19.3	200	Plastic tumbler with metal frame	Crumbly and homogeneous throughout, pleasant earthy smell, brown in colour
TUMBLEWEED Mulch Maker	TUMBLEWEED Mulch Maker	169	not stated	9.2	220	Plastic tumbler with metal frame	Crumbly and homogeneous throughout, pleasant earthy smell, brown in colour

\*Prices shown are a good target to aim for when shopping around, based on nationwide checks in August 1994.  
\*\* Choice used the term "aerobic" (refer to page 8 of this guide.) \*\*\* Choice used the term "anaerobic"

### From this study, *Choice* concluded:

"When you buy a compost bin, consider the amount of waste you want to recycle, the climatic conditions in your area and the amount of effort you are likely to invest. Tumblers seem to work well in any conditions, aerobic (ventilated) bins in colder or humid conditions and anaerobic (sealed) bins in hot or dry weather. Of course, you can compensate for adverse conditions by adding appropriate waste ingredients or water. To produce good-quality compost, it's more important to add the right mixture of material and to keep the compost moist than to use a particular type of bin." (See discussion of "how to compost aerobically" on page 8).

Reprinted from *Choice* (December 1994) - with permission of the Australian Consumers' Association (ACA). Choice can be contacted by phone (03) 9577 3277.

## CHOOSING A WORMERY

Keeping earthworms in containers and feeding them fruit and vegetable scraps, is a cheap and simple way to cut down on the garbage you throw away. As a bonus, the worms produce a wonderful garden fertiliser - worm castings. (According to Agriculture Victoria, worm castings are too low in nutritional value to meet the Australian Standards for fertilisers, but they do provide a source of organic matter).

Suitable containers for keeping worms include wooden boxes, stackable worm farms and stackable plastic worm factories (e.g. RELN Worm Factory).

Ordinary garden earthworms don't seem to thrive in wormeries, probably because of the high concentration of organic material. Special earthworms, called compost worms, work best, as they thrive in the moist and nutrient rich conditions of a wormery. The most common compost worms are Tiger Worms, Red Wigglers and Indian Blues. Compost worms will eat most dead organic materials\*, including fruit and vegetable scraps, paper and cardboard (if they are prepared and introduced correctly).

(\*The droppings of domestic animals (especially dogs and cats) may contain diseases that are transferable to humans. Therefore, it is not advisable to add these to your wormery).

### HOW TO CHOOSE A WORM FARM

#### FOR THE HOME

Source: CERES (1997)

Use the following worm maths when considering a worm farm for the home:

- a container with an area of one square metre, 30 cm deep, should be enough for a household of three or four people or allow a quarter of a square metre per person.
- allow for approximately 2600 compost worms per person in a household.
- 2600 compost worms need approximately 325 grams of organic material per day (this is a conservative figure and some experts claim that worms will eat their own body weight each day, which would take the food

consumption up to 650 grams per 2,600 worms per day).

- worms appear to feed on soft or partially broken down organic material, so it is best to chop the worm food before adding it to the worm farm.
- 2,600 worms would eat 2 1/4 kg of food scraps a week. These scraps would fit into a large 4 litre icecream container.

Other factors to consider when choosing a worm farm are:

- the area available to place one and the conditions - a balcony would require an enclosed unit that had drainage, most likely from a tap in the base; whereas if there is available garden space, a larger unit could be placed on the garden to allow drainage.

- materials used in construction - a plastic container may be preferred indoors and a wooden one with slats outside.

#### FOR A SCHOOL

Research by Joe Natoli from Ceres indicates that:

- a school of about 300 students will produce about 4-8 kg of food scraps per day i.e. 20-40 kg per week.
- a school of this size will need a wormery that could hold 23, 000 to 46, 000 compost worms. The top of the "food pile" of such a wormery would need to be about two square metres in area.

#### BUYING WORMS

You can find out the names of local suppliers of compost worms by writing to: Australian Worm Growers Association, PO Box 318, Ferntree Gully 3156.

## WORMERIES

## Worm facts

- Earthworms are hermaphrodites. That is, each worm has both male and female sex organs.
- All worms can have babies. After mating, a worm will form a capsule (or cocoon) containing eggs. In about 21 days, 2-20 baby worms will hatch from the capsule. In about 2-3 months, the young worms are ready to breed.
- Earthworm eggs can survive in very dry conditions for a long time, the baby worms hatching out when the soil becomes wet.
- Compost worms breed every 7-10 days and so the population in a wormery can double in 2-3 months.
- Compost worms can eat about half their body weight in food in one day.
- Earthworms have no eyes, but can sense vibrations, light and temperature through special organs in their skin.
- Earthworms can live up to 10 years.
- Earthworms breathe through their skin and expel urine through special pores.
- There are about 350 known species of earthworms in Australia. Almost all compost worms and earthworms found on farms and in gardens are introduced species. (Adapted from Christenson & McLachlan.)

## About wormeries

- The size of worms in a wormery is a good indicator of how well they are being fed. With insufficient food, the worms will be smaller than normal.
- If a wormery becomes overpopulated, the worms will stop breeding until some worms are removed.
- Worms apparently do not breed in organic waste and will move away from the food source to breed. Therefore, it is important to provide a bedding mix that is not as fresh as the main food source. The best material for this is well rotted compost placed over a layer of newspaper and - a great way to use up compost produced from garden waste.
- Worms will eat any type of vegetable and fruit scraps, leaves and will even eat damp cardboard.
- Many Councils sell wormeries and/or worms to residents or schools in their city or shire, at discounted rates. Some Councils even give these away free of charge to schools. Check with them.
- The worms in a small wormery should eat all the fruit and vegetable waste produced by a household of four. Wormeries are ideal for people living in flats or houses with small backyards.

- The worms in a single wormery should also eat all the fruit and vegetable scraps of an average size class of school children. (Plastic worm factories are ideal for a school class as they are easily transported to a student or teacher's home for the holidays. More permanent wormeries pose a problem during holiday periods, as the worms must be watered every few days and fed once a week).
- To collect the worms from an established bin, place the worms and the castings onto a piece of shade cloth held over a tray. The worms will migrate through the shade cloth to the tray below.
- Don't place wormeries with open bases close to trees, otherwise the roots of the tree will invade the bin, seeking out water and nutrients.

NOTE: Be aware that there is a lot of variation in printed materials about how to compost. This guide provides information that is believed to be commonly accepted.

## Useful References

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Christenson, C., and McLachlan, S., 1994, *The RELN Worm Factory Education Booklet Primary School*, First Edition, RELN P/L.

CSIRO, 1986, *Earthworms for Gardeners and Fishermen*, Soils Series 4.

CSIRO, 1993, *Worms, Worms, Worms*, Poster, CSIRO Editorial Services, Melb.

Murphy, D., 1993 *Earthworms in Australia*, Hyland House.

## WORMERIES

## How to build a simple wormery

Select a container for keeping worms. A polystyrene foam fruit box, with drainage holes, found in fruit shops is ideal.

## What to do

1. Wash the box thoroughly, then line it with a few sheets of newspaper.
2. Half fill the box with well rotted compost. This should be quite moist, but not soggy.
3. Add compost worms. It's best to start with at least 2,000 worms. (These worms will breed and multiply to about 8,000 worms in 6 months).

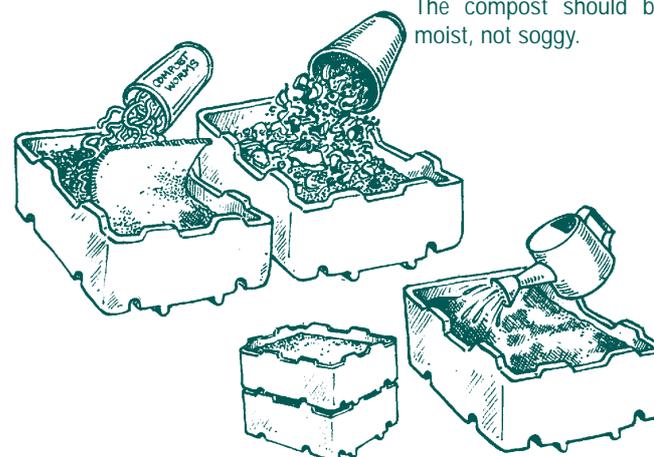
4. Cover the box with a layer of hessian, and water well.
5. Each week, add fruit and vegetable scraps. (Add about 1.5 kg of food in the first week, then as the worms start to multiply, gradually increase the amount to about 7 kg a week at six months.)
6. Add some water every few days or when necessary, to prevent the compost from drying out. You will need to add more water on hot, windy days. It is important to keep the wormery moist, as if it dries out, the worms may die. Ideally, the hessian should feel damp. Don't forget that there is a lot of water bound up in food scraps. Being too wet is as bad as too dry. The compost should be moist, not soggy.

7. After six months, it will probably be necessary to start another box. Half fill a second fruit box with compost, and carefully transfer the top half of the first box to the second. At this stage, you have a number of choices.

These are:

- (a) Add fruit and vegetable scraps to the second box only. The material in the bottom of the first box is now almost pure worm castings, with very few worms. It could be used in the garden in the same way as compost or mixed with commercial potting mixes to pot up plants.
- (b) Place the two boxes side by side on the ground and feed both with food scraps.
- (c) Fill the first box with compost, place the second box on top of the first and add food scraps to the top box only. The worms will migrate up through the holes in the base of the second box to feed.

If you have too many worms, you could give some away to friends so that they could start their own wormery.



## ALTERNATIVES FOR COMPOSTING SYSTEMS & WORMERIES

### COMPOSTING

#### Plastic Bags

Fill a plastic bag with organic matter and seal. Leave the bag in a warm place and the activities of anaerobic organisms will break down the material. This process may take several months. To speed up the breakdown, the bag can be left open and shaken regularly, thus changing the process to aerobic.

#### Pit and Trench

Dig a trench in an area that has good water drainage. Progressively back fill the area with organic waste and a layer of soil.

#### Hole-istic Composting

Place a garbage bin, minus its base, in a shallow hole (make sure that there is good water drainage). Fill the bin with organic household and garden waste. Allow it to compost. Remove the bin, place it in a new hole and repeat the process.

#### Open Compost

Pile organic household and garden waste in a heap on the ground. Cover with a layer of old carpet or plastic. Turn the heap every couple of days, making sure that everything gets a turn in the middle. Composting can be speeded up by inserting a pipe, with holes drilled into it, running vertically through the heap. This increases the supply of oxygen.

#### Tyre Power

Make a vertical stack of old tyres with a lid made from some scrap metal or wood. Hold the lid down with a brick. Fill with kitchen scraps and garden waste. Allow to compost. Remove compost and fill again.

#### 44 Gallon Drum

Remove the base of the drum and use as with the Hole-istic bin.

[Ray Schotts, 137 Bakers Road, Coburg, 3058 (03) 9354 4833 supply metal and plastic 44 gallon/60 litre drums for \$20.]

#### Chicken Wire and Star Stakes

Use star stakes and chicken wire to construct an open, 2 x 2 metre enclosure that is great for composting garden waste. It should cost about \$30 in materials.

#### Compost Bays

Use star stakes and reusable timber to construct a 4 metre long, 1.5 metre deep open-air bay that is divided into three areas. When the first bay is full, turn the material into the second bay and start filling the first again. When the first bay is full again, turn the contents of the second bay into the third, the first into the second and start to fill the first again. Composting time for this method is generally between six to eight months.

### WORMERIES

#### Polystyrene Box (with holes in the base)

Place some compost in the bottom of the box to act as a bedding mix, then add about 2000 compost worms. Place food scraps from the kitchen in the box. Cover with hessian or old carpet that has been soaked in water. (Make sure this cover is always damp). Water and feed weekly.

#### Brick Enclosure

Build a wall of bricks half a meter high with an opening of at least half a meter square. Continue as for the polystyrene box.

#### Compost Toilets

Composting toilets are available for household use. As earthworms are used to aid decomposition, the toilets must be properly maintained. Some brands, such as Rotoloo, Dowmus and the Keith Jesse designed toilet at CERES, allow for all organic matter to be added, including kitchen scraps. Aerobic composting and the action of earthworms mean that there is no smell.



## MULCHERS, CHIPPERS AND SHREDDERS - DO YOU NEED ONE?

A chipper/shredder/mulcher is a machine that chips or shreds leaves, twigs, cuttings and even branches into fine material that can be used as mulch. These machines can even be used to reduce the size of soft plant material before it is added to the compost bin. The downside of these machines is that they can be noisy and they use energy (either electricity or petrol). Petrol-driven ones give off fumes and greenhouse gases.

When deciding whether to buy a chipper/shredder, you should consider the following questions:

- what type of plants do you have in your garden - mainly trees or low shrubs and/or annuals?
- does your garden produce enough material to warrant the need for a chipper/shredder?
- how often would you need to use a machine?

Keep in mind that some councils offer either a drop off depot for garden waste or a regular kerbside pick up. Some councils will chip your garden waste on your nature strip, leaving it for you to use as mulch on your garden. Check with your local council for details. If your council doesn't provide a collection or chipping service for your garden waste, and you don't really have enough material to warrant buying a chipper/shredder of your own, then maybe you could hire or borrow one when you need it. Perhaps a few of your neighbours could "chip in" and share both the hire cost and the machine for the day.

If your council doesn't provide a collection or chipping service for your garden waste and your garden is made up mainly of trees that produce large quantities of branches, foliage and twigs, then you may decide to buy your own machine. The choice then becomes whether to buy an electric or petrol-driven product.

Refer to list of "Green Organics Processors and Compost Suppliers" on page 45.

### Electric models

- are smaller and less powerful than petrol models
- are easier to move around than petrol models
- are usually cheaper than petrol models
- produce no fumes
- are less noisy than petrol models.

### Petrol models

- are more powerful than electric models and can handle larger diameter branches
- can handle large quantities of material
- offer more extras, such as grading of mulch and mixing .

*Choice (January, 1995) produced a useful article on "Chipper/Shredders" in which they compared 12 electric shredders. If you are seriously interested in buying a chipper/shredder, it would be wise to consult this article, even though some of the information is now out of date. This directory does not include a detailed description of chippers & shredders. A list of available models can be found on page 15.*

## MULCHERS, CHIPPERS AND SHREDDERS

There are a number of mulchers/chippers/shredders on the market. Some of these are listed below. None of these models was evaluated for their effectiveness by the publishers for this directory. Contact the relevant manufacturers for further details including prices and retail outlets.

Model	Manufacturer	Phone
<i>Electric models</i>		
Chip 'N Shred	Rover Mowers Limited	(07) 3213 0222
Chipper Chopper "Magnum"	Allpower Industries Australia	(03) 9890 3344
Dynamic H1600S	Al-Ko International Pty Ltd	Freecall 1800 035 603
Dynamic H2200S	Al-Ko International Pty Ltd	Freecall 1800 035 603
Garden Gobbler	Masport Pty Ltd	(03) 9586 7777
Mulch Maker 1400	Victa Lawnmowers	Freecall 1800 022 154
Muncher	Rover Mowers Limited	(07) 3213 0222
NewTec 1600R	Al-Ko International Pty Ltd	Freecall 1800 035 603
Silent Power 4000	Al-Ko International Pty Ltd	Freecall 1800 035 603
<i>Petrol models</i>		
Chipper Shredder	Hansa	(03) 9873 3211
Red Roo CMS 80 TB	Red Roo	(03) 9544 4066

## EXCURSIONS, SPEAKERS AND ADVISORY SERVICES

### EXCURSION SITES

**CERES**  
8 Lee Street, Brunswick, 3056  
Phone: (03) 9387 2609  
Fax: (03) 9381 1844  
Website: [ceres.vic.edu.au](http://ceres.vic.edu.au)  
E-mail: [ceres@enternet.com.au](mailto:ceres@enternet.com.au)

CERES offers a variety of environments for students and the public to explore: a Biodegraders' Bazaar that showcases both commercial and homemade compost bins and wormeries; an African village; the Australia 2030 trail; community gardens; an Indonesian and Aborigine program; an energy efficient house; alternative energy displays; programs associated with the Merri Creek; a permaculture and bushfood nursery; and a recycling trail.

**Earthworm Organics**  
Balliang East, 3340  
Phone: (03) 53 695 190

Earthworm Organics is a working worm farm. Tours can be conducted for schools or groups interested in the day-to-day running of a medium-scale worm farm.

**Gould League**  
2 Genoa Street,  
Moorabbin, 3189  
Phone: (03) 9532 0909  
Fax: (03) 9532 2860  
E-mail: [gould@gould.edu.au](mailto:gould@gould.edu.au)

The Gould League houses a Waste Wise and Environmental Education Centre, which includes the amazing walk-in Giant Compost Bin, outside displays of working compost bins and wormeries and various types and uses of mulch. It runs science, SOSE and environmental education programs for school-aged children either on site or in schools. Professional development for teachers and community programs are also offered.

## EXCURSIONS, SPEAKERS & ADVISORY SERVICES

## EXCURSIONS, SPEAKERS AND ADVISORY SERVICES

## SPEAKERS

FOR GROUPS AND/  
OR SCHOOLS

## CERES

8 Lee Street,  
Brunswick, 3056  
Phone: (03) 9387 2609  
Fax: (03) 9381 1844  
Contacts: Eric Bottomley  
and Manuel Ortegon  
Website: [ceres.vic.edu.au](http://ceres.vic.edu.au)  
E-mail:  
[ceres@enternet.com.au](mailto:ceres@enternet.com.au)

CERES offers talks to schools, on and off site, councils and community groups. They run information sessions, workshops and school education programs. They conduct the "Worming into the Community" program which promotes worms and worm farms and provide information sessions on domestic vermicomposting. Touring show for primary schools and festivals - "Winnie and the Waste Monster".

## Earthcycle

Box Hill North, 3129  
Phone: (03) 9899 0727  
Fax: (03) 9899 3680  
Contact: Libby Elston

Conducts talks for residents through their council. Topics covered include: "Why Compost?"; different methods of composting; basic materials needed; and common problems.

Earthworm Organics  
Balliang East, 3340  
Phone: (03) 5369 5190  
Contact: Jo Humphreys

Conducts talks for all age groups from householders to commercial worm users. Sessions include information on waste disposal and the worm; worm physiology and anatomy; the best worm for the job; and the benefits of castings.

Gould League of Victoria  
2 Genoa Street, Moorabbin, 3189  
Phone: (03) 9532 0909  
Fax: (03) 9532 2860  
E-mail: [gould@gould.edu.au](mailto:gould@gould.edu.au)  
Contact: Pat Armstrong

Conducts talks to schools, community groups and councils on composting and worm farming. Half and full-day programs on composting and worm farming are available for schools. Sessions with other groups, including community groups, can be tailored to their requirements.

Tarean Worm Farm  
21 Rollings Road,  
Upper Ferntree Gully, 3156  
Phone: (03) 9758 7805  
Contact: Shirley Morris

Conducts half-hour sessions with Prep and Year One students about worm biology and comparisons between humans and worms.

## Vermiculture

Compost Systems  
19 Elise Grove, Edithvale, 3196  
Phone: (03) 9772 9798  
Contact: Chris Evans

Offers sessions with councils, private companies, schools and community groups. Topics include: composting and vermiculture as viable forms of waste management; how to implement these systems; establishment of "Sorting at Source" techniques; and fund-raising opportunities for schools and community groups.

Vox Bandicoot  
5 Railway Place, Fairfield, 3075  
Phone: (03) 9489 0855  
Fax: (03) 9482 1044  
Email: [voxbandi@vicnet.net.au](mailto:voxbandi@vicnet.net.au)

Vox Bandicoot are environmental educators through publications and performance. They work with schools, councils and interest groups and perform for events such as festivals and launches.

Worldwide Home  
Environmentalists'  
Network (WHEN)  
PO Box 1184, Camberwell, 3124  
Phone: (03) 9878 2602  
Contact: Miriam Pope

WHEN provide information about waste minimisation with a focus on how practices in the home impact on the larger environment. They speak to schools, interest and political groups and councils.

Worms'R'Us  
384 Bridge Road,  
Richmond, 3121  
Phone: (03) 9428 9944  
Fax: (03) 9428 1822  
Contact: Graeme Lewis

Conducts talks for schools, clubs and councils on the topic of green waste disposal and the various systems available for this purpose.

Your Environmentally  
Sensitive Service (YESS)  
Phone: (03) 9459 8175  
Contacts: Jenny Milroy  
and Charles Jenkins

YESS provides information sessions to schools, councils and interest groups. They speak on the topics of composting, vermicomposting and worm farming.

COMPOSTING ADVISORY  
SERVICES

EcoRecycle Victoria  
Recycling Infoline:  
1800 35 32 33  
Level 4, 478 Albert Street,  
East Melbourne, 3002  
Phone: (03) 9639 3322  
Fax: (03) 9639 3077  
Internet address:  
<http://www.ecorecycle.vic.gov.au>  
E-mail:  
[mailbox@ecorecycle.vic.gov.au](mailto:mailbox@ecorecycle.vic.gov.au)

Centre for Education &  
Research in Environmental  
Strategies (CERES)  
8 Lee Street Brunswick Vic 3056  
Phone: (03) 9387 2609  
Website: [ceres.vic.edu.au](http://ceres.vic.edu.au)  
E-mail:  
[ceres@enternet.com.au](mailto:ceres@enternet.com.au)

Environmental Protection  
Authority of Victoria  
Customer Information Centre  
Phone: (03) 9628 5622

Gould League of Victoria  
Genoa Street,  
Moorabbin, Vic, 3189  
Phone: (03) 9532 0909  
Fax: (03) 9532 2860  
Internet address:  
<http://www.schnet.edu/gould/gould.html>  
E-mail:  
[gould@schnet.edu.au](mailto:gould@schnet.edu.au)

# SUMMARY OF COMPOST BINS

## SUMMARY OF COMPOST BINS

Note that all information in this table has been supplied by the manufacturers.

Product Name	Manufacturer	Country of Man.	Price	Size /Capacity	Materials	Warranty /Guarantee	Assembly	Type	Special Features
Al-Ko Aero-Therm Composter	Al-Ko International Pty Ltd	Germany	\$250.00	400 litres	100% recycled plastics (green)	1 year	Trays need to be stacked.	Ventilated	Trap doors on two sides for easy access to compost.
Arismac Green Bin	Arismac Sales Pty Ltd	Australia	\$250.00	220 litres	95% recyclable plastics; steel axle; rubber wheels.	1 year	Vent pipe to be installed (15 minutes)	Ventilated	Rapid hands free composting. No flies or smells. Fully mobile. Contents collected at kerbside. Has electric aerator instead of vent pipe.
Aussie Rotter	Palamont Rotor Pty Ltd	Australia	\$49.00	280 litres	Post industrial (recycled) black plastic, UV stabilised	10 years	Easy to assemble in 5 minutes.	Ventilated	The back half of the bin can be left for support when removing the compost. Easy to move.
Composter Recycling Machine	Furnbird Pty Ltd	Australia	\$60.00 \$80.00	210 litres 340 litres	100% recycled high density polypropylene (black)	3 years	Easy to install in 3 minutes.	Ventilated	Has 4 doors with sliding vents for improved air flow and removal of compost.
Compost Tumbler	Rotoplastics	Australia	\$320.00	300 litres	All metal parts plated against corrosion, recycled or virgin plastic (black or green)	Common law	Comes assembled	Tumbler	The front of the frame allows easy access to a wheel barrow. The conical end allows compost to fall toward the opening when emptying.
Compostabin	Rotoplastics	Australia	\$45.00	220 litres	Recycled, UV stabilised polyethylene (black or green)	10 years	Comes assembled	Non-ventilated	The design of the bin ensures easy removal of compost.
Do It Yourself Aerobic Compost Tumbler	Gage Publishing	Australia	\$7.95	205 litres	Written instructions (Need to purchase 205 litre drum plus materials.)	Not stated	Requires jig-saw, drill, screwdriver and file.	Tumbler	The plans are easy to follow. Technical support if required.
Ezecomposter	Nickel Engineering Pty Ltd	Australia	\$340.00	200 litres	Colour bond steel, galvanised against rust (green)	1 year	Comes in kit form and some skill is required for assembly.	Tumbler	Easy to empty into a wheel barrow under the drum. 400 litre model for \$390 is also available.
EZYROLL Compost Barrow	COMPOST EZYROLL BARROW	Australia	\$335.00 (in Victoria)	320 litres	Barrel is 100% UV stabilised polyethylene (mist green). Frame is made from BHP galvanised steel.	5 years	Frame needs to be assembled. Colour coded bars makes this easy to do.	Tumbler	Barrel supported by steel frame. Easy turning action to aerate contents. Frame can be tilted to the top and the barrel rolled to a garden bed to empty. Alternatively, it can be rolled to a lawn mower for filling.
Gedye Compost Bin	L.R. & N.R. Gedye Pty Ltd	Australia	\$85.00	200 litres	Virgin high density polyethylene (green)	12 years	Comes assembled	Non-ventilated	Large opening. Stable. Secured lid which is easy to open and close. Also available in 356 litres for \$115.00.
Gedye Compost Bin	L.R. & N.R. Gedye Pty Ltd	Australia	\$72.00	200 litres	100% recycled high density polyethylene (black)	6 years	Comes assembled	Non-ventilated	Large opening. Stable. Secured lid which is easy to open and close. Also available in 356 litres for \$93.00.
Kit Form Compost Tumbler	RECREATE Australia	Australia	\$97.00	900 x 600 x 600 mm	Steel rod 3/8" welded and passivated	Not stated	Straight forward	Tumbler	An information sheet and trouble shooting guide is sent with the kit.
Linpac Compost Bin	Linpac	Australia	\$38.00	150 litres	UV stabilised plastic (green)	5 years against UV damage	Comes assembled	Non-ventilated	Easy to fill, empty and move.
Nylex Compost Bin	Nylex	Australia	\$46.00	270 litres	UV stabilised, reclaimed polyethylene	3 years pro rata	Easy to assemble.	Non-ventilated	A 210 litre variety is also available for \$36.00. All prices are plus 12% sales tax if applicable.
Palamont Rotor Compost Bin	Palamont Rotor Pty Ltd	Australia	\$28.00	210 litres	Recycled, black plastic, UV stabilised and	10 years rotary moulded	Comes assembled	Ventilated (recommended that you add worms.)	Suitable for use with worms. A 280 litre bin is also available for \$39.00
Rapid Compost Tumbler	AZDEC Industries	Australia	\$325.00 \$584.00	200 litres 420 litres	Rust-free, UV stabilised polyethylene and galutube -plus frames with powder coating	5 years	Dispatched complete - legs need to be pushed in.	Tumbler	Elevated to accommodate wheelbarrow underneath. The 200 and 300 litre (\$387.00) economy models have an easy-grip handwheel. The 300 and 420 litre (\$546.00 and \$584.00) deluxe models have a chain drive. Free delivery (conditions apply).
RELN Compost Bin	RELN Plastics	Australia	\$40.00	225 litres	100% recycled plastic (black)	1 year	Parts joined together with plastic ties, takes approx. 5 minutes	Ventilated	Composting booklet enclosed.
Timber compost bin	Gordan Jackson	Australia	\$50.00	600 x 600 x 750mm, approx. 250 litres	Treated pine	None	Comes assembled	Non-ventilated	Door on the side slides up for removal of compost. Has a hinged lid.
Tumbleweed Compost Maker	Tumbleweed Sales Pty Ltd	Australia	\$169.00	220 litres	Steel frame and plastic cylinder	5 years	Takes approx. 15 minutes. A screw driver and spanner are needed.	Tumbler	Light to handle. It has a bottom opening. Discount price for bulk orders.
Wasteworks Systems	"Wasteworks" Systems	Australia	\$138.75	312 litres	Plantation grown treated pine, screwed and glued.	After sales sales advisory service.	Easy assembly - 5 minutes	Ventilated	Continuous - Vermicast can be removed when sufficient amount has built up.

# SUMMARY OF WORMERIES

## SUMMARY OF WORMERIES

Note that all information in this table has been supplied by the manufacturers.

Product Name	Manufacturer	Country of Man.	Price	Size /Capacity	Materials	Warranty /Guarantee	Assembly	Special Features
Can-O-Worms	RELN Plastics	Australia	\$90.00	500 x 730mm	Recycled plastic (black)	N/A	Stack trays and attach legs.	The trays are perforated and the base has a tap. Includes 250 grams of worms and special coir bedding.
Doggy Do Do Disposer	Worms'R'Us	Australia	\$112.50	450 x 300 x 300mm	Treated pine	After sales advisory service	Comes pre-assembled	750 x 500 x 500 mm version also available, suitable for households with more than two dogs. Includes 4000 worms, castings and dolomite. This larger bin can also take kitchen and garden waste.
Easy Access Timber Worm Bin	Westernport Worms	Australia	\$140.00	225 litres	Treated pine, perspex slides	1 year	Comes fully assembled (screwed together, no nails or staples)	Has 3 perspex slides to give access to the worm castings and comes with 1000 worms. Two other sizes for domestic use: 'The Small' 150 litres, \$95.00. 'The Large', 300 litres, \$150.00. Two semi-commercial sizes: 'Large', 500 litres, \$250.00; 'Extra Large', 700 litres, \$325.00.
Eco Bin	Wrigglers	Australia	\$125.00	350 litres divided into 2 areas	Treated plantation pine	Against faulty workmanship	Easily assembled in 20 minutes. (Assembled if collected.)	Special price for schools. Postage and handling costs are not included the price.
Eliminator 3000	Worms 'R' Us	Australia	T.B.A.	300 x 300 x 450mm	Timber and metal (various) depending on model	After sales advisory service	Comes preassembled	Utilises 'continuous flow' technology. Due for release in April 1999. Larger unit will also be available (600 x 600 x 600mm)
Gardenwise Worm Bin	Furnbird Pty Ltd	Australia	\$99.00	210 litres	Virgin plastic (light colour)	3 years	Four sides and a lid need to be bolted together.	Includes a list of worm growers in your area.
Gedye Worm Farm	L.R. & N.R. Gedye Pty Ltd	Australia	\$69.95	Approx. 100 litres	Corrugated polypropylene (grey)	2 years against sunlight degradation	Comes assembled	Lightweight and easy to carry when full. Suitable for use on balconies or patios.
Monster Worm Composter	CERES	Australia	\$490.00 (extra large)	1100 litres 1900 x 800 x 800 mm	Treated pine Eco-ply screwed onto sturdy treated pine frame	After sales advisory service	Comes assembled	Continuous aerobic digestion. Twin chambers with lateral migration concept design. Sliding hatches, for easy removal of worm castings prevent interfering with the biomass.
RELN Worm Factory	RELN Plastics	Australia	\$80.00	570 x 395 x 640mm, 4 trays	Recycled plastic (black)	Against faulty manufacture	The trays need to be stacked and the legs inserted.	The collection tray has a tap outlet. Is ideal for a balcony.
The CERES Worm Stacker	CERES	Australia	\$115.00	125 litres 510 x 475 x 715mm	Treated pine Eco-ply screwed onto sturdy treated pine frame	Against faulty manufacture and	Comes assembled	Continuous aerobic digestion. Hinged lid and solid bottom keep pests out. A sliding access hatch, for easy removal of worm castings, prevents interfering with the biomass. Functional, user friendly and simple management.
Tumbleweed Pet Poo Converter	Tumbleweed Sales Pty Ltd	Australia	\$69.00	575 x 380 x 250 mm, 2 trays	UV stabilised polypropylene	5 years	No assembly necessary	Two sturdy boxes that nest inside each other. The upper box has a lid and a perforated base, while the lower box has a tap for drainage. Converts pet droppings into worm castings and liquid fertiliser.
Tumbleweed Worm Farm	Tumbleweed Sales Pty Ltd	Australia	\$69.00	26 litres 575 x 380 x 250 mm, 2 trays	UV stabilised polypropylene	5 years	No assembly necessary	Two sturdy boxes that nest inside each other. The upper box has a lid and a perforated base, while the lower box has a tap for drainage. Converts food scraps into worm castings and liquid fertiliser.
Worm Bin Layer System	Phil Staggard & Sons	Australia	from \$150.00	Sm: 600 x 600 mm Med: 800 x 800 mm Com: 1M x 1M	Treated pine	5 years	Comes assembled	Developed from 20 years of research. Simple and easy to use. For recycling and disposal of food wastes, light paper products, dairy products, grease, and cooking oil, meat, bones, pastry, tea bags, coffee grounds.
Worm Care Worm Farm	Worm Care	Australia	\$95.00	700 x 600 x 500 mm into 2 areas/240 litres	Treated plantation pine and screws	Against faulty workmanship	Comes assembled	Supplied with irrigation system, 100 worms, 10 litres of bedding and 2 hessian covers. Larger size available for \$165.00
Worms'R'Us Vermicompost Bin	Worms'R'Us	Australia	\$188.00	750 x 500 x 500 mm	Plantation pine	After sales advisory service	Comes assembled	Price includes 2000 worms, castings and dolomite or 4000 worms castings and dolomite for \$230.00. A medium size unit (750 x 750 x 500mm) is also available with 2000 worms, castings and dolomite for \$198.00. A large size unit (750 x 750 x 750 mm ) comes with 4000 worms, castings and dolomite for \$259.50. Delivery charges extra.

## FEEDING YOUR COMPOST BIN

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### What to add to a compost heap

- Vegetable and fruit scraps
- Fallen leaves (in layers)
- Tea leaves and tea bags
- Coffee grounds
- Vacuum cleaner dust
- Soft stems
- Dead flowers
- Used vegetable cooking oil
- Egg shells
- Old newspapers
- Grass cuttings in layers
- Sawdust (not from treated timber, e.g. treated pine)
- Wood ash

### What not to add to a compost heap

- Meat and dairy products
- Diseased plants
- Metals, plastic, glass
- Animal manures (especially the droppings of cats and dogs)
- Fat
- Magazines
- Large branches
- Weeds that have seeds or underground stems
- Bread or cake (may attract mice)
- Bones
- Sawdust from treated timber (e.g. treated pine)

## PRODUCTS BY MANUFACTURER

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PRODUCTS BY MANUFACTURER

Al-Ko Aero-Therm Composter

Compost Bin

**Manufacturer:** Al-Ko International Pty Ltd  
**Price:** \$250.00  
**Size/Capacity:** 400 litres  
**Retail Outlet:** Direct from Al-Ko and Bunnings Warehouses  
**Address:** 59 Wedgewood Road, Hallam, 3803  
**Ph:** 1800 035 603  
**Fax:** (03) 9702 3648

**Country of Manufacture:** Germany  
**Materials:** 100% recycled plastics (green)  
**Warranty/Guarantee:** 1 year  
**Assembly:** Trays need to be stacked  
**Assembly Instructions:** Yes  
**Instructions:** Yes  
**Composting Time:** 8 weeks

**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  
 CERES  OTHER

**SPECIAL FEATURES:** There are trap doors on two sides for easy access to compost when it is ready.

**USE:** Aerobic Composting.



Arismac Green Bin

Compost Bin

**Manufacturer:** Arismac Sales Pty Ltd  
**Price:** \$250.00  
**Size/Capacity:** 220 litres  
**Retail Outlet:** Telephone 1800 677 911  
**Address:** P.O. Box 607, Joondalup 6919  
**Ph:** (08) 9407 4400  
**Fax:** (08) 9407 4500

**Country of Manufacture:** Australia  
**Materials:** 95% recyclable plastics; steel axle; rubber wheels.  
**Warranty/Guarantee:** 1 year - replacement parts available  
**Assembly:** Vent pipe to be installed (15 minutes)  
**Assembly Instructions:** Yes  
**Instructions:** Yes  
**Composting Time:** 3-4 weeks

**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  CERES  OTHER

**SPECIAL FEATURES:** Rapid hands free composting. No flies or smells. Fully mobile. Contents can be collected at kerbside. De-luxe model (\$395.00 complete; \$145.00 conversion kit) has electric aerator instead of vent pipe. Both models available in kit form (assemble in 20 minutes). Includes detailed composting handbook.

**USE:** Aerobic composting; waste reduction; worm farm.



Aussie Rotter

Compost Bin

**Manufacturer:** Palamont Rotor Pty. Ltd.  
**Price:** \$49.00  
**Size/Capacity:** 280 litres  
**Wholesale Outlet:** Palamont Rotor Pty Ltd  
**Ph:** (03) 9769 2655  
**Fax:** (03) 9769 2571

**Country of Manufacture:** Australia  
**Materials:** Post industrial (recycled) black plastic which is UV stabilised  
**Warranty/Guarantee:** 10 years  
**Assembly:** Easy to assemble in 5 minutes  
**Assembly Instructions:** Yes  
**Instructions:** Yes  
**Composting Time:** Depends on method

**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  CERES  OTHER

**SPECIAL FEATURES:** The back half of the bin can be left for support when removing the compost. It is easy to move.

**USE:** Aerobic composting of household waste.



Composter Recycling Machine

Compost Bin

**Manufacturer:** Furnbird Pty Ltd  
**Price:** \$60.00/\$80.00  
**Size/Capacity:** 210 litres/340 litres  
**Retail Outlet:** Leading hardware stores & nurseries  
**Address:** N/A  
**Ph:** N/A  
**Fax:** N/A

**Country of Manufacture:** Australia  
**Materials:** 100% recycled high density polypropylene (black)  
**Warranty/Guarantee:** 3 years  
**Assembly:** Easy to assemble in 3 minutes; four sides and lid bolted together by hand.  
**Assembly Instructions:** Yes  
**Instructions:** Yes  
**Composting Time:** 12 weeks

**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  CERES  OTHER

**SPECIAL FEATURES:** Has 4 doors with vents that slide upwards for improved air flow and removal of compost.

**USE:** Aerobic composting.



## PRODUCTS BY MANUFACTURER

### Compost Tumbler

### Compost Bin

<b>Manufacturer:</b> Rotoplastics	<b>Country of Manufacture:</b> Australia
<b>Price:</b> \$320.00	<b>Materials:</b> All metal parts plated against corrosion. Recycled or virgin plastic (black or green).
<b>Size/Capacity:</b> 300 litres	<b>Warranty/Guarantee:</b> Common law
<b>Retail Outlet:</b> Direct from Rotoplastics, showroom or mail order	<b>Assembly:</b> Comes assembled
<b>Address:</b> 31 Swift Way, Dandenong, 3175	<b>Assembly Instructions:</b> No
<b>Ph:</b> (03) 9706 4401	<b>Instructions:</b> Yes
<b>Fax:</b> (03) 9706 5591	<b>Composting Time:</b> 3 weeks

**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  CERES  OTHER  
**SPECIAL FEATURES:** The front of the frame allows easy access to a wheel barrow. The temperatures reached inside should kill most weed seed. The conical end allows compost to fall toward the opening when emptying.

**USE:** For the quick composting of garden and kitchen waste. Odour and vermin free.



### Compostabin

### Compost Bin

<b>Manufacturer:</b> Rotoplastics	<b>Country of Manufacture:</b> Australia
<b>Price:</b> \$45.00	<b>Materials:</b> Recycled, UV stabilised polyethylene (black or green).
<b>Size/Capacity:</b> 220 litres	<b>Warranty/Guarantee:</b> 10 years
<b>Retail Outlet:</b> Direct from Rotoplastics, showroom or mail order	<b>Assembly:</b> Comes assembled
<b>Address:</b> 31 Swift Way, Dandenong, 3175	<b>Assembly Instructions:</b> No
<b>Ph:</b> (03) 9706 4401	<b>Instructions:</b> No
<b>Fax:</b> (03) 9706 5591	<b>Composting Time:</b> 8 weeks

**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  CERES  OTHER  
**SPECIAL FEATURES:** The design of the bin ensures a high temperature for rapid decomposition (six to eight weeks) and easy removal of the bin from the compost.

**USE:** For aerobic and anaerobic composting of kitchen and garden waste.



### Do It Yourself Aerobic Compost Tumbler

### Compost Bin

<b>Manufacturer:</b> Gage Publishing	<b>Country of Manufacture:</b> Australia
<b>Price:</b> \$7.95 (Post Paid)	<b>Materials:</b> Written instructions (Need to purchase 205 litre drum plus materials).
<b>Size/Capacity:</b> 205 litres	<b>Warranty/Guarantee:</b> Not stated
<b>Retail Outlet:</b> Bob Gailiss	<b>Assembly:</b> Requires jig-saw, drill, screwdriver and file.
<b>Address:</b> PO Box 364, Coburg, 3058	<b>Assembly Instructions:</b> Yes
<b>Ph:</b> Ph: (03) 9386 4068	<b>Instructions:</b> Yes
<b>Fax:</b> Fax: (03) 9386 9466	<b>Composting Time:</b> 3 weeks

**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  CERES  OTHER  
**SPECIAL FEATURES:** The plans are easy to follow and the outlet is happy to provide any technical support if required.

**USE:** This is a plan for converting a 44 gallon drum into an aerobic compost tumbler. The cost of pieces needed for the conversion is usually less than \$20.00 (excluding the drum), though handy people may have the necessary pieces lying about in their shed.

### Ezecomposter

### Compost Bin

<b>Manufacturer:</b> Nickel Engineering Pty Ltd	<b>Country of Manufacture:</b> Australia
<b>Price:</b> \$340.00	<b>Materials:</b> Colour bond steel which is galvanised against rust (green)
<b>Size/Capacity:</b> 200 litres	<b>Warranty/Guarantee:</b> 1 year
<b>Retail Outlet:</b> Soil 'N' Spade	<b>Assembly:</b> Comes in kit form and some skill is required to assemble. Two people are needed.
<b>Address:</b> 810 Springvale Road, Keysborough, 3173	<b>Assembly Instructions:</b> Yes
<b>Ph:</b> (03) 9798 8046	<b>Instructions:</b> Yes
<b>Fax:</b> (03) 9701 6029	<b>Composting Time:</b> 3 weeks

**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  CERES  OTHER  
**SPECIAL FEATURES:** It is easy to empty into a wheel barrow from under the drum. A 400 litre model is available for \$390.00.

**USE:** Aerobic composting of household waste.



## PRODUCTS BY MANUFACTURER

### EZYROLL Compost Barrow

### Compost Bin

**Manufacturer:** COMPOST EZYROLL BARROW  
**Price:** \$335.00 in Victoria  
**Size/Capacity:** 320 litres  
**Retail Outlet:** FREECALL 1800 441 177 for nearest retailer  
**Wholesale Outlet:** COMPOST EZYROLL BARROW  
**Ph:** (08) 9445 7050  
**Fax:** (08) 9445 7054

**Country of Manufacture:** Australia  
**Materials:** Barrel is 100% UV stabilised polyethylene (Mist Green) Frame is BHP galvanised steel  
**Warranty/Guarantee:** 5 years  
**Assembly:** Frame needs to be assembled. Colour coded bars makes this easy to do.  
**Assembly Instructions:** Yes  
**Instructions:** Yes  
**Composting Time:** 2 weeks

**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  CERES  OTHER  
**SPECIAL FEATURES:** Vermin proof, rust free, moulded hand grips for easy rotation to aerate contents. Can be rolled to garden bed to empty, by tilting the frame to the top of the barrel.

**USE:** Aerobic composting using tumbling action.



### Gedye Compost Bin

### Compost Bin

**Manufacturer:** L.R. & N.R. Gedye Pty Ltd  
**Price:** \$72.00  
**Size/Capacity:** 200 litres  
**Retail Outlets:** Direct and major hardware - BBC, McEwans, John Danks, etc  
**Address:** 37 Elizabeth Street, Doncaster East, 3109  
**Ph:** (03) 9848 5133  
**Fax:** (03) 9848 4854

**Country of Manufacture:** Australia  
**Materials:** 100% recycled, high density polyethylene (black)  
**Warranty/Guarantee:** 6 years  
**Assembly:** Comes assembled, only need to fit the lid.  
**Assembly Instructions:** No  
**Instructions:** Yes  
**Composting Time:** 12 - 14 weeks

**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  CERES  OTHER  
**SPECIAL FEATURES:** Large opening. Stable. Secured lid which is easy to open and close. Also available in 356 litres for \$93.00.

**USE:** Anaerobic composting.



### Gedye Compost Bin

### Compost Bin

**Manufacturer:** L.R. & N.R. Gedye Pty Ltd  
**Price:** \$85.00  
**Size/Capacity:** 200 litres  
**Retail Outlets:** Direct and major hardware - BBC, McEwans, John Danks, etc.  
**Address:** 37 Elizabeth Street, Doncaster East, 3109  
**Ph:** (03) 9848 5133  
**Fax:** (03) 9848 4854

**Country of Manufacture:** Australia  
**Materials:** Virgin high density polyethylene (green)  
**Warranty/Guarantee:** 12 years  
**Assembly:** Comes assembled, only need to fit the lid.  
**Assembly Instructions:** No  
**Instructions:** Yes  
**Composting Time:** 12 - 14 weeks

**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  CERES  OTHER  
**SPECIAL FEATURES:** Large opening. Stable. Secured lid which is easy to open and close. Also available in 356 litres for \$115.00.

**USE:** Anaerobic composting.



### Kit Form Compost Tumbler

### Compost Bin

**Manufacturer:** RECReATE Australia  
**Price:** \$97.00  
**Size/Capacity:** 900 x 600 x 600 mm  
**Retail Outlet:** Direct from RECReATE Australia  
**Address:** 10/19-23 Japaddy Street, Mordialloc, 3195  
**Ph:** (03) 9587 3833  
**Fax:** (03) 9587 3257

**Country of Manufacture:** Australia  
**Materials:** Steel rod 3/8" welded and passivated. Resists elements in outdoor environment.  
**Warranty/Guarantee:** Not stated  
**Assembly:** Straight forward  
**Assembly Instructions:** Yes  
**Instructions:** Yes  
**Composting Time:** 2 weeks

**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  CERES  OTHER  
**SPECIAL FEATURES:** An information sheet and trouble-shooting guide is sent with the kit. Postage and handling for mail order is an extra \$12.00. Price does not include a bin, these can be purchased from Bunnings for approximately \$14.00.

**USE:** This kit provides the framework in which to hang a large (73 litres) plastic garbage bin, which is used as a compost tumbler.

# PRODUCTS BY MANUFACTURER

## PRODUCTS BY MANUFACTURER

### Linpac Compost Bin

### Compost Bin

**Manufacturer:** Linpac  
**Price:** \$38.00  
**Size/Capacity:** 150 litres  
**Retail Outlets:** Mitre 10, Bunnings, Major Garden Centres  
**Address:** 81 Frankston Gardens Dve Carrum Downs 3201  
**Ph:** (03) 9775 0310  
**Fax:** (03) 9775 1056

**Country of Manufacture:** Australia  
**Materials:** UV stabilised plastic (green)  
**Warranty/Guarantee:** 5 years against UV damage  
**Assembly:** Comes assembled  
**Assembly Instructions:** No  
**Instructions:** No  
**Composting Time:** 12 weeks



**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  CERES  OTHER  
**SPECIAL FEATURES:** Easy to fill, empty and move.

**USE:** Aerobic composting.

### Nylex Compost Bin

### Compost Bin

**Manufacturer:** Nylex  
**Price:** \$46.00  
**Size/Capacity:** 270 litres  
**Retail Outlet:** Nylex Rotomould  
**Address:** 43-47 Redwood Drive, Dingley, 3172  
**Ph:** (03) 9551 2111  
**Fax:** (03) 9551 8051

**Country of Manufacture:** Australia  
**Materials:** UV stabilised, reclaimed polyethylene  
**Warranty/Guarantee:** 3 years pro rata  
**Assembly:** Easy to assemble  
**Assembly Instructions:** Yes  
**Instructions:** Yes  
**Composting Time:** 10 weeks



**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  CERES  OTHER  
**SPECIAL FEATURES:** A 210 litre variety is also available for \$36.00. All prices are plus 12% sales tax if applicable.

**USE:** Aerobic composting of kitchen and garden waste.

### Palamont Rotor Compost Bin

### Compost Bin

**Manufacturer:** Palamont Rotor Pty Ltd  
**Price:** \$28.00  
**Size/Capacity:** 210 litres  
**Wholesale Outlet:** Palamont Rotor Pty Ltd  
**Ph:** (03) 9769 2655  
**Fax:** (03) 9769 2571

**Country of Manufacture:** Australia  
**Materials:** Recycled, black plastic which is UV stabilised and rotary moulded.  
**Warranty/Guarantee:** 10 years  
**Assembly:** Comes assembled  
**Assembly Instructions:** No  
**Instructions:** Yes  
**Composting Time:** 26 weeks

**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  CERES  OTHER  
**SPECIAL FEATURES:** It is suitable for use with worms. A 280 litre bin is also available for \$39.00.

**USE:** Layered composting. It is recommended that you add worms to increase the rate of composting. (Take care not to add too much organic material at once, such as grass clippings. If you do, the temperature in the heap may rise sufficiently to kill any worms in the heap. Editor).

### Rapid Compost Tumbler

### Compost Bin

**Manufacturer:** AZDEC Industries  
**Price:** Call manufacturer  
**Size/Capacity:** 200 litres/420 litres  
**Retail Outlet:** Direct from AZDEC Industries  
**Address:** 49 Dampier Street, Tamworth, 2340  
**Ph:** 1800 811 275  
**Fax:** N/A

**Country of Manufacture:** Australia  
**Materials:** Rust-free, UV stabilised polyethylene and galutube-plus frames with powder coating.  
**Warranty/Guarantee:** 5 years  
**Assembly:** Dispatched complete - legs need to be pushed in.  
**Assembly Instructions:** No  
**Instructions:** Yes  
**Composting Time:** 2 weeks

**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  CERES  OTHER

**SPECIAL FEATURES:** Elevated to accommodate wheelbarrow underneath. The 200 and 300 litre economy models have an easy-grip handwheel. The 300 and 420 litre deluxe models have a chain drive.

**USE:** Aerobic composting of kitchen and garden refuse.



PRODUCTS BY MANUFACTURER

RELN Compost Bin

Compost Bin

**Manufacturer:** RELN Plastics  
**Price:** \$40.00  
**Size/Capacity:** 225 litres  
**Retail Outlets:** Councils, Nurseries and Worm breeders  
**Wholesale Outlet:** Mike North Sales Pty Ltd  
**Address:** 1 - 7 Redwood Drive, Dingley, 3172  
**Ph:** (03) 9558 3122  
**Fax:** (03) 9558 3188

**Country of Manufacture:** Australia  
**Materials:** 100% recycled plastic (black)  
**Warranty/Guarantee:** 1 year  
**Assembly:** Parts joined together with plastic ties, takes approximately 5 minutes.  
**Assembly Instructions:** Yes  
**Instructions:** Yes  
**Composting Time:** 6 - 8 weeks

**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  CERES  OTHER

**SPECIAL FEATURES:** Each bin purchased has enclosed an EPA Home Composting booklet.

**USE:** Aerobic composting of household waste.



Timber Compost Bin

Compost Bin

**Manufacturer:** Gordan Jackson  
**Price:** \$50.00  
**Size/Capacity:** 600 x 600 x 750 mm, approximately 250 litres  
**Retail Outlet:** Direct from Gordan Jackson  
**Address:** N/A  
**Ph:** (03) 9544 6447  
**Fax:** N/A

**Country of Manufacture:** Australia  
**Materials:** Treated pine  
**Warranty/Guarantee:** None  
**Assembly:** Comes assembled  
**Assembly Instructions:** No  
**Instructions:** Yes  
**Composting Time:** 6 weeks. Then continuous.

**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  CERES  OTHER

**SPECIAL FEATURES:** A door on the side slides up for removal of compost. Has a hinged lid.

**USE:** Composting kitchen and garden waste.



Tumbleweed Compost Maker

Compost Bin

**Manufacturer:** Tumbleweed Sales Pty Ltd  
**Price:** \$169.00  
**Size/Capacity:** 220 litres  
**Retail Outlets:** Major hardware stores - BBC, Mitre 10, etc.  
**Address:** PO Box 56, Ryde, NSW 1680  
**Ph:** (02) 9809 7222  
**Fax:** (02) 9809 7045

**Country of Manufacture:** Australia  
**Materials:** Steel frame and plastic cylinder  
**Warranty/Guarantee:** 5 years  
**Assembly:** Takes approximately 15 minutes. A screw driver and spanner are needed.  
**Assembly Instructions:** Yes  
**Instructions:** Yes  
**Composting Time:** 4 weeks

**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  CERES  OTHER  
**SPECIAL FEATURES:** It is light to handle. It has a bottom opening. Discount price for bulk orders.

**USE:** Aerates the compost with the tumbling action. Needs rotating a few times a day.



Wasteworks Systems

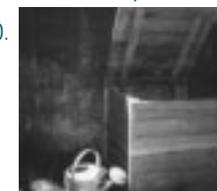
Compost Bin/Wormery

**Manufacturer:** Wasteworks Systems  
**Price:** \$138.75  
**Size/Capacity:** 312 litres  
**Retail Outlets:** Direct from 'Wasteworks'  
**Address:** PO Box 55, Beaufort, Vic 3373  
**Ph:** (03) 5349 2248

**Country of Manufacture:** Australia  
**Materials:** Plantation grown treated pine, screwed and glued  
**Warranty/Guarantee:** After sales advisory service  
**Assembly:** Easy assembly - 5 minutes  
**Instructions:** No tools required  
**Composting Time:** Yes  
 Continuous - Vermicast can be removed when sufficient amount has built up.

**SPECIAL FEATURES:** System 'never fills up'. Has sliding access for Vermicast removal. Comes complete with 1kg (4000 plus) worms. Postage and handling in (Vic) \$17.00. Other areas and states please enquire.

**USE:** For the complete, rapid composting of all household organic waste, including chopped or shredded garden waste.



### Can-O-Worms

### Wormery

**Manufacturer:** RELN Plastics  
**Price:** \$90.00  
**Size/Capacity:** 500 mm diameter x 730 mm high  
**Wholesale Outlet:** Mike North Sales Pty Ltd  
**Address:** 1 - 7 Redwood Drive, Dingley, 3172  
**Ph:** (03) 9558 3122  
**Fax:** (03) 9558 3188

**Country of Manufacture:** Australia  
**Materials:** Recycled plastic (black)  
**Warranty/Guarantee:** Not applicable  
**Assembly:** Stack trays and attach legs  
**Assembly Instructions:** Yes  
**Instructions:** Yes

**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  CERES  OTHER  
**SPECIAL FEATURES:** The trays are perforated and the base has a tap. The price includes 250 grams of worms and special coir bedding. There are also kits with 500 grams of worms for \$118.50 and 750 grams of worms for \$139.50.

**USE:** For the composting of organic kitchen waste. Small amounts of garden waste can also be included.



### Doggy Do Do Disposer

### Wormery

**Manufacturer:** Worms'R'Us  
**Price:** \$112.50  
**Size/Capacity:** 450 x 300 x 300 mm  
**Retail Outlet:** Direct from Worms'R'Us  
**Address:** 384 Bridge Road, Richmond, 3121  
**Ph:** (03) 9428 9944  
**Fax:** (03) 9428 1822

**Country of Manufacture:** Australia  
**Materials:** Treated pine  
**Warranty/Guarantee:** After sales advisory service  
**Assembly:** Comes preassembled  
**Assembly Instructions:** No  
**Instructions:** Yes

**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  CERES  OTHER  
**SPECIAL FEATURES:** There is also available a 750 x 500 x 500 mm version for \$230.00 that is suitable for households with more than two dogs. Includes 4000 worms, castings and dolomite. This larger bin can also take kitchen and garden waste.

**USE:** Recycles animal faeces into nutrient rich, odourless, pH neutral worm castings. Suitable for one or two dogs. Price includes 2000 composting worms, castings and dolomite.



## PRODUCTS BY MANUFACTURER

### Easy Access Timber Worm Farm Bin

### Wormery

**Manufacturer:** Westernport Worms  
**Price:** \$140.00 ('The Pyramid')  
**Size/Capacity:** 225 litre (600 mm square at base, 500 mm square at top, 750 mm high)  
**Retail Outlet:** Direct from Westernport Worms  
**Address:** 380 Baxter-Tooradin Road, Baxter, Vic 3911  
**Ph:** (03) 5971 1577  
**Mobile:** 0407 054 970  
**Fax:** None

**Country of Manufacture:** Australia  
**Materials:** Treated pine, perspex slides  
**Warranty/Guarantee:** 1 year  
**Assembly:** Comes fully assembled (screwed together, no nails or staples)  
**Assembly Instructions:** N/A  
**Instructions:** Yes

**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  CERES  OTHER

**SPECIAL FEATURES:** Has 3 perspex slides to give access to the worm castings and comes with 1000 worms. Two other sizes for domestic use: 'The Small' 150 litres, 1 perspex slide and comes with 500 worms – \$95.00; 'The Large', 300 litres, 2 perspex slides, comes with 1000 worms – \$150.00. Two semi-commercial sizes (ideal for schools restaurants, and caterers): 'Large', 500 litres, 3 perspex slides at front, divided hinged lid, comes with 2000 worms – \$250.00; 'Extra Large', 700 litres, 3 perspex slides at front, divided, hinged lid comes with 4000 worms – \$325.00. Inquire about delivery.

**USE:** For the production of worm castings from fruit and 'veg'ie' scraps, vacuum cleaner dust, pet droppings, cardboard and paper scraps.



### Eco Bin

### Wormery

**Manufacturer:** Wrigglers  
**Price:** \$125.00  
**Size/Capacity:** 350 litres divided into 2 areas  
**Retail Outlet:** Direct from Wrigglers  
**Address:** 3 Robertson Crescent, Boronia, 3155  
**Ph:** (03) 9720 2271  
**Fax:** (03) 9720 2271

**Country of Manufacture:** Australia  
**Materials:** Treated plantation pine  
**Warranty/Guarantee:** Against faulty workmanship  
**Assembly:** Easily assembled in 20 minutes  
**Assembly Instructions:** Yes  
**Instructions:** Yes

**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  CERES  OTHER  
**SPECIAL FEATURES:** Special price for schools. Postage and handling costs are not included in the price.

**USE:** Worm composting of household waste and animal manure.



### Eliminator 3000

### Wormery

**Manufacturer:** Worms 'R' Us  
**Price:** T.B.A. – New product  
**Size/Capacity:** 300 x 300 x 450mm  
**Retail Outlet:** Worms 'R' Us.  
**Address:** 384 Bridge Rd, Richmond, 3121  
**Ph:** (03) 9428 9944  
**Fax:** (03) 9428 1822

**Country of Manufacture:** Australia  
**Materials:** Timber and metal (various) depending on model  
**Warranty/Guarantee:** After sales advisory service  
**Assembly:** Comes preassembled  
**Assembly Instructions:** N/A  
**Instructions:** Yes

**DISPLAY CENTRE:** Worms 'R' Us  
**SPECIAL FEATURES:** Utilises "continuous flow" technology as used in large scale Vermiculture unit. This allows worms to work more efficiently and allows for both liquid and solid Vermicastings collection. The design allows for mechanised harvesting without disturbing worms which requires no heavy lifting. Unit comes with 2000 worms, Vermicompost bedding and Dolomite.

**USE:** Recycles organic household and garden waste in addition to animal droppings.  
**FOOTNOTE:** Illustration not available at the time of going to press. Unit is due for release in April 1999. A larger unit, (600 x 600 x 600mm), will also be available.

### Gardenwise Worm Bin

### Wormery

**Manufacturer:** Furnbird Pty Ltd  
**Price:** \$99.00  
**Size/Capacity:** 210 litres  
**Retail Outlet:** Leading hardware stores and nurseries.  
**Address:** N/A  
**Ph:** N/A  
**Fax:** N/A

**Country of Manufacture:** Australia  
**Materials:** Virgin plastic (light colour)  
**Warranty/Guarantee:** 3 years  
**Assembly:** Four sides and a lid need to be bolted together by hand.  
**Assembly Instructions:** Yes  
**Instructions:** Yes

**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  CERES  OTHER  
**SPECIAL FEATURES:** Included is a list of worm growers in your area. Comes complete with reservoir, which collects worm waste, with tap for easy draining.

**USE:** Composting kitchen and garden wastes. The decomposition of pet faeces.

### Gedye Worm Farm

### Wormery

**Manufacturer:** L.R. & N.R. Gedye Pty Ltd  
**Price:** \$69.95  
**Size/Capacity:** Approximately 100 litres  
**Retail Outlets:** Direct only  
**Address:** 37 Elizabeth Street, Doncaster East, 3109  
**Ph:** (03) 9848 5133  
**Fax:** (03) 9848 4854

**Country of Manufacture:** Australia  
**Materials:** Corrugated polypropylene (dark grey)  
**Warranty/Guarantee:** 2 years against sunlight degradation.  
**Assembly:** Comes assembled.  
**Assembly Instructions:** No  
**Instructions:** Yes

**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  CERES  OTHER  
**SPECIAL FEATURES:** Lightweight and easy to carry when full. Suitable for use on balconies or patios.  
**USE:** Double bin with a sliding door in between to allow migration of worms.



### Monster Worm Composter

### Wormery

**Manufacturer:** CERES  
**Price:** \$490.00 (Extra Large)  
**Size/Capacity:** 1900 x 800 x 800mm/1100 litres  
**Retail Outlet:** Direct from CERES  
**Address:** 8 Lee Street, Brunswick, 3056  
**Ph:** (03) 9387 2609 or 0411 443 429  
**Fax:** (03) 9381 1844

**Country of Manufacture:** Australia  
**Materials:** Treated pine Eco-ply screwed onto sturdy treated pine frame  
**Warranty/Guarantee:** Against faulty manufacture and after sales advice  
**Assembly:** Comes assembled  
**Assembly Instructions:** No  
**Instructions:** Yes

**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  CERES  OTHER  
**SPECIAL FEATURES:** Continuous aerobic digestion. Twin chambers with lateral migration concept design. Sliding hatches, for easy removal of worm castings prevent interfering with the biomass. Vermin proof. Ideal for schools, can be delivered to your doorstep both country and interstate. Delivery and set up service in Melbourne. 540 litres and 970 litres are also available.

**USE:** Efficiently recycles all compostable urban waste – including citrus and lactic products – pre-composted organics and animal wastes into worm castings. Specially designed and built for educational institutions, permacultural or community gardens, and other larger applications.



### RELN Worm Factory

### Wormery

**Manufacturer:** RELN Plastics  
**Price:** \$80.00  
**Size/Capacity:** 570 x 395 x 640 mm, 4 trays  
**Retail Outlets:** Councils, Nurseries, Worm breeders and Gould League  
**Wholesale Outlet:** Mike North Sales Pty Ltd  
**Address:** 1 - 7 Redwood Drive, Dingley, 3172  
**Ph:** (03) 9558 3122  
**Fax:** (03) 9558 3188

**Country of Manufacture:** Australia  
**Materials:** Recycled plastic (black)  
**Warranty/Guarantee:** Against faulty manufacture  
**Assembly:** The trays need to be stacked and the legs inserted.  
**Assembly Instructions:** Yes  
**Instructions:** Yes

**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  CERES  OTHER  
**SPECIAL FEATURES:** The collection tray has a tap outlet. Is ideal for a balcony. Educational for children.

**USE:** For small volumes of food waste (small family).



## PRODUCTS BY MANUFACTURER

### The CERES Worm Stacker

#### Wormery

**Manufacturer:** CERES  
**Price:** \$ 115.00  
**Size/Capacity:** 510 x 475 x 715 mm / 125 litres  
**Retail Outlet:** Direct from CERES  
**Address:** 8 Lee Street,  
 Brunswick, 3056  
**Ph:** (03) 9387 2609 or  
 0411 443 429  
**Fax:** (03) 9381 1844

**Country of Manufacture:** Australia  
**Materials:** Treated pine eco-ply screwed onto sturdy treated pine frame  
**Warranty/Guarantee:** Against faulty manufacture and after sales advice  
**Assembly:** Comes assembled, just needs stacking.  
**Assembly Instructions:** No  
**Instructions:** Yes

**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  CERES  
 OTHER

**SPECIAL FEATURES:** Continuous aerobic digestion. Hinged lid and solid bottom keep pests out. A sliding access hutch, for easy removal of worm castings, prevents interfering with the biomass. Functional, user friendly and simple management. Ideal for use in balconies and patios. Delivery and set up service in Melbourne.

**USE:** Efficiently recycles all domestic organic waste – including citrus, lactic products – animal manure and pre-composted materials into worm castings. Ideal for use in balconies and patios.



### Tumbleweed Pet Poo Converter

#### Wormery

**Manufacturer:** Tumbleweed Sales Pty Ltd  
**Price:** \$69.00  
**Size/Capacity:** 575 x 380 x 250 mm,  
**Retail Outlets:** Major hardware stores  
 – BBC, Mitre 10, etc.  
**Wholesale Outlet:** Tumbleweed Sales Pty Ltd  
**Address:** PO Box 56, Ryde,  
 NSW 1680  
**Ph:** (02) 9809 7222  
**Fax:** Toll free 1800 809 088  
 (02) 9809 7045

**Country of Manufacture:** Australia  
**Materials:** UV stabilised polypropylene  
**Warranty/Guarantee:** 5 years  
**Assembly:** No assembly necessary  
**Assembly Instructions:** N/A  
**Instructions:** Yes

**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  CERES  OTHER

**SPECIAL FEATURES:** Two sturdy boxes that nest inside each other. The upper box has a lid and perforated base, while the lower box has a tap for drainage.

**USE:** Compost worms convert pet droppings into odour free worm castings and liquid fertiliser.



### Tumbleweed Worm Farm

#### Wormery

**Manufacturer:** Tumbleweed Sales Pty Ltd  
**Price:** \$69.00  
**Size/Capacity:** 26 litres  
 (575 x 380 x 250 mm)  
**Retail Outlet:** Major hardware stores  
 – BBC, Mitre 10, etc.  
**Wholesale Outlet:** Tumbleweed Sales Pty Ltd  
**Address:** PO Box 56, Ryde,  
 NSW 1680  
**Ph:** (02) 9809 7222  
**Fax:** Toll free 1800 809 088  
 (02) 9809 7045

**Country of Manufacture:** Australia  
**Materials:** UV stabilised polypropylene  
**Warranty/Guarantee:** 5 years  
**Assembly:** No assembly necessary  
**Assembly Instructions:** N/A  
**Instructions:** Yes

**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  CERES  OTHER

**SPECIAL FEATURES:** Two sturdy boxes that nest inside each other. The upper box has a hinged lid and perforated base, while the lower box has a tap for drainage.

**USE:** Compost worms convert kitchen scraps into odour free worm castings and liquid fertiliser.



### Worm Bin Layer System

#### Wormery

**Manufacturer:** Phil Staggard & Sons  
**Price:** From \$150.00  
 (incl., Worms & Bedding)  
**Size:** Small: 600 x 600 mm, Surface area= .36 Sq M.  
 Medium: 800 x 800 mm, Surface area= .64 Sq M.  
 Commercial: 1M. x 1M. Surface area= 1.0 Sq M.  
**Capacity:** Small: 4-6 Kg. Per week, food waste & light paper  
 Medium: 6-10 Kg. Per week  
 Commercial: 10-12 Kg. Per week  
**Retail Outlet:** Direct from Manufacturer  
**Address:** 47 Brooklyn Ave., Frankston, 3199  
**Ph:** 9783 8467  
**Mobile:** 0419 324 883

**Country of Manufacture:** Australia  
**Materials:** Treated pine  
**Warranty/Guarantee:** 5 years  
**Assembly:** Comes assembled  
**Assembly Instructions:** No  
**Instructions:** Yes

**DISPLAY CENTRE:** as above

**SPECIAL FEATURES:** Developed from 20 years of intensive and loving research, a complete kit, simple and easy to use, if you promise to read the instructions.

**USE:** For the Recycling and disposal of food waste, light paper products, dairy products, grease and cooking oil, meat, bones, pastry, tea bags, coffee grounds. The list goes on ... A complete listing provided in the instruction manual. You will be "Staggard" by the results ...



PRODUCTS BY MANUFACTURER

Worm Care Worm Farm

Wormery

<b>Manufacturer:</b> Worm Care	<b>Country of Manufacture:</b> Australia
<b>Price:</b> \$95.00	<b>Materials:</b> Treated plantation pine and screws
<b>Size/Capacity:</b> 700 x 600 x 500 mm divided into two areas/240 litres	<b>Warranty/Guarantee:</b> Against faulty workmanship
<b>Retail Outlet:</b> Direct from Worm Care	<b>Assembly:</b> Comes assembled
<b>Address:</b> 8 Warrina Street, Chadstone, 3148 Ph: (03) 9807 2206 or 017 875 615 or 32 Merrick Street, Stratford, 3862 Ph: (03) 5145 6956	<b>Assembly Instructions:</b> No <b>Instructions:</b> Yes

**SPECIAL FEATURES:** Comes supplied with irrigation system, 100 compost worms, 10 litres of bedding and two hessian covers. Larger size available 850 x 850 x 500mm supplied with 4000 compost worms \$165.00. Heavy guage mesh can be fitted to the base for an extra \$15.00. Postage and handling costs are not included in the price.

**USE:** The growing of compost worms and complete composting of all household organic waste. Plus the production of worm castings.

Worms 'R' Us Vermicompost Bin

Wormery

<b>Manufacturer:</b> Worms'R'Us	<b>Country of Manufacture:</b> Australia
<b>Price:</b> \$188.00	<b>Materials:</b> Plantation pine
<b>Size/Capacity:</b> 750 x 500 x 500 mm	<b>Warranty/Guarantee:</b> After sales advisory service
<b>Retail Outlet:</b> Direct from Worms'R'Us	<b>Assembly:</b> Comes assembled
<b>Address:</b> 384 Bridge Road, Richmond, 3121	<b>Assembly Instructions:</b> No <b>Instructions:</b> Yes
<b>Ph:</b> (03) 9428 9944	
<b>Fax:</b> (03) 9428 1822	

**DISPLAY CENTRE:**  GOULD LEAGUE  CERES  OTHER

**SPECIAL FEATURES:** Price includes 2000 worms, castings and dolomite or 4,000 worms, castings and dolomite for \$230.00. A medium size unit (750 x 750 x 500mm) is also available with 2000 worms, castings and dolomite for \$198.00.

A large size unit (750 x 750 x 750 mm) comes with 4000 worms, castings and dolomite for \$259.50.

Delivery charges are extra.

**USE:** For the production of vermicompost from kitchen scraps, garden waste and animal droppings.



GREEN ORGANICS PROCESSORS AND COMPOST SUPPLIERS

The following companies can provide recycling services for garden materials too large to manage in a home composting system. Most companies deal with commercial and council collections, but can also provide drop off services for the public. Many of them also sell the composted products for your garden. For further information contact the companies direct.

Councils also provide drop off services for garden material. Contact your local council or EcoRecycle Victoria for more details for composting on services in your area.

Australian Rescued Timber  
Watt Rd  
Mornington  
03 5977 1444

Burdett's Sand, Soil and Stone Supplies  
1 McClelland Drive  
Frankston  
03 9789 8266

Cleanaway  
PO Box 272  
Bayswater  
03 9729 1500

Dasma - Environmental Solutions  
Tramway Rd, PO Box 3426  
Morwell Mail Centre  
03 5133 6000

DinSan  
Lot 1 Old Dandenong Rd  
Dingley  
03 9551 1078

Enviro-Mulch Pty Ltd  
Factory 1/10 Colchester Rd  
Rosebud  
03 59822869/ 04 1810 0427

Garden Recycling  
(Bunundi Mirrett)  
Lot 1, Learmont  
Ballarat  
03 5334 3211

Garrett's Waste Management  
PO Box 6923  
Shepparton  
03 5821 7555

Greenchip Recycling  
PO Box 6923  
Wodonga  
04 1857 8327

Haulaway Recyclers  
15 Thorton Crescent  
Mitcham  
03 9872 4144

Midland Recycling - Visy agent  
Lot 2 Dryden Crt  
Woodend  
03 54274268

Mossrock  
480 Coopers St  
Epping  
03 9408 7900

MulchMaster  
10 Macquarie Place  
Boronia (also Dandenong and Bayswater)  
03 9720 4644

Organic Recyclers Pty. Ltd  
23 Caramut Rd  
Warrnambool (also Brooklyn)  
03 5561 3326/018 529 326

Scato Plus  
480 Coopers Rd  
Epping  
03 54373346

SEARCH - AJG Recycling  
Lot 2 Grange Rd  
Dingley  
03 9551 8690

Specialised Organic Soils  
16 Kororoit Rd  
Rockbank  
03 9747 1644

The Botanical Tree Company  
221 Pearcedale Rd  
Cranbourne Sth  
03 9782 2433

The Green Centre  
Stadium Drive  
Keilor Park  
03 9331 5300

Timber Recovery Enterprises  
2907 Kinglake-Healesville Rd  
Kinglake  
03 5786 1778

Transwest  
Forest Street  
Colac  
03 5232 2448

Universal Greening Pty Ltd  
PO Box 1040  
East Doncaster  
03 9841 7570

Universal Recycling  
Lot 9 Berends Rd  
Dandenong Sth  
03 9706 4995

Urban Salvage  
190a Hall St  
Spotswood  
03 9381 0466

Waste Converters/Commercial Sands Pty Ltd  
Dandenong Hastings Rd  
Lyndhurst  
03 9799 1935

Western Recycling  
Lot 1 Bunting Rd  
Brooklyn  
03 9314 8300

Whelan Kartaway  
Kirkdale St  
Brunswick  
03 9387 9999

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### Choosing a compost system

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### Choosing a worm farm

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CSIRO, 1986, *Earthworms for Gardeners and Fishermen*, Soils Series 4, CSIRO, Australia Division of Soils.



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Website: <http://www.ecorecycle.vic.gov.au>

E-mail: [mailbox@ecorecycle.vic.gov.au](mailto:mailbox@ecorecycle.vic.gov.au)



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The Gould League is supported by the  
Department of Education Victoria





Detailed information about composting, wormeries and mulching can now be found in *The Good Compost Guide*.

Composting, worm farming and mulching your garden offers so many benefits. Not only will you improve the quality of your garden and save money but your efforts will help reduce the amount of garbage going to landfill.

*The Good Compost Guide* provides a wealth of useful information for householders about composting and wormeries. This includes how to choose and run your own compost system and wormery, alternatives for composting systems and a detailed directory of manufacturers who can supply compost bins or worm farms.

Not just for the householder, *The Good Compost Guide* is also suggested for schools, restaurants and any small business which has to dispose of waste on site.



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C·E·R·E·S  
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Telephone: 03 9639 3322 Facsimile: 03 9639 3077

Email: [mailbox@ecorecycle.vic.gov.au](mailto:mailbox@ecorecycle.vic.gov.au)

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Recycling Infoline Tollfree Number 1800 35 32 33

