



HOW TO SET UP AND MANAGE AN EFFECTIVE WORM FARM SYSTEM



1. Choose an
ACCESSIBLE & FLAT
AREA in the shade.



2. Labelling of trays.
A vital idea if there
are multiple users

Feeding tray:
food scraps → IN

Home tray:
worm castings → OUT

Worm juice tray:
worm juice → OUT

3. A number of pieces of equipment are needed to maintain an effective worm farm system.

- Little digger tool/hand fork
- Dolomite lime/Worm Farm & Compost Conditioner
- Hessian sacks or worm blankets
- Access to water
- Gloves





**4. You will need
COLLECTION BUCKETS
WITH LIDS to collect
the food scraps in
various places around
your school.**

**e.g. classrooms, staff
room, canteen,
playgrounds, eating
areas etc.**

5. To set up your first worm farm fill the home tray with good soil, mixed with expanded coir block if you choose to use, and water generously.



HOME TRAY

Then add the feeding tray but ensure the bottom of the feeding tray is touching the top of the home tray.



FEEDING

HOME TRAY



7. “SEED” the worm farm home tray with some **RICH ALIVE SOIL OR MATURE COMPOST** and **worms (compost worms not earthworms)**. 500-1000 are recommended to start and will multiply.



8. Now you are ready to start adding food scraps and following the Worm Magic Recipe and ADAM Principles to manage your worm farm. Always add food to the feeding tray only.

10. Managing your worm farm with the **ADAM** Principles

- **Aliveness** - worms & microscopic organisms are doing all the work!
- **Diversity** - variety is the spice of life!
- **Aeration** - worms & microscopic organisms breathe!
- **Moisture** - keep the worm farm moist all the time!



ALIVENESS
respect for all life –
seen and unseen





DIVERSITY (variety)

Worms need a variety of food scraps such as fruits and vegetables

AIR

Mix, mix, mix. **Aeration** is the KEY !!



MOISTURE



Worm castings

- Harvest worm castings from the home tray when the feeding tray is full by emptying the home tray.
- Most of the worms will be in the feeding tray (top 30cm of soil)
- The castings from the home tray can be added to your school gardens – drip line of trees and shrubs or mixed into your maturing compost bins or garden beds.





10. Now lower your existing “FEEDING TRAY” onto the worm juice tray (this now becomes the “HOME TRAY” – remember to change your labels).

Place your newly cleaned out old home tray on top (this now becomes the new “FEEDING TRAY”).

You are ready to start feeding this tray again and follow the Worm Farm Procedure.