



The elements of a manure heap in respect of stability: monitoring nutrient turnover during composting needs a constant reference parameter (RAUPP, 2002)

Ash content (and phosphorus content as well) is regarded to be constant during the composting period. Therefore, mineral contents and dry matter loss over time have to be based on ash content.

Dry matter loss is calculated as amount of composted manure in percent of fresh manure with the term

$$(1 : \text{DM-dec}) * 100.$$

In this term DM-dec is the dry matter decrease calculated by its reciprocal phenomenon, i.e. the ash content increase expressed by ash content of compost (% DM) divided by ash content of fresh manure (% DM).

The following example may explain the calculation.

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Composted manure is 67 % of fresh manure.