

## Manure Tea Fertilizer

Manure tea enriches the soil and adds much needed nutrients for healthy plant growth. The nutrients found in manure tea make it an ideal fertilizer for garden plants. The nutrients from manure dissolve easily in water so that they can then be added to a sprayer or simply used in a watering can. The leftover manure can be thrown in the garden or reused in the compost pile.

Manure tea can be used each time you water plants, or periodically. It can also be used to water lawns. However, it is important to dilute the tea prior to use so as to avoid burning the roots or foliage of plants. I fill my watering can 1/2 way with the tea and then fill it to the top with rain water. I use this every 3 weeks or so during the growing season.

### Instructions

1. Place a shovel full of well-aged manure in a large burlap sack or pillowcase
2. Make certain that the manure has been well aged or "cured" beforehand. Fresh manure is much too strong for plants, and it can contain harmful bacteria.
3. Suspend the manure-filled "tea bag" in a 5 gallon bucket, and add water to create a mix of 5 parts water to 1 part manure
4. Allow this mixture to steep for up to two weeks
5. After steeping, remove the bag, allowing it to hang above the container until the dripping has stopped
6. Skipping the tea bag and adding the manure directly to the water usually speeds up the brewing process. Without a bag, the tea is usually ready within only a few days if you stir it thoroughly during this period. Once it has fully brewed, you will have to strain it to separate the solids from the liquid. The remaining manure can then be added to the compost pile.
7. To use, dilute the tea by half, as mentioned above, prior to use