

How to Make Your Own Worm Farm

What you need

- 2 broccoli boxes (available at your supermarket or fruit shop)
- Newspaper
- Brick or ice-cream container
- Compost or potting mix
- Worms

Cost: Around \$35 for the worms. Reuse materials around the house and your worm farm will be free.



Step 1:

Make holes in the bottom of **one** of the boxes to let the liquid drain.

Worms breathe through their skin



Step 2:

Place the box with the holes on top of the *other* box.

Optional: make a tap in the bottom box to let liquid out. Worm juice can also be collected by removing the top tray and pouring liquid from bottom tray into a container. Put the upturned ice-cream container or a brick in the bottom box to help the worms climb up.



Step 3:

Make the bedding

Soak a few layers of newspaper in water then place in the bottom of the top box. Add compost over the newspaper, to the thickness of your palm.



Step 4:

Add your composting worms

Earthworms are not suitable

Worms can double their population in three months



Step 5:

Add food scraps

Put your kitchen scraps on top of the bedding regularly but in small amounts. Over time as more worms breed, you will be able to give them more to eat.



Feeding Worms

- Don't add too much food at once
- Avoid feeding the worms meat, bones, fatty food, bread, or dairy products
- Worms don't like citrus fruits, raw onion or raw garlic

Some foods such as fruit, form acid. Adding a little wood ash, dolomite or garden lime every few weeks will prevent the worm farm from becoming too acidic.

Wait until the worms have burrowed in the bedding before applying lime or wood ash.

Worms can eat up to their body weight in one day

Step 6:

Cover the food scraps with newspaper or a piece of hessian.
Place the lid of the broccoli box on the top.

Add water to the box whenever it gets dry. It should be the consistency of a damp sponge. If it is too wet mix dry shredded newspaper throughout bedding.

The worms should be placed in a cool and shady spot in your garden or garage.

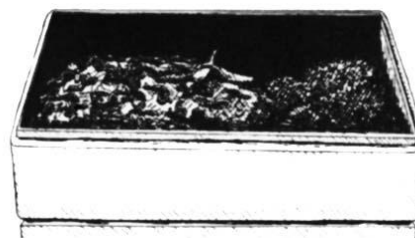


Step 7:

Harvest the worm castings

Harvest the worm castings by moving it all to one side of the farm, add fresh bedding to the empty side.

Many of the worms will move to the fresh bedding in a few days. Collect the worm juice from the bottom tray.



Worm Supplier's List – Currently known to Council

| Name | Address | Phone | Supplies | Delivery |
|---|--|-----------|---------------------------|---|
| Batehaven Hardware & Garden Centre | 2 Edward Road Batehaven | 4472 6228 | Worm farms and worms | Available at shop |
| Bloomin Things Nursery | 7 Hughes Street Batemans Bay | 4472 5597 | Worm farms and worms | Available at shop |
| B P Colley Distributors | 29 Palana Street, Surfside | 4472 6862 | Worm farms and worms | Delivery available |
| Bunnings Warehouse | 59 Princes Highway Batemans Bay | 4472 6255 | Worm farms only | Available at shop |
| Dalmeny Landscaping Centre | Lot 1, 4 Acacia Close Dalmeny Industrial Estate | 4476 7905 | Worm farms and worms | Available at shop |
| Early Bird Worm Marketing www.earlybirdwormfarming.com | 121/4 Ruth Place Dalmeny | 4476 7615 | All worm related products | Ring owner to purchase or order on website. Delivery available. |
| Eurobodalla Permaculture & Biodynamics | Moruya | 4474 3971 | Worms only | Ring owner to purchase |
| Greenlands Garden Centre | 89 Queen Street, Moruya | 4474 0222 | Worm farms and worms | Available at shop |
| Moruya Hardware & Produce | 80 Campbell Street, Moruya | 4474 2002 | Worm farms only | Available at shop |
| Tuross Village Hardware & Gifts | Shop 2 Evans Road Tuross Head | 4473 8833 | Worm farms only | Available at shop |

For more information on worms and worm farming:

Contact the Waste Minimisation Officer on 4474 1029 or visit
www.environment.nsw.gov.au/downtoearth/worm.htm

