

## **An Assessment on Non-Adoption of Compost Making in Kilinochchi District, Sri Lanka**

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Waste Management Authority and the Central Environmental Authority recorded in 2018 that, 7500 MT solid waste generation per day in Sri Lanka. However, only 3500 MT is collected by local authorities and remain accumulates in the households. This proves for the requirement of a proper waste management mechanism to be established at the household levels. This study aims to evaluate the present knowledge on home waste management and divergent contentions for non-adoption of compost making and suggestions for alterations of future adoption in households. Qualitative data collection techniques including Focus Group Discussion (FGDs), Participatory Rural Appraisal techniques (Transect walks, pair wise ranking and resource map) and written test were employed. Equal representation of men and women in FGDs were confirmed from Piramantharu farming village (15 men and 15 women). Decomposition rate of home wastage, methods of compost making, application of compost and it's importance were questioned specifically from each respondent. The results revealed that minority (30 %) obtained approximately 50 % from the total marks yet others scored less than 10 %. Majority of households use polybags as the fuel in cooking depicting lack of knowledge on hazardous impact of this activity. Decomposable home wastages like crop residues, paddy husks, papers and weeds used to burn. e-waste accumulate at a considerable level at the household level mainly due to the absence of a collecting practice adopted by any local authority or the village itself. Lack of awareness on compost application and its importance, lack of awareness on compost making methods, and requirement of bulk quantities of compost for commercial agriculture were ranked as first, second and third reasons for the non-adoption respectively. Improved agricultural extension services, regular training and development, and inclusion of solid waste management into the formal education system were suggested to overcome these constraints. To sum up, by reducing uncertainty on solid waste management at household level, the level of adoption on compost making can be improved. In recommendation, integrated waste management should be all rural part of the country as well.

**Keywords:** Compost, Kilinochchi, Participatory Rural Appraisal, Waste Management