

Author's checklist for manuscript submission

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- a) The corresponding author is kindly advised to read this document carefully and fill this checklist on behalf of the co-authors and return it to the guest editors.
- b) Kindly place a tick mark (✓ **meaning YES**) or a cross mark (× **meaning NO**) in each row in order to confirm the approval/denial of the checklist.
- c) Do not leave any box unanswered. This checklist will take **at least 4-5 hours** to complete and we encourage all the authors to check the manuscript carefully before answering the items specified with a ✓ or × sign.
- d) The authors are advised to strictly follow the author guidelines of the journal and also the guidelines provided in the checklist by the guest editors.

e) Please provide the following details:

Manuscript title: Analysis of the Effect of Bioactivator Variations on the Performance of Organic Waste Composting with Takakura and Composter Bag Method

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CHECK LIST

Aspects to be carefully considered while preparing the manuscript	Indicate your response (✓ or ×)
1) The title is concise and it reflects the contents of the manuscript	✓
2) All the names and affiliations of the authors are written correctly	✓
3) There is only one corresponding author for the manuscript	✓
4) The manuscript should contain a list of keywords (mandatory): - Provide a maximum of 6 keywords - Avoid using abbreviations	✓
5) Abstract is less than 200 words - State briefly the purpose of the research, the principal results and major conclusions	✓
6) Introduction - Do not summarize the existing literatures in this section - The main and specific objectives of this work are clearly specified as (i), (ii), (iii), etc. in the form of a continuous text	✓

Aspects to be carefully considered while preparing the manuscript	Indicate your response (√ or ×)
- Provide recent literature references on the topic	
7) Materials and methods - All the methods and techniques used in this study are clearly explained - Source of biomass, inoculation, conditions tested, etc are specified - The name of the instruments used, their model number, country of manufacture, etc are specified - Grade of chemicals used in this study is mentioned - Sample collection, pre-treatment done on the samples, etc, should be specified clearly - Specify the analytical conditions used to quantify the samples, column specifications in the case of a gas chromatograph, etc - Statistical analysis of the samples, the use of duplicate or triplicate measurements, analysis of variance (ANOVA), etc should be clearly stated in one sub-section - Details of the software's used should also be specified	√
8) Results and discussions - Results and discussions can be separate or combined together - If they are separate, avoid presenting the results once again in the discussions - Provide more mechanism oriented scientific discussions and cite adequate literatures to support the facts presented in the manuscript - Wherever applicable, provide stoichiometric equations and facilitate good science based discussions	√
9) Practical application and future perspectives (mandatory) - Add a separate section before the conclusions and provide practical discussion on how the results obtained from this work can be applied in practice - Highlight the limitations of this work and give your expert opinion on how things can be improved/designed better in the future - Discuss the application of your work in developing countries - Provide future research directions and give a wide perspective to the reader	√
10) Conclusions - The take home message should be clear to the reader - Present only the main conclusions drawn from your results	√
11) Acknowledgements - Please do not thank the reviewer or the guest editors - Thank the individuals/organization/government who provided help during this research (for sampling, analytical, funding for research, student fellowships, etc)	√
12) References - Follow the authors guideline and check the formatting requirements of the journal carefully - Check if all the names of the authors are correctly written (example: some Latin names have accents) - If you are using a software, please manually check all the references line by line and correct all obvious errors made by the software - Make sure that biological names are written in italics - Check if all the publishing details are provided in references from book chapters, edited books, conference proceedings, internet reports, etc	√

Aspects to be carefully considered while preparing the manuscript	Indicate your response (✓ or ×)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Make sure that all the references listed in the list are also cited in the main text and vice versa 	
<p>13) Preparing graphs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Make sure that the font size of the text is clearly readable - All the units are correctly written (sub-script, super-script, etc) - Do not use unwanted graph borders (box type) - Make sure that the x and y axis lines are in black colour and not in grey colour - Check if all the legends are clearly distinguished for the parameters that are represented in the graph - The figure caption clearly explains the content displayed in the graph - Do not use vertical or horizontal grid lines - Use major tick marks (outside) - Provide error bars in the profiles - Do not use excessive colours in the graphs - All the graphs should be professionally prepared 	✓
<p>14) Preparing tables</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Avoid duplicating the values presented in the table and the text - Wherever applicable, provide adequate standard deviation (SD) values - Do not use vertical lines - Check a recent issue of the journal to see the table formatting requirements - Provide adequate footnotes below the table (if required) 	✓
<p>15) Other comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use proper English throughout the manuscript - Please make sure that the entire manuscript is prepared using constantia font, size 10, with 1.15 spacing. This will help the reviewer to read the manuscript at ease and provide good feedbacks - Please format the references carefully (both in text and also the reference list). Check a recent issue of the journal if you have doubts - Avoid all punctuation errors in the manuscript - Make sure that the tables, figures and equations are properly numbered and correctly cited in the text - All biological names should be written in italics 	✓
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