

BIOLOGICAL SPECIFICATION COMPARISON

Vermicast vs. Chemical Fertilizers in Soil¹

Criteria for Comparison	Chemical Fertilizers	Vermicast
<i>Macro Nutrient Contents</i>	Mostly contains only one (N in urea) or at the most two (N & P in DAP) nutrients in any one type of chemical fertilizer	Contains all i.e. nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P) & potassium (K) in sufficient quantities
<i>Secondary Nutrient Contents</i>	Not Available	Calcium (Ca), manganese (Mn) & sulphur (S) is available in required quantities
<i>Micro Nutrients Contents</i>	Not Available	Zinc (Zn), boron (B), manganese (Mn), iron (Fe), copper (Cu), molybdenum (Mo) and chlorine (Cl) also present
<i>pH balancing</i>	Distorts soil pH which creates saline and alkaline conditions	Helps in the control of soil pH and corrects the salinity and alkalinity in soil
<i>EC Correction</i>	Creates imbalance in soil EC affecting nutrients assimilation	Helps in balancing the EC to improve plant nutrient adsorption
<i>Organic Carbon</i>	Not Available	Very high organic carbon and humus contents improves soil characteristics
<i>Moisture Retention Capacity</i>	Reduces moisture retention capacity of the soil	Increases moisture retention capacity of the soil
<i>Soil Texture</i>	Damages soil texture to reduce aeration	Improves soil texture for better aeration
<i>Beneficial Bacteria & Fungi</i>	Reduces biological activities and thus the fertility is impaired	Very high biological life improves the soil fertility and productivity on sustainable basis
<i>Plant Growth Hormones</i>	Not Available	Sufficient quantity helps in better growth and production

¹ M.R. Morarka-GDC Rural Research Foundation;
www.morarkango.com/vermiculture/vermicast_specification.html

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