



Popular Kheti

Volume -3, Issue-2 (April-June), 2015

Available online at www.popularkheti.info

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ISSN: 2321-0001

Plant Disease Suppression Potential of Compost

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Sustainable agricultural practices emphasise the use of soil organic amendments to grow the crops. The organic inputs in the form of compost not only conserve natural resources but add organic matter in soil that can reverse the trend of yield stagnation. Suppression of plant disease is another attribute of compost that can be explored to reduce the input of chemical pesticides and minimize the crop losses from plant diseases. However, the effectiveness of compost to suppress plant disease may vary depending upon the raw material used for its preparation, maturity level of compost and the presence of beneficial microorganisms.