Coop Support Programme: Composted dung provides high-quality fertilizer

This Coop climate protection programme supports agricultural Bio Suisse or Miini Region businesses with the composting of the dung they accrue. Composted dung reduces greenhouse gas emissions and provides organic, highly effective fertilizer for fields. Anyone who is interested can register for this climate protection programme now.

Dung composting involves the processing of solid dung to create rotting dung or dung compost. The dung should be composted (aerobically decomposed) fully on the farm as far as possible. This is achieved through well-structured, regularly-shifted dung heaps. This way, instead of emitting the greenhouse gas methane, the dung heaps release less harmful CO₂ into the atmosphere.

This processing involves additional work and costs, and is therefore only worthwhile when the composting offers clear advantages for the business. The business is remunerated for the climate protection impact from the reduction of methane emissions through support payments. As a fertilizer, the composted dung has a positive effect on the formation of humus and provides a lasting supply of nitrogen to the fields.

The composting of farm manure is well known in organic cultivation and various studies and investigations have demonstrated its positive effect. Due to the money and time involved though, manure processing is not widely used. The aim, therefore, is to support farmers with their investments in infrastructure, works and climate protection with a grant of approx. CHF 20 per tonne of fresh dung. The programme encourages the processing of dung on set areas.

Grants

Producers can apply for grants for various different things depending on...
the space and existing infrastructure available:

- For the construction of a second manure tray.
- For the construction of a fixed composting line.
- Specific investments required for composting (equipment, training)

**Contact**

Ian Rothwell, project management, Tel. direct: 044 206 34 17, Email

*Note: This programme does not accept any more applications. The Support Programme for agroforestry is still open for new applications.*

This project contributes to 3 SDGs:

- Around 500 tonnes of manure are composted every year.
- 100 tons of CO$_2$ are saved annually.
- The fertility of the soil is increased by spreading compost.

Turning the rent with the compost turner enables the composting process and reduces greenhouse gases such as methane and nitrous oxide.

In the covered compost rent the manure becomes fertile fertilizer for the fields. The paved area and the drain into the slurry pit prevent the environment from being polluted.