

## EFFECT OF COMPOSTING ON FRUCTIFICATION OF *LENTINUS SUBNUDUS* BERK

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### ABSTRACT

The effect of composting (fermentation) on fructification of *Lentinus subnudus* Berk was investigated. Composted substrate formulations of cotton waste (86%) + rice bran (10%) + CaSO<sub>4</sub> (4%), rice straw (86%) + rice bran (10%) + CaSO<sub>4</sub> (4%) and sawdust (86%) + rice bran (10%) + CaSO<sub>4</sub> (4%) produced large fruitbodies and significant increase in number of fruitbodies and compost % yield compared with un-composted substrates having the same formulations. Composted substrate of cotton waste (86%) + rice bran (10%) + CaSO<sub>4</sub> (4%) caused the greatest enhancement of fructification while composted substrate of sawdust (86%) + rice bran (10%) + CaSO<sub>4</sub> (4%) caused the least. These findings are compared with the findings obtained for other mushrooms by previous workers.

**Keywords:** Composting, fructification, *Lentinus subnudus*.