

How soil is getting Polluted ? & How to prevent it?







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What is Soil Pollution ?



The contamination of soil with solid waste, acid rain excess of fertilizers, Insecticides and herbicides is called soil pollution (or land pollution).

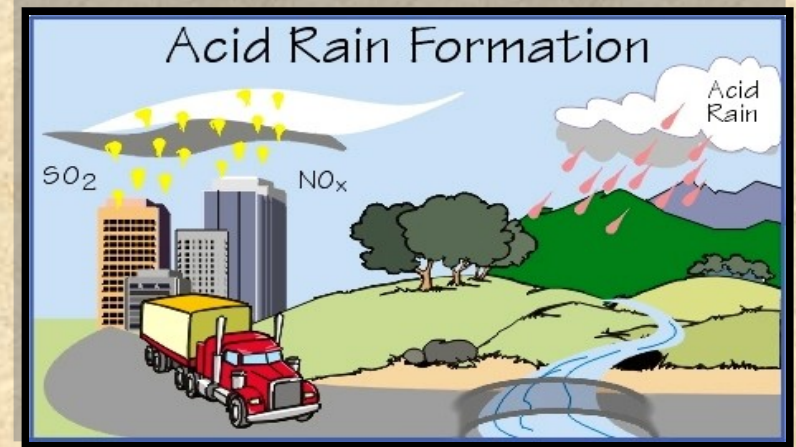


Sources Of Soil Pollution

- **Acid Rain**



Acid Rain is caused by air pollution. The acidic water falls on the soil and pollutes it by making the soil acidic.



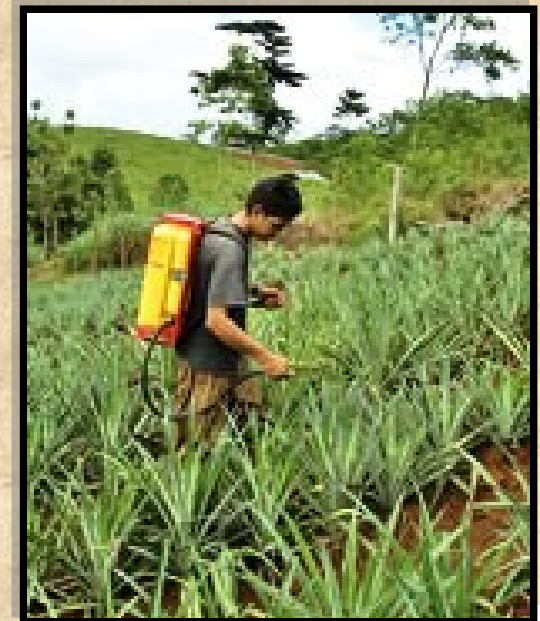
• Solid Wastes

Comes from homes, cattle sheds, agricultural fields, industries and many other places and get accumulated in the form of heaps. Solid waste include Cow dung; Night soil (Human excreta), fruits and vegetable peels ash ,waste paper, metal objects etc.



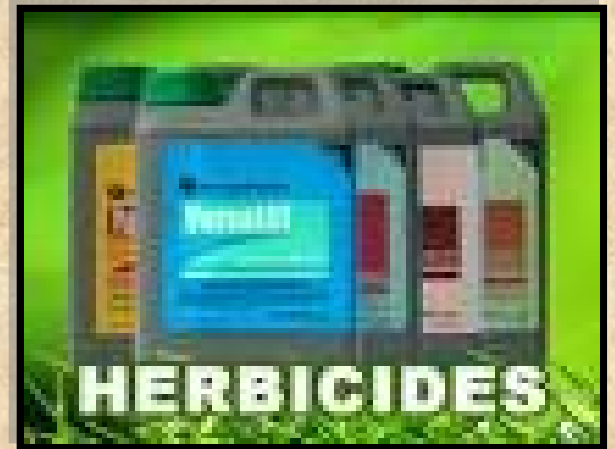
Fertilisers

The use of excess fertilisers to increase the crop yields makes the soil either acidic or alkaline and pollutes it. For example, excessive use of ammonium sulphate fertilisers makes the soil highly acidic whereas the excessive use of sodium nitrate fertilisers makes the soil highly alkaline.



Insecticides and Herbicides

Insecticides and Herbicides are poisonous chemicals which are used to spray standing crops to prevent them from harmful insects and herbs . These insecticides and herbicides mix with the soil and pollute it.



Harmful Effects



● The solid wastes like garbage destroy the natural beauty and become a breeding ground for mosquitoes which spread diseases like malaria and Dengue.



Mosquito Breeding

● Land Pollution caused by acid rain reduce the fertility of soil leading to reduction of crop yields.



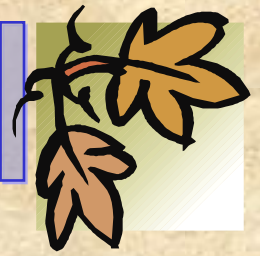
● The pollution caused by the excessive use of fertilisers also reduces the fertility of the soil and crop yields by making the soil either highly acidic or highly alkaline.



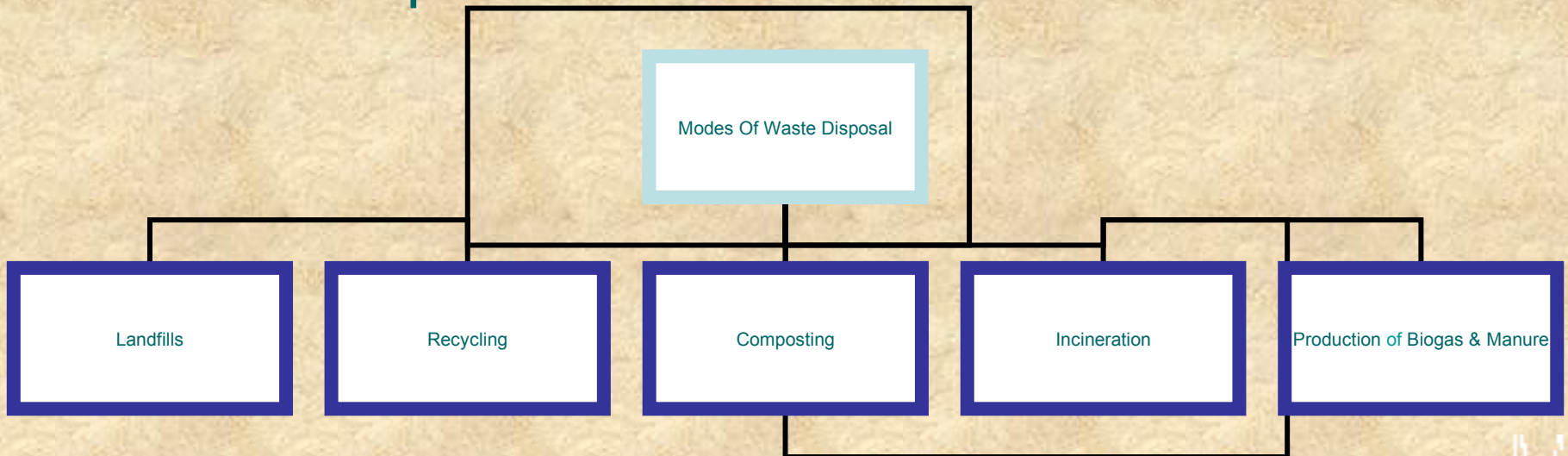
● The soil pollution caused by the use of insecticides and herbicides in agriculture is very dangerous because these chemicals can enter our food chain and damage our health.



Modes Of Waste Disposal



“Disposal of Wastes”-means ‘to get rid of waste’. The disposal of waste should be done in a scientific way. There are different methods of waste disposal. The methods to be used depends on the nature of the waste. Some of the important modes of waste disposal are:-



Landfills

Most of the solid wastes in urban areas are buried in low-lying areas to level the uneven ground. This is called Landfills.



Recycling

It is the method of recovery and processing of Biodegradable wastes or materials after they have been used, which enables them to be used. For example, solid wastes like paper, plastics and metals, etc., are recycled. Industrial wastes are treated in special plants and valuable wastes are recycled.

Composting

In this method, the domestic waste like fruit and vegetable waste, left-over food, leaves of potted plants etc., can be converted into compost and used as manure.

Incineration

It means 'reduction to ashes'. The burning of a substance at high temperature to form ash is called Incineration. It is used to destroy household waste, chemical waste and biological waste. Incineration is carried out in incinerator.

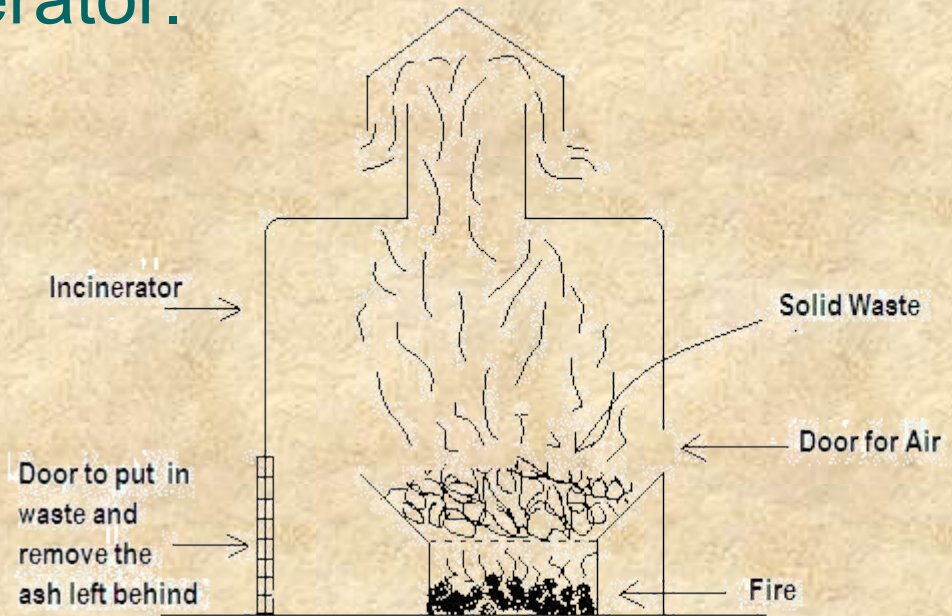
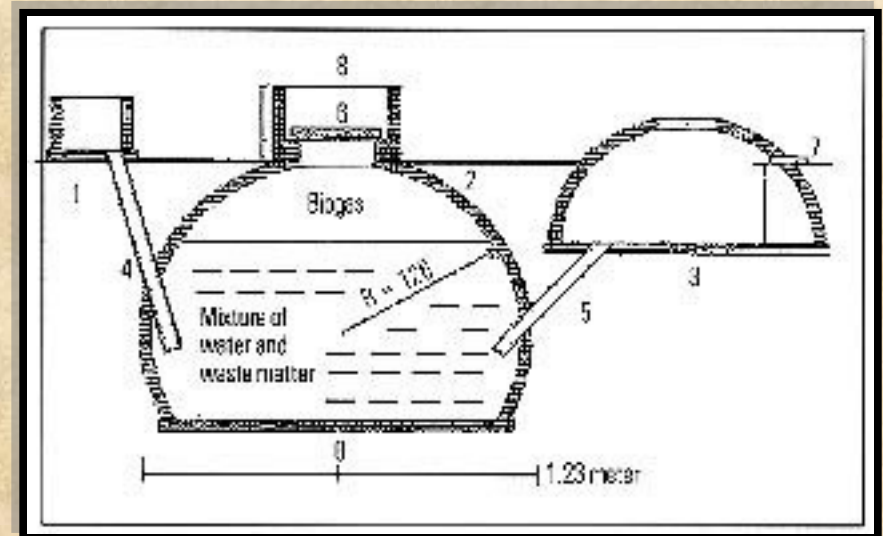


Fig: Incinerator

Production of Biogas & Manure

In this method Cow dung is fed into biogas plants to produce biogas and obtain manure.



THE

END

