

Applications of organic material can be difficult as it:

1. Can be bulky, with high handling and transportation costs.
2. May have high costs per unit of nutrient.
3. Is not always available.
4. Has to be applied at the beginning of the crop (thus early applications may not meet later crop demand for nutrients).
5. Can have an unpleasant odor, making it undesirable for farmers and others.

Combining organic manure and fertilizer

It is advisable to combine the use organic manures with the application of inorganic nutrient sources as needed. This allows farmers to use organic materials or manure available on-farm at low cost to supply a portion of the crop's demand for nutrients and improve soil fertility where required. The use of organic manures available on-farm can return high yields and profit when combined with inorganic fertilizer, particularly on upland or poor lowland soils. However, it is often not profitable to buy organic fertilizers even if they are sold as fortified organic fertilizers, which is a ready mix of organic and inorganic fertilizers.

