



# Bio Vet Innovator Magazine

Volume 2 (Issue 6) JUNE 2025



WORLD MILK DAY – 01 JUNE

POPULAR ARTICLE

## Waste To Wealth: Utilizing Livestock Manure For Biofertilizers And Biogas Production

**Dr. Shailesh Kumar Purohit<sup>1\*</sup>, Dr. Tinkal Damor<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Utsav Chaudhary<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Raj Patel<sup>1</sup>, and Dr. M. M. Islam<sup>2</sup>**<sup>1</sup>M.V.Sc. Scholar, Department of Livestock Production Management, College of Veterinary Science & A. H., Kamdhenu University, Anand, Gujarat, India<sup>2</sup>Associate Research Scientist and Head, Pashupalan Sanshodhan Kendra, VASREU, Kamdhenu University, Ramna Muvada, Gujarat, India**\*Corresponding Author:** [shaileshpurohit3222@gmail.com](mailto:shaileshpurohit3222@gmail.com)**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.15858929>**Received:** June 23, 2025**Published:** June 28, 2025© All rights are reserved by **Shailesh Kr. Purohit**

### Abstract:

Transforming waste material into Biogas production and Biofertilizer is more beneficial and environment friendly than the improper management of manure. Biogas primarily composed of methane and carbon dioxide, is a renewable energy source generated from the anaerobic digestion of organic materials such as livestock manure in four important steps: Hydrolysis, Acidogenesis, Acetogenesis, and Methanogenesis. Slurry after the biogas production is also used directly on the farm as a fertilizer or to prepare Biofertilizer mainly from inoculum preparation, carrier selection, and nutrient enrichment. Biogas and Biofertilizer production from waste really works like wealth creation from waste because it benefits innovative and sustainable approaches to waste management on the farm, energy independency, job creation, renewable energy production, and sustainable agriculture.

**Key Words:** Biogas, Biofertilizer, Waste, Wealth, Energy

### Introduction:

Indian people are connected with farming and maximum people use their land for farming. Nearly 55% population depends on agriculture and the allied sector for their livelihood. In recent years there has been a growing focus on sustainable agriculture practices and waste management. One of the most important and trending areas of this innovation is the conversion of livestock manure into valuable resources such as biofertilizer and biogas production. The process of transforming livestock manure into these products not only solves the waste disposal problem but also contributes to the economy of the nation, reducing the dependency on synthetic fertilizer and non-renewable & expensive fuels. Livestock manure consisting of faeces, urine, bedding materials, and leftover feed material. Manure is rich in organic matter and

nutrients such as nitrogen(N), phosphorus(P), potassium(K) etc., which are essential for plant growth. Traditionally, Manure is used as a basic fertilizer or discarded improperly, leading to pollution, greenhouse gas emission, and loss of valuable nutrients. With the right processing methods, livestock manure can become a very powerful tool to creating wealth and environment sustainability through biofertilizer and biogas production.

### Production of Biofertilizer from Livestock Manure:

The production of biofertilizer include several steps that transfer manure to nutrient rich biofertilizer. Cow dung carries a rich microbial diversity, including various species of bacteria (*Bacillus*, *Corynebacterium*, and *Lactobacillus* spp.), protozoa, and yeasts (*Saccharomyces* and *Candida*). Here overview of biofertilizer process.

### Steps For Biofertilizer Production:

- 1. Collection and preparation:** Collection of animal waste material including faeces, bedding material and feed waste material. Crushing or grinding the large particle into smaller particle if necessary.
- 2. Decomposition and fermentation:** The waste undergoes controlled microbial activity in anaerobic condition. This step breakdown organic matter and releases essential nutrients.
- 3. Isolation and selection of microbial inoculants:** Microorganisms are isolated from the waste based on their ability to enhance plant growth through function like nitrogen fixation or phosphorus solubilization (Saha *et.al.*, 2023). Pure culture of desired strains is selected and tested for efficacy in promoting plant growth.
- 4. Inoculum preparing and carrier selection:**
  - **Inoculum preparation** – the selected microbial strains are prepared for inoculation into carrier material
  - **Carrier selection** – compost, biogas slurry are used as a carrier to support the microbial viability (Saha *et.al.*, 2023).
- 5. Inoculation and curing**
  - **Inoculation** – microbial inoculum is applied to the carrier material.
  - **Curing** – inoculated carrier is allowed to mature, ensuring the microbes are viable and effective.
- 6. Nutrient enrichment:** In the biofertilizer addition of nutrients like nitrogen and phosphorus as per the soil and crop requirement in varies area (Sharma *et.al.*,2023).
- 7. Final processing**
  - **Formulation** – Biofertilizer is formulated into granules or pellets or any other forms for easy application.
- 8. Preservation and storage:** Storage of biofertilizer in cool and dry place, away from direct sunlight and heat. Ideally at temperatures between 15 to 25 Celsius.

## Production Of Biogas from Livestock Manure:

Biogas is not only an energy source but also a versatile technology that contributes to sustainable development goals. In line with the European Union's 2030 renewable energy targets, it aims to increase biogas' share in energy production (European Biogas Association, 2023). Biogas reduces carbon footprint and ensures energy security by replacing fossil fuels. The biogas production process offers an important solution to waste management by evaluating organic waste. Processing organic waste in biogas facilities reduces methane gas emissions and helps prevent environmental pollution. In addition, fermented waste (digestate) generated during biogas production supports sustainable agriculture by reducing chemical fertilizers use as biofertilizer. Biogas facilities, especially for large livestock enterprises, are critical in ensuring environmental sustainability (Weiland, 2010). Biogas facilities established in rural areas reduce energy costs and create employment opportunities. Biogas production is an effective tool in combating climate change. The greenhouse effect of methane gas in the atmosphere is approximately 25 times greater than carbon dioxide (IPCC, 2021). Evaluating animal and agricultural waste for biogas production helps slow global warming by preventing the direct release of these gases into the atmosphere. Biogas production technologies are constantly developing to increase energy efficiency and reduce costs. In addition, integrating biomethane obtained from biogas into natural gas networks can accelerate the renewable energy transition by reducing fossil fuel use (European Biogas Association, 2023).

## Biogas Production Mechanism:

Consists of four complex processes: hydrolysis, acidogenesis, acetogenesis and methanogenesis (Benali *et.al.*, 2019).

- 1. Hydrolysis:** in the process of hydrolysis complex and large organic matters (protein, carbohydrates, lipid) are broken down into simple and smaller components (amino acid, sugar, fatty acids). Hydrolysis phase is a starting phase of anaerobic digestion and speed up the biochemical reaction by hydrolytic enzymes. It is an important process for the transformation of organic substance into usable forms in subsequent stages.
- 2. Acidogenesis:** in this stage organic substance are further broken down and transform into high-energy potential compound. Volatile fatty acid (butyrate, propionic acid) compound producing the alcohol, hydrogen, and carbon dioxide.
- 3. Acetogenesis:** in this stage hydrogen and carbon dioxide are converted into acetate by the acetogenic bacteria which are used in acetogenesis process. Acetate is directly used for methane production during methanogenesis.
- 4. Methanogenesis:** in final stage group of methanogens produce methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) by the use of acetate, carbon dioxide and other one carbon compound. This stage is the most important step in determining the energy content of biogas.

### Economic and Environmental Benefit of Waste to Wealth Models:

Utilizing livestock manure for biofertilizer and biogas production offers numerous economic, environmental, and societal benefits:

- 1. Waste Management:** Efficient manure management helps reduce pollution, including the contamination of waterways from excess nutrient and lowers methane emission from unprocessed manure piles.
- 2. Energy independence:** Biogas production reduces dependence on fossil fuels, offering farmers an alternative energy sources that can be used for farm operation or sold to local power production houses.
- 3. Soil fertility and agricultural Sustainability:** Biofertilizers derived from livestock manure enhance soil quality and support sustainable farming practice, leading to higher crop yields and improved food security.
- 4. Job creation:** The establishment of biogas plants and biofertilizer production facilities can create local jobs in agricultural, waste management and renewable energy sectors.

### Conclusion:

The concept of transforming livestock manure into biofertilizer and biogas is an innovative and sustainable approach to waste management, renewable energy production and sustainable agriculture. By harnessing the power of manure as a resource, farmers can contribute to reducing environmental impacts, improving soil health, generating renewable energy and increase their economic opportunities. However, overcoming the challenges related to investment, technical expertise, and regulation will be critical to realizing the full potential of waste to wealth initiatives. With the right policies, technology, and education, the utilization of livestock manure could be a key driver of the circular economy, leading to a greener and more sustainable future for agriculture and energy production.

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