

INACTIVATION OF *ESCHERICHIA COLI* DURING COMPOSTING PROCESS OF ORGANIC WASTES WITH SEWAGE SLUDGE

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Abstract: The aim of the study was to estimate the effect of the composting process in the container technology Kneer on *E. coli* inactivation. The bacteria placed in the special carriers were introduced into the composted material. The elimination rate of *E. coli* differed depending on both the carriers' location in the biomass and the thermal conditions. The most effective hygienization of the material was noticed in summer – after 48 h in the middle layer, 6 days in the top layer and 10 days in the bottom layer. In spring and autumn, the bacteria survived the longest in the bottom layer – 83 and 45 days, respectively. Apart from the high temperature, the research points out the action of other factors such as competition, antagonism and antibiosis.