

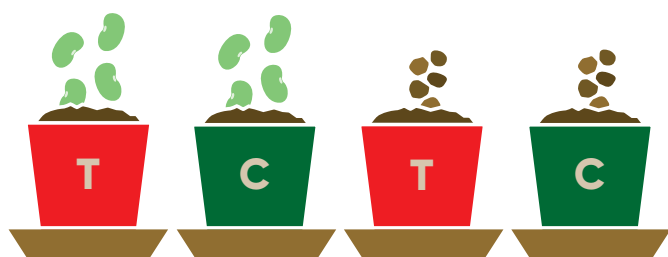
Bioassay for testing for the presence of herbicide residues in manure or compost



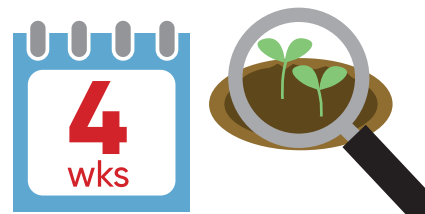
1 Fill eight **clean** pots solely with multi-purpose compost. These will be the untreated comparisons.

2 Thoroughly mix 1 part suspect manure/suspect compost with 1 part non-suspect multi-purpose compost in a clean bucket. Prepare enough to fill eight 5 inch pots. These will be the test pots.

3 Place each of the pots in a **separate** saucer to prevent water from one pot reaching another. Water pots and leave to stand for **24** hours.



4 Plant four of the test pots and four of the untreated comparison pots with four broad bean seeds per pot. Plant the remaining four test pots and four untreated comparison pots with four to five radish seeds per pot.



5 Observe subsequent growth for a **four week period** and note any ill effects in the pots containing the manure mix, such as cupped leaves and fernlike growth on new shoots. See www.manurematters.co.uk for examples. If possible **take photos** of both the untreated comparison pots and pots with tested manure/compost



Fernlike or cupped leaf symptoms in broad beans may indicate the presence of a hormonal herbicide residue such as aminopyralid or clopyralid within the suspect manure or suspect compost. If both species are affected, or there are signs of other kinds of damage or growth effects this will most likely indicate other issues such as nutrient availability, water stress, bacterial infection etc.

If you have received suspect manure/suspect compost that the bioassay indicates the presence of aminopyralid or clopyralid, then use the contact form on www.manurematters.co.uk to report.