

A Handbook on the Bio-Dynamic Preparations

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Question

92 years after Rudolf Steiner's Agriculture Course we still were missing a comprehensive basic formation for instructors and researchers for the Bio-Dynamic Preparations. Rudolf Steiner's instructions are often overseen and forgotten. Many valuable experiences which are reported in the Bio-Dynamic literature are not easy to find.

Methods

- Trying to learn do all the works around the Preparations by myself.
 - Inquiring into fairly every question which appeared.
 - Studying Rudolf Steiner's Agriculture Course and other works of Steiner.
 - Collecting everything about the making and application of these Preparations.
 - Consulting many libraries and archives.
 - Consulting also literature about important themes as the anatomy of the organs we need for the making of these Preparations.
 - Corresponding and working with pioneers: Hugh Courtney, Hugh Lovel, Peter Proctor, Alex Podolinsky, Pierre and Vincent Masson etc.
 - Checking methods for their feasibility and developing new methods.
- N.B.: The effectiveness of the methods is not part of this research although it puts many questions.

Discussion

A book with 748 pages full of practical information and accurate descriptions, with a bibliography with much more than 4'000 citations.

A manual and encyclopedia for practice and research.

It raises a lot of questions. Some have to be answered in a concrete situation, but some are of general interest:

- The consistence of the Preparations (dry, humid, colloidal?).
- The importance of warming water for stirring Preparation Horn manure 500 (and Horn Silica 501).
- The importance of the intensity of stirring Horn Manure and Horn Silica Preparations.

For the stirring of the Preparations exists a more actual publication. (Stappung 2018) The complement: The Preparation Study of Sedlmayr et al.: That is a in-depth sociological study on some few persons, has no historic dimension and deals only about the making of these Preparations,

Conclusion Although this book is not perfect, we have a basis now. This overview raises many questions. Some may give rise to further research. Others should not be answered in general. In practice, we need many possibilities because we have not everywhere the same prerequisites.

– Stappung, Walter: Die Düngerpräparate Rudolf Steiners – Herstellung und Anwendung. Edited by the author, CH-Rüfenacht 2017.
Main part 632 p.: SBN 978-3-9521944-3-0
Bibliography 116 p.: ISBN 978-3-9521944-4-7
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<https://www.duengerpraeparate.ch/en/publications/book-preparations>

– Stappung, Walter: Biologisch-Dynamische Präparate rühren. Edited by the author. CH-Rüfenacht 2018. ISBN 978-3-9521944-6-1

<https://www.duengerpraeparate.ch/en/publications/booklet-stirring>

– Sedlmayr, Ambra et al.: The biodynamic preparations in context: Individual approaches to preparation work – Case studies of worldwide practice. Section for Agriculture at the Goetheanum, CH-Dornach 2016.

