Worm Bin Troubleshooting

PROBLEM	CAUSES	SOLUTIONS
Bad smell	Overfeeding	Stop feeding for two weeks
	Food scraps are exposed to air	Bury food completely
	Bin is too wet	Take lid off to increase ventilation and add dry bedding
	Not enough ventilation inside bin	Drill more holes into bin
Bin attracts flies	Food scraps are exposed to air	Bury food completely
	Too much food inside bin	Reduce feeding rate and amount
Worms are dying	Bin is too wet	Take lid off to increase ventilation and add dry bedding
	Bin is too dry	Dampen beddding using mister
	Temperatures inside the bin are at the extremes	Move bin to an area with more suitable temperatures
	Not enough ventilation inside bin	Drill more holes into bin
	Not enough food	Add more bedding and food
Mold is forming	Conditions are too acidic	Remove mold and reduce the amount of acidic foods added
Bedding is too dry	Too much ventilation	Mist bedding and reinforce lid
Bedding it too wet	Poor ventilation	Remove lid for a couple of days
	Over-watering	Add dry bedding
	Adding food scraps that contain a lot of liquid	Reduce foods with a high water content, mix food with bedding material before feeding

Source: North Carolina State Extension

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