**Actively Aerated Compost Tea Basic Recipe:**  
(With gratitude to Elaine Ingham, [http://www.soilfoodweb.com](http://www.soilfoodweb.com))

This is the Biobrew being used in New Orleans for soil bioremediation, and also is fabulous fertilizer and soil conditioner for the garden, orchard, etc.

Water must be dechlorinated:

Rain water, spring water, pond water, lake water etc.  
OR  
City water left to stand overnight, or aerated for an hour  
OR  
For cities that use chloramines instead of chlorine (which includes San Francisco) add humic acid and aerate for an hour

Compost should be good quality, aerobic compost  
For fungal brews, use a compost with a fungal base—i.e. wood chips, spent mushroom strata, good aged compost that exhibits mycelial colonization

Pump can be a simple air pump for an aquarium—but get a higher rating than you would use for a fish tank. A pump rated for 40 gallons works really well in a five gallon bucket and reasonably well in a garbage can

Amounts:  
Basic Recipe: 1 tsp. Per gallon or 1 cup per five gallon bucket  
But experiment! If you use more, especially of the inoculant, you’ll get more growth faster. If you add too much food and there’s a problem with your air supply, it can go anaerobic.

**Bacterial Brew:**

**Water**  
Inoculant:  
- Compost  
- Worm castings  
Food:  
- Humic acid  
- Molasses

**Fungal brew:**

**Water**  
Inoculant:  
- Compost  
- Worm castings  
Food:  
- Humic acid
Fulvic acid
Fish hydrolase

Additional things to add (for general fertility):
Comfrey feed or other fermented plant material
Rock dust (Azomite)
Mycorrhizal fungi—add just before application or at the end of brewing, once spores wake up, they need to bond with plant roots within 24 hours. Also they are delicate and the action of the brewer can damage them.
Bat guano (for soil drench to encourage flowering and fruiting)

To make the brew:

Set up the pump, add ingredients and let brew 24-36 hours. If you keep the brew well aerated, it will keep for up to five days in cool temperatures.

For foliar spray applications:
Make a ‘teabag’ from an old nylon or cheesecloth for the solid ingredients.

You can dilute the finished brew up to five times with dechlorinated water.

For general soil fertility and bioremediation—apply as a soil drench using a watering can or sprayer.

For disease control on plants and foliar feeding—apply as a foliar spray.

Bacterial/Fungal spectrum:

There’s a spectrum of which plants prefer more bacterial or more fungal soil, from grasses on one end to conifers on the other.

Most bacterial:
Grasses, pioneering weeds

More bacterial but somewhat fungal:
Most garden annuals

Bacterial/Fungal:
Strawberries, berries, vines, shrubs

More fungal:
Deciduous trees, fruit trees

Most fungal:
Conifers
Where to get humic acid, fulvic acid etc.? Check on the web. Peaceful Valley Farm supply sells by mail, as do some other sources. Harmony Farm Supply in Graton, CA carries some of these. Elaine Ingham’s website, www.soilfoodweb.com, carries supplies and also sources for commercial-scale tea brewers.