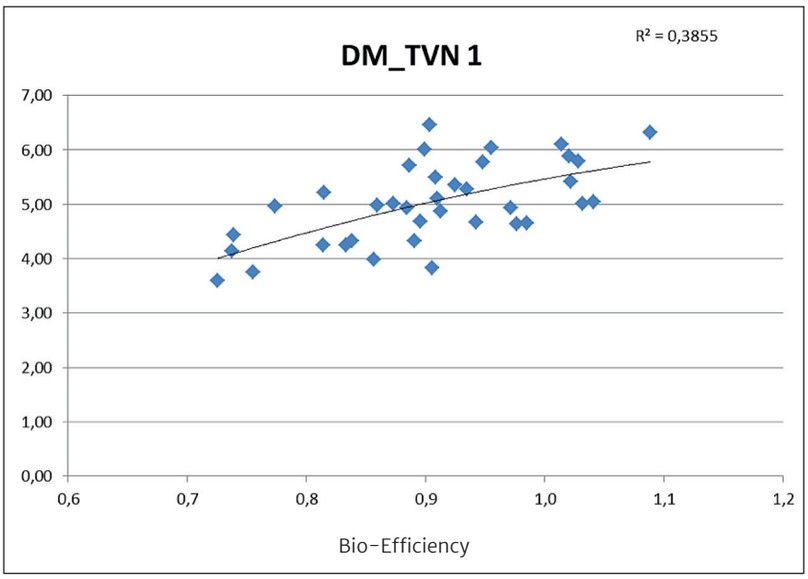

Graph 1 shows the correlation between the TVN Phase I and the Bio Efficiency of the compost. Active compost during phase I gives a better compost.

If your load of straw is supplied with a moisture content below 10%, it can be stored for a long time. Straw with a moisture content of around 15% should be used fairly quickly and straw with a moisture content higher than 20% must be used as soon as possible.

If we look at table 1, straw with a nitrogen value of 0.7% results in a nitrogen value in a standard recipe in phase I compost of 1.7% and in phase III compost of 2.6%. Without any changes to the recipe, straw with 0.3% N will give a nitrogen value in phase I compost of 1.4% and in phase III compost of 2.3%. To correct this, approximately 10% extra chicken manure will be needed, or nitrogen from other sources such as ammonium sulphate.

Carbohydrates are the primary energy source in the composting process and also for the Agaricus mycelium. In addition, carbohydrates also greatly determine the structure and water absorption capacity. The difference in a phase III compost made using straw with a high or low hemicellulose content (as shown in table 1) is 10 kg of hemicellulose per ton of compost if the compost process is not adapted. This is almost as much as adding a supplement or not.