

Rice Husking

- .husking rice removes the bran layer, germ, and husk
- .rice is left with a starchy endosperm hard protective covering
- .white rice is a nutritional vacuum, except for carbohydrates
- .brown rice is higher in fiber, vitamins, minerals (vs. white rice)
- .the husk contains fiber

Rice Hull / Husk

- .a waste product
- .husk is 28% by weight of original rice
- .contains 20% silica by weight, considered a biological silica ore
- .formed from silica and lignin
- .protects seed during growing season
- .takes a long time to decompose

Real World Applications

- .additive for steel and concrete industry
- .activated carbon, insulator
- .fuel and burner for furnaces, producing energy
- .material science, eg. particle board

Agricultural Application

- .soil ammendment
- .low quality filler for livestock feed
- .low value for composting
- .no value as a fertilizer
- .can break down clay soil to make it more loose and friable

Just The Facts

- .rice is a hyper accumulator of silica
- .hull value is silica content / replenishment
- .silica creates thicker cell walls
- .silica makes plants more drought resistant
- .soil already has a lot of silica
- .ph of 7
- .will degrade in 6mth to 5 years, depends on temperature

Recommendations

- .#1 application is soil ammendment, especially clay soils
- .mix hull with soil and use for seed starting
- .not recommended as a fertilizer
- .indoor use as mulch
- .fungus nat deterrent (??)
- .attract pests like termites (??)

References

.YouTube 'Gardening in Canada'

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.Earl Weak, UCMG

Author

Roger Morin

RogerM0131@gmail.com

707-799-0970