Ed’s Raised Box Recipe

**Materials** for a 12”x4’x8’ box—may be scaled up

- 2-12” x 4’ x 8’ sides
- 2-12” x 2’ x 4’ ends
- 4-2” x 4” x 12” ends blocking/reinforcing
- Approx. 36-2 ½” screws or 16d common nails
- Flattened cardboard to cover 6’ x 10’ patch of lawn as weed barrier

**Build box and place on top of cardboard**

**Filling**

- 4-6” of manure fresh or composted-worm food/nutrients/organic matter
- One-two buckets of fish scraps if you dare/high nitrogen and some phosphorus
- Two buckets coffee grounds-scent camouflage for fish with the manure/nitrogen
- Four to eight buckets seaweed/potassium and trace minerals
- Two to four buckets spent brewers grain/organic matter and nitrogen
- Mix in one to two quarts of wood ashes/potassium and lime
- Finish filling box with good draining topsoil or even sand until heaping-this will settle
- Cover with clear plastic for the winter to allow worms and soil microbes to break down the mixture

**Cook for six months**

- Uncover in late April/early May and add one quart of balanced organic blend fertilizer—well mixed in top 4” of soil
- Plant seeds and stand back
- Water as necessary
- PVC hoops covered with clear plastic may accelerate growth

**Harvest, Rinse, Repeat**

**If starting in spring, better to use composted manure and brewers grain**

- You may build two boxes side by side with a two foot path between, stand up 20’ lengths of 1” PVC pipe hoops, two feet apart, cover with clear plastic and voila—a hoophouse you can standup inside!
- Use a ten foot length of 2”x 4” with 1 ¼” holes drilled for a ridgepole through which the PVC is pushed