Fertilizer from Urine

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Human urine contains valuable nutrients. It is an excellent fertilizer.

To capture these nutrients, eThekwini Water and Sanitation is collecting urine from urine diverting toilets in the area.

New technologies to recover nutrients

With the collected urine, researchers can test new technologies to extract the nutrients and produce fertilizer products.

These fertilizer products can be used in local agriculture.

What happens to the urine?

Urine from the urine diverting toilets and waterless urinals is collected in small tanks attached to the toilet foundation walls.

From the household toilets, urine is transported to a central storage site.

A large tank holds the urine at the central storage site.

Researchers use the stored urine to test new technologies to extract the nutrients contained in urine and produce fertilizer.

The produced fertilizer can be used in local agriculture to improve vegetable growth.