PROBLEM:
Priority grower identified problems:
   1) lack of access to CTAHR eggplant hybrids seeds,
   2) potential hybrid issues due to low productivity in commercial fields-grower seeked other hybrids to maintain market share.

PROJECT
1. In October 2013, we initiated a cutting trial at Poamoho Research Station to address the issue.
2. 2013 trials showed cuttings were possible when grown in a media of perlite and vermiculite in 29 days
3. Growth hormones at 0.8% IBA concentrations were used
4. A commercial mist system was installed to maintain high humidity
5. Success was rated at 90% using the above methods
6. 2014, converted media to a potting mixture (Sunshine mix #4 with mycorrhizae, perlite and vermiculite) to minimize re-potting time
7. Assessed different nutrient supplements to increase the speed in going from cutting to field
   a. Evaluated original media (perlite / vermiculite) with no additional additives (control)
   b. Evaluated original media with Root Mass and applied as label directed
   c. Evaluated new media with Root Mass and applied as label directed
   d. Evaluated new media with Great White-Mycorrhizae
   e. Evaluated new media with Osmocote
Second Assessment: 6/18/14
Standard mix of 50: vermiculite + perlite + weekly foliar applications