

WHITE PAPER: Seed Shortage-Mass Propagation of Eggplant Cutting,  
June 12, 2014  
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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 sought 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



STANDARD  
VERICULITE / PERLITE

ROOT MASS W/ SUNSHINE MIX 4

ROOT MASS W/ VERMI / PERLITE



