

Making the Cut: Propagation by Cuttings

Start Them Off Right

- Choose disease free material
- Make sure all tools and pots are sterile
(sterilize tools and pots using a bleach solution of 15ml bleach per litre of water)
- Use a well drained, watered, sterilized soil mixture
(1:1 Pro Mix[®] plus perlite)
- Use a very sharp blade to prepare cuttings

Making the Cut

- Collect cuttings from parent plants. Take cuttings a little longer than needed allowing for trimming later
- Prepare cuttings by making an angled cut just below a desired leaf node
- Stand prepared cuttings in water before sticking

Sticking it to 'em

- Remove cutting from water onto paper towel to tap-dry cut end
- Dip the cut end in rooting hormone (powder or gel)
- Using a pencil, make a hole in soil to insert the cutting
- Insert cutting deep enough so that at least one leaf node is in contact with the soil
- Firm soil around the cutting with pencil to remove any air pockets and ensure cutting is in good contact with soil
- After all cuttings are stuck, place pot inside a clear plastic bag and close using a twist-tie

The Waiting Game

- Place bag in high light but not direct sun with bottom heat if possible
- Check periodically to let in fresh air and check for water

All Grown Up

- After roots are visible, remove pot from bag. Let cuttings develop furthermore until a good root mass has developed.
- Fertilize every two weeks using 10.52.10 water soluble fertilizer to help develop root system
- Separate each cutting and pot up into individual pots

