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Potato minituber production under Hydroponic Sand Culture

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Inadequate supply of good quality seed tubers is a major
constraint in potato (Solanum tuberosum L.) economic
production in developing countries. Tissue culture in
conjunction with hydroponics is the main technology has been
applied to rapidly multiply potato pre-basic seed tubers (mini-
tubers). Isolation and use of sterile growing media are two
important factors in production of healthy potato mini-tubers.
Select of best growing medium for mini-tuber production
depends on many variables including price, availability,
phytosanitary and etc. Organic growing media, may harbor
some pathogenic agents, are expensive and need to be
replaced periodically. A relatively low cost method for potato
mini-tuber production was devised by sand as growing
medium. Sand provides an inert nature medium with more
pore volume (more oxygen transport), stable structure, less
water retention and large volume of accessible water to the
plants. In developed hydroponic sand culture, phosphorus
concentration was doubled for 10 days to induce tuber
formation. Higher phosphorus concentration increased the
level of endogenous ABA and IAA, induced tuberization and
thereby increased net photosynthesis rate. 68 pp. Englisch.



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