

Effect of Amended Growth Media on the Production of *Coffea canephora* Seedlings in the Nursery

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SUMMARY

Five growing media namely; topsoil sawdust (cured) topsoil + sawdust (1:1 ratio), topsoil + sawdust + N.P.K at two levels: 60:30:30 and 30:15:15 kg/ha were used in raising pre-germinated two-leaf stage coffee seedlings in the nursery. The assay of the growth media was taken prior to the experimentation. Treatments were arranged in randomized complete block design in four replicates. Agronomic data were taken at two months interval for six months on plant height, number of leaves, leaf area and stem diameter. Data obtained were analyzed using analysis of variance (ANOVA) and means separated with Duncan's Multiple Range Test (DMRT). Results indicated that, topsoil was not significantly different ($P \leq 0.05$) from topsoil + sawdust (1:1 ratio) and topsoil + sawdust + N.P.K 60: 30:30: kg/ha in all growth parameters measured. Least performance was observed in 100% sawdust, which was significantly different from other treatments. Topsoil + sawdust (1:1 ratio) could therefore be preferred in the raising of coffee seedlings thereby reducing the amount of topsoil that will be excavated from the field annually.