

The Effect of Leaf on Half-Node Stem Cuttings on the Propagation of Robusta Coffee (*Coffea canephora*) in Nigeria

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SUMMARY

Robusta coffee (*Coffea canephora*) has been hitherto propagated successfully by single node stem cuttings in Nigeria. Recently, the demand for rooted stem cutting out spanned the available stem cuttings materials on field; hence a trial was initiated at Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria, Ibadan to investigate the propagation of robusta coffee by half node stem cuttings. Leafy and non-leafy half node stem cuttings of two improved clones of *C. canephora* (C111 and C36) were evaluated for sprouting and rooting successes at fortnightly intervals for four months. The experimental design was Randomized Complete Block Design (RCBD) with four replicates. Data collected were analyzed statistically using analysis of variance (ANOVA) and the means were separated using Least Significant Difference (LSD). Results showed that leafiness had significant effects on sprouting and rooting ($p \leq 0.01$). The leafy half node cutting had sprouting percent of 70.31 and 60.94 at 7 and 15 Weeks After Set (WAS) respectively while the non-leafy half node had sprouting per cent of 0 at both periods. The percentage sprouting of clone C111 was significantly higher than C36 at $p \leq 0.05$.