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BASIL REFEREE

Summary of Questionnaire and Preview of Data

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- Purpose of this referee is to obtain enough data to have justification to add an additional substrate for the germination testing of *Ocimum basilicum* (Sweet Basil).
 - Current Substrates for Basil in AOSA Rules:
 - Substrata: B (Between Blotters); T (Paper Toweling, used either as folded towel tests or as rolled towel tests in horizontal or vertical position.)
 - Proposed Additional Substrate:
 - Substrata: TB (Top of Blotters).
 - Aligns with current ISTA Methods of TP.
 - TP: The seeds are germinated on top of one or more layers of paper which are placed:
 - on the Jacobsen apparatus (5.5.3.1);
 - into transparent boxes or Petri dishes which may be placed in a flat or inclined position. The appropriate quantity of water is added at the beginning of the test and evaporation may be minimized by a tightly fitting lid or by enclosing the dishes in plastic bags;
 - directly on trays in germination incubators which may be placed in a flat or inclined position. The relative humidity in the incubators must then be maintained at a level that prevents tests drying out. Moistened porous paper or absorbent cotton can be used as a base for the substrates.

Overview



Basil Survey Results

- How many samples do you test annually?
 - 0 – 10 Samples: 15 Labs
 - 11 – 50 Samples: 7
 - 51 – 100 Samples: 1
 - 101 + Samples: 3
- What substrata do you currently use to test with?
 - B: 11
 - TP: 6
 - Other: 10
- Do you use Potassium Nitrate (KNO₃)?
 - Yes: 23
 - No: 4
- If you answered “No” to the above question, do you have access to Potassium Nitrate (KNO₃)?
 - Yes: 16
 - No: 1

Preview of Preliminary Data

Lot	Planting Method	Time to Plant	First Count Time	Final Count Time	Germination Percentage	Abnormal Percentage	Ungerminated (Dead/Dormant)
1	BB	6:02	8:00	1:53	93	5	2
1	TB	4:58	6:20	1:31	96	2	2
1	RT	11:28	6:53	1:34	97	2	1
2	BB	5:13	6:18	2:03	53	9	38
2	TB	5:12	4:57	2:10	57	5	38
2	RT	11:24	5:35	1:51	61	7	32
3	BB	4:14	7:23	2:46	80	11	9
3	TB	2:51	6:24	2:01	89	7	4
3	RT	8:46	6:20	1:21	94	3	3
4	BB	3:34	8:18	3:47	86	11	3
4	TB	3:01	6:13	2:10	94	5	1
4	RT	7:42	5:51	1:59	95	4	1
5	BB	6:38	6:10	2:31	52	5	43
5	TB	4:49	5:53	1:21	58	4	38
5	RT	11:36	4:38	2:03	59	7	34
6	BB	4:58	8:10	3:36	60	30	10
6	TB	3:07	6:23	2:30	67	20	13
6	RT	7:31	7:11	3:52	71	21	8

Conclusions

- To those who had answered yes to being willing to participate in the Basil Referee will be receiving those samples this summer along with testing instructions.
- Hopefully have a Rules Proposal for the upcoming year (2025).

THANK YOU!