

Patchouli

Planting

Land Preparation

The main field for transplanting is thoroughly disced and tilled. Suitable nematicide, viz., Furadan @20 kg/ha.(active ingredient 30%) or Dasanit @ 150 kg/ha (active ingredient 5%) is broadcast and mixed well into the soil a few days before transplanting. The plot is then laid out in ridges and furrows. The ridge should be 20-25 cm high and 18-22 cm broad with 60 cm row to row distance. The beds should be irrigated a day before the transplantation.

Shading

Patchouli is a shade loving plant. It is felt that patchouli could be tried under coconut in India. It could also be taken up with some suitable crops that provide adequate shade. Gliricidia or Erythrina could be planted well in advance at 5 X 5 m spacing in patchouli field in order to provide the necessary shade.

Method of Planting

Rooted cuttings are transplanted generally in the evening in the main field. The planting is done at 60 x 60 cm apart. Normally 28,000 cuttings will be required per hectare. Irrigate the field immediately after transplantation. Planting of 15-20 cm long unrooted cuttings is also practiced in some areas. These cuttings are planted at the rate of 2 to 3 cuttings per hill. During early stages shade and sufficient moisture are most important requirements. Shade can be removed after the plants establish well.