

Avocado Propagation using the Frolich Method

Cross-pollinated seeds cannot be a clone of the cultivar from which it was taken but we can use a second method known as clonal root stock propagation.

Clonal propagation follows the Florich method whereby a seed is used to start a material just like the seedling root stock. The seedling is grown and grafted with a bud belonging to a mature plant of a rootstock of a cultivar like Juke 7 or Deucy. Plants are then placed in a dark room causing buds to grow into new shoots. Remove the plant from the dark once the shoots are about 20cm long and apply the rooting hormones just below the graft.

Clonal propagation

Cover the seedling with soil leaving the upper part of the shoot emerging from the soil and then leave the plant in a greenhouse to harden off and recover.

Apply a second graft from the scion cultivar from which buds will grow to the desired type of fruit. The first graft covered by the soil will overtake the roots that were grown from the starter seed. The clonal method is time consuming and requires specialized materials.

Major benefit

The main benefit of clonal propagation is that the grower know the exact characteristics of the rootstock because the first graft was made using clonal materials