

# **Oil palm tree nursery management part 2**

Proper palm tree nursery management ensure proper plant growth and greatly generates income to the farmer.

For maximum yields ensure planting good quality, clean palm seeds. Also ensure separating organic and inorganic waste in palm tree fields as well as spraying herbicides on ground between the potted polythene to maximize seedling growth. Furthermore, handle seedling with care during transplanting to avoid losses.

## **Proper practices**

Always irrigate palm trees on a daily basis using flat perforated sprinkler for pre nursery and overhead sprinkler in main nursery to avoid plant desiccation. Also maintain the required water pressure using gauges and stop valves during irrigation to avoid damaging tree crops. Furthermore, check water pipes regularly and unblock the blocked pipes to ensure constant water flow to the crops, then plant tree seeds.

Additionally, hire well trained people to apply fertilizers using calibrated containers as well as avoid contact between seeds and fertilizer. Thereafter mulch using palm kernel shells at 2.5cm depth around the plant to minimize moisture loss, suppress weeds, supply nutrients and prevent erosion. Furthermore, ensure weed control and waste to maximize seedling growth while constantly monitoring and controlling pests.

Thereafter transplanting, cull poor tree and monitor growth from the 4th month after seed planting. Ensure randomly sampling of plants to analyse the progress of growth and at 6-7 months after transplanting cull of poorly growing trees.

Lastly, after 8 months prune roots in the polythene bags to avoid plant shock and thoroughly water seedlings before transplanting to prevent planting shock and flower abortion.