

Results of the 2002 Tobacco Soilless Media Screen

Twelve entries were tested in 2002. All media were used directly from the bag without adding any water. Trays (288 cell) were filled mechanically with a Berry Seeder filler box. After adding a bag of media to the hopper the first three trays were discarded and the next four trays were kept for the test. Trays were seeded with Rickard TN90 pelleted tobacco seed (lot number RB90AAE) and floated in a randomized block design in a common float bay. Temperature was maintained between 68 to 82 F during germination. Dry cells, germination and spiral roots were counted 2 weeks after seeding. A vigor rating was also made with 1 indicating poor vigor and 10 excellent vigor. Note these are preliminary results, counts will be made at three weeks with an evaluation of usable plants at seven weeks.

Dry cells, Germination, and Spiral Roots **2 weeks** after seeding

Brand of Medium	Dry cells #/tray	Germination %	Spiral Root %	Vigor Rating
Burley Gold ^s	0.75*	96.5*	14.4	4.0
Carolina Choice	0.00*	91.9	15.3	2.0
Carolina Silver	1.50	95.3*	12.9	4.0
Promix TA	0.75*	93.9	16.8	4.3
Scotts Ag-Mix	0.00*	96.9*	7.4*	6.0*
Scotts Ag-Mix w COIR	0.25*	96.8*	8.2*	7.3*
Scotts Fortified Ag-Mix	0.00*	95.1	6.9*	6.0*
Southern States	0.00*	97.3*	7.6*	7.0*
Speedling Peat-Lite	0.50*	92.4	17.6	3.0
Speedling Fortified	0.25*	94.4	10.9	3.5
Sunshine LT-3	2.25	95.8*	11.4	4.3
Sunshine LT-5	3.25	95.1	8.5*	5.8
LSD 0.05	0.97	2.1	2.4	1.4

Entries marked with a star are not significantly different from the best entry in the test.

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