

LEGUME INOCULANTS

Reminder

Inoculants are provided in plastic packets and should be kept in refrigerator or in a cool dark place until six (6) months from the date of preparation. Discard the inoculant if contaminated with fungi or other bacteria.

Legume inoculants are available in 50-gram packets sufficient to inoculate 5 kilograms of legume seeds. The 50-gram packet costs P 15.00 (excluding charges for shipping which should be born by the buyer).

Legume inoculants are prepared by the:

Biological Production Section
Laboratory Services Division
Bureau of Soils and Water Management
Quezon City

DA-Regional Production Centers nationwide:

- Region I - San Fernando, La Union
- Region II - Tuguegarao, Cagayan and
Ilagan, Isabela
- Region V - Legaspi City
- Region VI - Iloilo City
- Region VII - Cebu City
- Region VIII - Tacloban City
- Region IX - Zamboanga City
- Region X - Cagayan de Oro City
- Region XI - Davao City

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HOW TO USE LEGUME INOCULANTS

Importance

Legume inoculants are biologically prepared materials in compounded soil mixture containing a pure culture of nitrogen-fixing bacteria or rhizobia which symbiotically fix atmospheric nitrogen into a form that leguminous plant can assimilate.

The use of legume inoculants ensures the introduction of effective N-fixing bacteria which reduces or even eliminates the need for the application of N fertilizer. Inoculation also increases the grain yield and quality of crops. In one study conducted by BSWM in 1991-1992, a 234% increase in peanut yield was obtained due to inoculation.

Legume inoculation is a way of assuring that the rhizobium strains is present in the soil , appropriate for the seed to be planted at the proper time and number sufficient to assure a quick and effective infection and an efficient subsequent N-fixation.

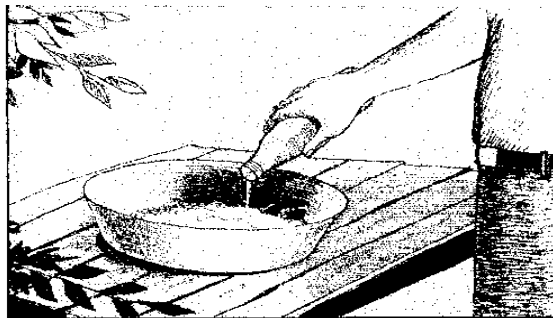
Inoculation is usually accomplished by treating the seed or the soil with a mix of selected strain or strains of bacteria and carrier called inoculum.

Procedures

1. Secure the right kind of inoculant for the legume seeds.
2. Place the legume seeds in a clean container



3. Moisten seeds with just enough water.



4. Add the inoculant to the moistened seeds.



5. Mix the seeds and the inoculant thoroughly until all the seeds are well covered with the inoculant. Make sure the inoculant sticks to the seeds.



6. Plant immediately in moist soil. For better results, the soils should be analyzed. If the soils is found to be acidic, the recommended amount of lime should be added; if nutrients are deficient, the required fertilizers should be applied.

