

SYNOPSIS

In an endeavour to improve both yield and quality of cocoa, work was conducted at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture by the Cocoa Research Scheme,

A COMPARISON OF METHODS OF COCOA PROPAGATION

BY STEM CUTTINGS

botanical section and a genetic survey by Pound (1951, 1952, 1953), propagation studies by Fryer (1951, 1952, 1953), and studies of fruitfulness by Cheeseman.

The objective of the investigation was firstly to compare methods of propagation under experimental conditions, and secondly to investigate methods from their economic aspects. For this purpose the paper was divided.

Under experimental conditions it has been shown that the rooting efficiency and production efficiency is not affected by the method of propagation.

From the economic standpoint the use of humidified glasshouse for large scale propagation is recommended, and for small scale propagation the use of modified closed bins using cored baskets for rooting and hardening in situ is recommended.