Bamboo propagation from rooted cuttings for East Timor

*Propagasaun au oan husi au abut ba Timor Lorosa'e*

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Information from Norman Bezona, Len Lundstorm, and Joe Dalrymple  
*Informasaun husi Norman Bezons, Len Lundstorm, ho Joe Dalrymple*

Translation by Domingos Maria

**When to harvest:**  
*Wainhira maka atu ko'a:*

It is best to harvest cuttings for rooting just at the beginning of the growing season. The culms will have stored up a lot of sugar and starch in anticipation of growing new shoots. They can put the energy into growing new roots. In East Timor, the beginning of the growing season is when the rains start in November to January. Culms harvested after the new shoots on the clump have developed have less stored energy and are less likely to root.

**Propagation material:**  
*Material uza ba propagasaun:*

Make cuttings from a one to two year old culm. Culms must be hard and fully mature. Older culms are less viable and less likely to root. Older culms can be told from younger ones by the moss and lichens growing on them.

Any node with a bud can be rooted. The most viable nodes are in the middle third of the culm. The best nodes are those with a dominant central branch. Leave the first two or three nodes of the main branch attached to the main culm and cut the rest off. Cut off and discard secondary branches. Keep cutting sections from the main culm until the diameter of the culm is thumb-sized. Discard the very top of the culm. Do not use the top sections of the culm where the branch diameter is larger than the main culm diameter. The lower, unbranched part of the culm may be given to the farmer or used for another purpose and only the upper, branchy part used for propagation. If a section with a node has only a bud and no branch has developed, it may be planted horizontally.

* Au fukun maka iha au sanak oan foun nebe moris husi nia lolon bele kria au abut. Au fukun nebe diak liu maka hirak nebe iha centru 1/3 au lolon nian. Au sanak oan nebe diak liu hotu-hotu maka

Cut the culms between the nodes and pot each node. Make the cuts as cleanly as possible. Use a sharp saw.

Ko’a au lolon entre au fukun no monta sira ida-ida iha pot laran. Tenke ko’a au fukun hirak nee halo mos teb-tebes. Tenke uza kado kroat.

**Potting mix:**

*Tau mix iha pot:*

The potting mix needs to be well drained. A mix of river sand and compost works well. The compost helps hold water and gives a little nutrition to the plants. Lining the bottom of the poly bags with newspaper before they are filled with potting mix helps to conserve moisture.

*Potting mix tenke bele susu be ho dia. Kahur ho raihenek mota ho compost sei ne diak tebes. Compost azuda hametin be no fo nutrisia oituan ba ai oan. Nahe polybags okos ho papel zornal nian molok atu ense mixtura pot nian atu nunee bele azuda konserva be ka bokon.

**Planting:**

*Kuda:*

Plant the cuttings at a shallow angle in the poly bags. Brace the potted cuttings alongside the sides of the bed and brace each row against the row behind it. Do not move the cuttings once they start growing.

*Kuda ai oan sira nee iha angulo ka kantu nebe maka badak liu iha poly bags nia laran. Tau pot ho au oan sira iha kantireiro ninin no kuda linha idak-idak fo kotuk ba malu ho linha balun nebe iha sira nia kotuk. Labele muda tan wainhira sira komesa moris ona.

**Planting in beds:**

*Kuda iha kantireiro:*

Entire culms may be laid horizontally in a shallow trench. Drill a hole between every other node and fill the sections with water before planting. A good size for a planting bed is 60 cm across. Cut sections may also be planted in boxes measuring 30 x 100 cm.

*Au lolon tomak hotu-hotu bele hatoba ka latan deit iha rai leten nebe badak liu. Halo kuak ida entre au fukun ho ida seluk no depois ense parte hirak nee ho be molok atu kuda. Medida ka ukuran nebe diak liu atu kuda tenke 60 cm husi rohan ida ba rohan seluk. Parte balun bale kuda iha kaixa ho medida 30 cm x 100 cm.*