

Strawberry Plant Establishment in Greenhouse/High - Tunnel Substrate Systems

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CGC 2018



The rundown

- Production Plant preparation
- Plug (tray) plant dynamics
- Execution
- Expectations
- Ordering timing





- Many advancements in growing techniques on both propagation & production fronts
- A 'Canada' program is beginning to be understood with confidence
- Ever-bearing (Day-neutral) centric

Style Types

Plug



Bareroot







Cell sizing

50CC

140CC

250CC



Cell Sizing

- 50cc : compact plants, nominal room for crown development, lowest cost/plant
- 140cc : ideal plant density, adequate room for root development over time at nursery, thicker caliber crown, great value \$ /plant
- 250cc : large area for root development, great density to avoid stretching potential, industry standard size for June-bearing plants

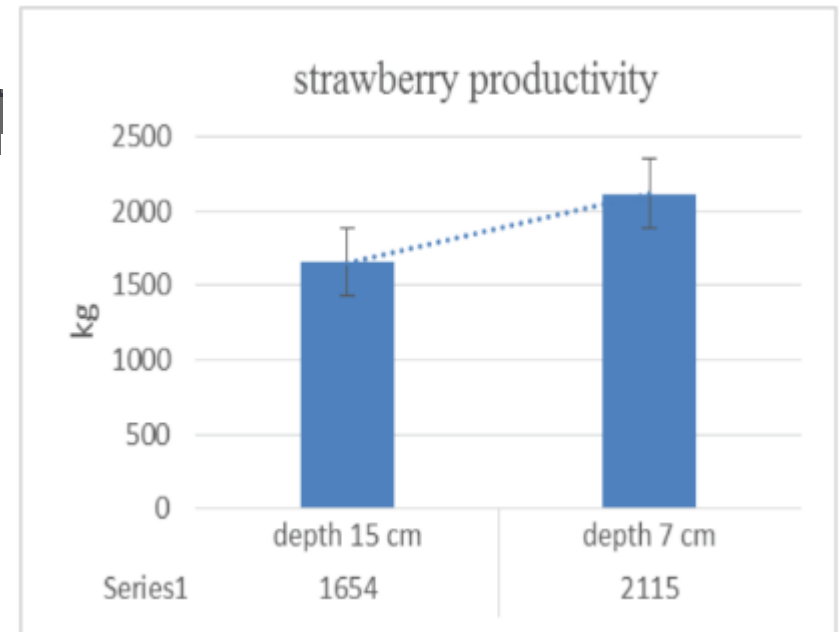
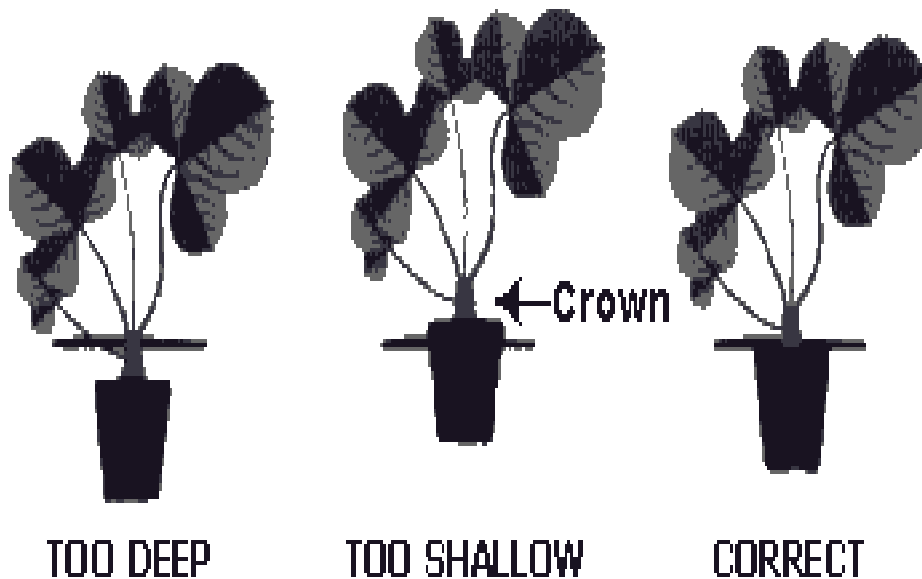


Planting times

- Greenhouse winter production:
 - June-bearing – 3rd week of August (wk 33/34)
 - Ever-bearing – 1st/2nd week of September (wk 36/37)
- High-tunnel raised substrate shoulder production:
 - June-bearing – Mid April (wk 15-17)
 - Ever-bearing – Mid April (wk 15-17)

Planting depth is Key

- ‘Choking’ of the crown is a common mistake during planting, labour must be shown correctly and the importance of this action must be stressed



Ever-bearing Blooms

Two trains of thought:

- 1) Leave blooms on from nursery: gain initial production, sacrifice uniformity.
- 2) Remove blooms at planting: sacrifice initial production, gain uniformity



Expectations

- Initial crown fruit flush with a several week gap after, but can be addressed with staggered plantings
- Flushes from October – July/August (greenhouse)
- Flushes from May- November (High-tunnel)
- Runners will have to be periodically removed as needed



Planning

- Planning and adequate lead times are everything as the plant production requires a lengthy timeline to ensure proper propagation, establishment & adequate maturity
- Because the plants must come from a subsequent mother, ample lead time is necessary (Ordering roughly 10 months from delivery)
- The correct generation of the plants is critical to ensure proper yields & disease resistance

Thank you!

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