Semifloat System for Cost Effective Production of Oil Palm Seedlings in the Pre-nursery

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The popular two-stage system of raising oil palm seedlings has remained virtually unchanged for the past 50 years. The semifloat system was recently developed to overcome the limitations and disadvantages of the traditional polybag system in the pre-nursery stage. Relative to the polybag system, the semifloat system was found to result in seedlings that have better growth parameters and that are more economical in terms of use of resources such as nursery space, water, growing media, pesticides, fertiliser, labour and movement of planting materials.

Keywords: Oil palm seedlings, pre-nursery, polybag system, semifloat system.