

Tobacco Float Media Test 2007

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Eleven entries were tested in 2007. Media were used directly from the bag without adding any water (except as noted below). Speedling trays (288) were filled mechanically with a Berry Seeder filler box. After adding a bag of media to the hopper the first three trays were discarded and the next four trays were kept for the test. Trays were seeded with Rickard TN 90LC pelleted tobacco seed and floated in a randomized block design in a common float bay. Temperature in the greenhouse was maintained between 68 to 82 F during germination. Germination and spiral roots were counted 3 weeks after seeding. Germination was high and spiral root incidence was low. Weather conditions ranged from warm and sunny immediately after seeding to cool and cloudy 2-3 weeks after seeding. Questions? Contact Bob Pearce at rpearce@uky.edu.

Brand of Media	Germination %	Spiral Root %	Dry Cell %
Burley Gold	96.2	3.8	0
Carolina Silver	96.4	0.7	0.1
Carolina Choice	93.2	2.9	0.1
Kentucky Pay Dirt*	0	0	100
Kentucky Pay Dirt* with 1 gallon water	94.8	7.6	0.9
Premier Promix TA	95.1	4.2	0.2
Southern States	95.9	2.4	0.1
Southern States with COIR	96.4	3.6	0.2
Speedling Peat-lite	95.9	2.4	0
Speedling Fortified	95.6	2.4	0
Sunshine LT5	95.6	1.7	0.9
Sungro "Metro Mix"	95.7	0.8	0.8
LSD 0.05	2.5	2.1	0.4

* Original set of trays did not wick. One gallon of water was added to a second bag and four trays were filled and floated 3 days after the original set.

