

## **Improving Root Development on Ground and Aerial Date Palm Offshoots**

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### **ABSTRACT**

This investigation was carried out to study the effect of different rooting media and naphthalene acetic acid (NAA) and/or catechol on root development of small size ground and aerial offshoots of two date palm cultivars namely Sheshi and Shahl in order to improve their survival.

Results showed that rooting medium was an important factor in determining the extent of root formation of offshoots. The highest rooting percentages were obtained using the following media, perlite : peat moss (3:1) medium followed by the woodshavings : peat moss (1:1) and perlite : peat moss (1:1) media. Sand medium was inferior to the other media.

It was also found that neither rooting percentage nor root weight of ground offshoots were increased by NAA and/or catechol treatments. On the other hand, NAA and/or catechol treatments appeared to be essential for good root formation and development on aerial offshoots.