RECIPE

A Propagation Mix for Begonias



Ingredients

- 1/3 akadama
- 1/3 lava rock (1/8"-1/4")
- 1/3 pumice
- Moistened with a 1/4 diluted mix of Bonide Root & Grow root Stimulator and plant starter 4-10-3

Note

A substitution for this mix can be purchased as:

- "Boons Mix"
- Bonsai Soil Mix- Akadama, Black
- Lava, Pumice & Charcoal

More Notes from Marvin Baker:

I hypothesize this method worked so well for two principal reasons.

First, these particular ingredients allow for significant aeration due to both their shape and structure (lots of void space in pockets for air to move through). That is important because good aeration is required for good root development.

Second, these particular ingredients have **water retention properties** and simultaneously drain well, another important requirement for roots to grow. In particular, akadama holds water and changes color when it becomes dry. That makes it easy to determine if your substrate needs additional water.

Last, rooting would probably work well without the root stimulator but I have not tried that.