

## TIME OF PLANTING STUDIES OF INNALA,

GENEUS: *Coleus*; FAMILY : Labiatae.

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### Introduction:

Innala is cultivated for the small dark brown, aromatic tubers, used as a substitute for potatoes (*Solanum tuberosum*). Innala plant is small herbaceous cultivated as an annual crop. It has succulent stems and aromatic leaves, propagation is by suckers obtained from sprouted tubers and tubers can be harvested 6 months after planting. It is usually planted under coconut as an intercrop. The average yield is 5-9 m.t/ha. under coconut.

Time of planting Innala is extremely important mainly because the yields depend on the appropriateness of the time of planting. Although casual observations on time of planting - yield relationship were discussed at various occasions, no proper experimental data had been confirmed. Therefore this experiment was done in 1984 Yala at the Regional Agricultural Research Centre, Makandura to study the effect of time of planting on tuber production and the yield of the innala crop.

### Materials and Method:

Two local cultivars and one introduced cultivar were used as test crops in this experiment:

1. Cuttings were planted on raised beds (18 cm high) at a spacing of 25 cm x 25 cm.
2. One cutting per hill was planted.
3. The crop was given a basal fertilizer application of 10:25:40 lbs/Ac of N, P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, K<sub>2</sub>O.
4. Basal fertilizer was supplemented with.
  - (a) one month after making 10N lbs/Ac,
  - (b) 2 months after planting 10 lbs N and 20 lbs K<sub>2</sub>O/Ac,
  - (c) 3 months after planting 10 lbs per acre of N.

**TABLE I. Tuber yield as affected by time of planting Innala at Makandura. Mean tuber weight per plot in kg.**

Cultivar	T <sub>5</sub> May 1984 D/H	T <sub>6</sub> June 1984 D/H	T <sub>7</sub> July 1984 D/H	T <sub>8</sub> Aug. 1984 D/H	T <sub>9</sub> Sept. 1984 D/H	T <sub>10</sub> Oct. 1984 D/H
	Kandetiya (Local)	1.886	2.668	2.098	2.389	1.572
K.D.Sel.4 (Local)	1.775	2.771	2.368	2.182	2.116	0.861
Indonesia (Introduced)	1.228	2.248	2.643	2.179	1.691	0.936
Total tuber weight.	4.889	7.687	7.919	6.750	5.379	2.422

**TABLE I. Tuber yield as affected by time of planting Innala at Makandura. Mean tuber weight per plot in kg.**

Cultivar	T <sub>11</sub> Nov. 1984 D/H	T <sub>12</sub> Dec. 1984 D/H	T <sub>1</sub> Jan. 1985 D/H	T <sub>2</sub> Feb. 1985 D/H	T <sub>3</sub> Mar. 1985 D/H	T <sub>4</sub> April 1985 D/H
		1.3.85	28.4.85	18.6.85	2.7.85	10.8.85
Kandetiya (Local)	00	00	00	00	00	00
K.D.Sel.4 (Local)	00	00	00	00	00	00
Indonesia (Introduced)	00	00	00	00	00	00
Total tuber weight.	00	00	00	00	00	00