

CUTTINGS AND SEED PROPAGATION AS BEST MEANS

by:

Queenie T. Tamayo

Teacher II, Luakan National High School

If one is a keen observer, getting your trees from seed is the easiest method you can use in propagating plants and trees.

All trees start from seed and out of it you can start your very own garden. If my recollection serves me right, August is the best month of the year when we can start our seed germination and cuttings as well. With this idea, it's not difficult to produce an abundance of tiny new plants.

Depending I believe, on the plant involved, cuttings taken at this time or season may be softwood or semi-hardwood cuttings. Softwood cuttings are taken from new growth that's relatively soft and succulent.

You can tell if the plant is in condition for rooting or trying to snap off a 3-to-6-inch tip. If it breaks, it is ready for rooting. On the other hand, plants which are too woody may be slow to root. In my own experience, a good branch of a tree is most likely to develop roots and is ready to be cut and planted. Such is the best example of semi-hardwood cuttings.

The soft wood cutting method of propagation is common to camote and kangkong, wherein the stems are cut into eight to ten inches and the leaves are removed for easy budding of new leaves. Once those stems are inserted into the soil, rooting will have a better chance.

In closing, plant propagation is not a tedious task. Life will be better if each of us will have the desire to plant and be an agent of environmental conservation. "Life is what we make it".

References:

Sorensen, David (n.d). Plant Propagation. Retrieved from
<https://extension.umaine.edu/gardening/manual/propagation/plant-propagation/>