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# **Research** Paper

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# Effect of rooting media and IBA (Indole butyric acid) levels on rooting and survival of AIR layering in fig (*Ficus carica* L.) cv. POONA under middle Gujarat agro-climatic conditions

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ABSTRACT : An experiment was carried out at Horticultural Research Farm, Department of Horticulture, B. A. College of Agriculture Anand during *Kharif* season in the year 2012. The treatments comprised the combinations of rooting media i.e. soil, organic media (Vermicompost/Poultry manure) and water holding materials (Sphagnum moss/Coco peat) in the ratio of 60:30:10 g along with various IBA levels (1000, 2000 and 3000 mgL-1) and compared with soil alone (control). The experiment was laid out in CRD with three replications. The air layers made with soil + poultry manure + sphagnum moss + 3000 mg L<sup>-1</sup> IBA showed early root initiation (8.73 days), minimum days required for bulk appearance of roots (20.80), highest number of primary roots i.e. 39.20 and 58.87 at 30 and 45 days, maximum secondary roots i.e. 155.93 and 250.73 at 30 and 45 days, maximum primary root length i.e. 16.53 and 17.48 cm at 30 and 45 days, maximum secondary root length i.e. 2.36 and 3.37 cm at 30 and 45 days, maximum fresh weight of shoot biomass *i.e.* 34.10, 35.96 and 43.53 g at 45, 60 and 75 days after planting of fig air layers, maximum fresh weight of root biomass *i.e.* 5.63, 6.63 and 7.73 g at 45, 60 and 75 days after planting of fig air layers, maximum dry weight of shoot biomass *i.e.* 16.49, 24.91 and 30.88 g at 45, 60 and 75 days after planting fig air layers, maximum dry weight of root biomass *i.e.* 1.65, 2.13 and 2.81 g at 45, 60 and 75 days after planting of fig air layers, maximum survival percentage of air layers *i.e.* 90.93, 88.53 and 83.46 and number of new leaves *i.e.* 4.60, 6.53 and 8.86 at 45, 60 and 75 days of air layers in the poly bag after planting, respectively with highest economics (Net CBR 1:3.34).

KEY WORDS : Air layering, Rooting media, Organic media, Water holding materials, IBA, Fig

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