

SHII-TAKE STRAIN

External appearance

LE can be used for cultivation shii-take on pasteurized as well as on sterilized substrates. This strain produces dark oak-brown fruit bodies and a white-pale stem. The cap diameter is 5 till 10 cm. LE has an excellent flavour and long shelf-life. This growing proposal is based on sterilized substrates.

Substrate

The substrate can be based on oak-sawdust from the furniture industry that must be free of sand, chemicals like paint or glue and not older than maximum 1 year. The size of the sawdust particles must be 1 till 3 mm. bigger particles are more difficult to incubate by the mycelium, what will give more risk on 'green moulds'. Before filling the substrate in polypropylene-bags the moisture-content should be about 65%. It is very important to water the sawdust very homogeneously. A concrete-mixer can be very helpful for this or make a flat pile that can be mixed by a front-end loader.

Supplements

To bring up the nitrogen content to 0,5 till 1% it is possible to use supplements that will give a better production. Products that bring up the nitrogen are corncobs, rice bran, maize-meal, wheat bran, etc. In average use 5 till 25% supplement of the wet substrate. A good recipe is; oak-sawdust, 5% rice bran, 4% maize meal and 1% CaCO₃ to control the pH.

Sterilization

Before filling in bags the substrate should have the following values; moisture-content 65%, pH 4,5 till 5,5 and a nitrogen content of 0,5 till 1%. The substrate can be filled in special polypropylene-bags with filtering. These filters must be resistant to the heat-treatment in an autoclave. Fill the bags just for 80%, this makes it easier to spawn after sterilization. The temperature in the substrate should be 121 °C for 1 hour with an over-pressure of 1 bar.



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