



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Agriculture

Bureau of Plant Industry
Manila

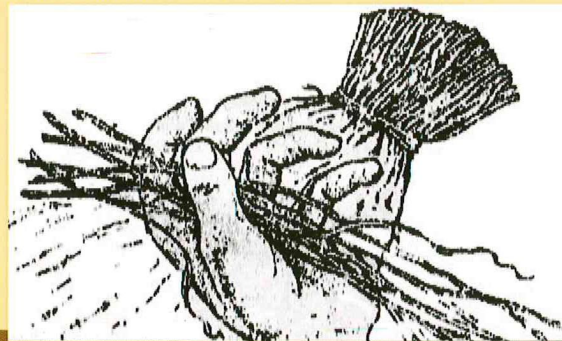
Straw Mushroom Production Guide

Straw (*Volvariella volvacea*) Mushroom Production Guide – Step by Step

Volvariella volvacea (also known as **paddy straw mushroom** or **straw mushroom**) locally known as kabuteng saging is one of the species of edible mushrooms. It grows in the tropics and subtropics. The paddy straw mushroom is having good combinations of all attributes like flavour, aroma, delicacy, high content of protein and vitamins and minerals, because of which, the acceptability of this mushroom is almost similar and as popular as white button mushroom. The young stage of fruiting body is called as "button" or "egg". At maturity, the buttons enlarge and umbrella like fruit bodies emerge after the rupture of the volva.

Procedures in preparing Beddings, Foundation, Spawn Planting and Care of Bed

1. Select long and clean dried rice straw. Other materials such as banana leaves and stalk, water lily, abaca leaves and pulp can also be used. All materials must be thoroughly dried. However, rice straw and banana leaves are preferred because they are abundant and are readily available .



2. Tie the materials in bundles with a diameter of approximately 4-6 inches, being taken care that the butt ends are put together when the bed is made. If banana leaves is to be used, cut to a length of 9-12 inches. Trim both ends properly so as to obtain a clean side when the bed is made.
3. Soak the bundled bedding materials thoroughly in a soaking vessel for 6 hours when using banana leaves and overnight or 2 days for rice straw. Wash the substrate especially the rice straw in running water before laying them in pile.



4. The soil foundation is prepared like a garden plot; the only difference is that the surface of the foundation is thumped firm to enable it to support the soggy bedding materials.



5. Lay the bundled and washed bedding materials across the foundation with the butt ends on the side.



6. Press the layer to level the surface.



7. Seed the layer by placing pieces of spawn about the size of the thumb along a line 4 inches apart along the row. Seed the opposite side of the layer if the length of the material is 12 inches. Seed along the center if it is 9 inches long



8. Set the next layer of bundled material on the top of the **first, placing the butt ends opposite those of the preceding layer** (if rice straw). Press to level its surface and seed as previously described. Repeat the procedure until the desired height of the bed is attained. A mushroom bed should consist of six layers during cool months; the first five layers are seeded; the top most layer serving as cover topping for the bed prior to plastic cover. During summer months, the bed should consist of 4 layers. The first 4 layers are seeded and the fifth layer will serve as cover for the bed.



9. When the bed is made, cover the entire bed with plastic sheet, gummy sack or any suitable materials followed by dried leaves or construct a shed made of coconut or cogon leaves to protect it from drying effect of the wind and to keep it humid. It also protects the bed from the rains. Do water spraying in small quantity along bed edges when necessary.



10. Approximately 9-12 days from seeding, the mushroom pinheads start to form. Three to four days from pinhead formation, mature button mushrooms are now ready to harvest. Harvesting will take place for 4-5 consecutive days. This is what it called the first flush or first cycle. Harvest the whole mushroom including the stump (root like). The button stage are more succulent; hence they are better preferred than the fully opened ones.



For further inquiry, please visit or call:

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Available mushroom pure cultures and grain spawn:

Kabuteng saging
Pleurotus mushroom (white, gray and pink)
Milky mushroom
Shiitake mushroom
Ganoderma mushroom
Abalone mushroom

Also available kabuteng saging
(*Volvariella volvacea*) planting spawn

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