

SDCOS Culture Talk – April 02, 2013

Virus Testing and Control for the Good of Your Collection

1 – Virus Testing Supplies & Sources

Test kits:

Agdia, Inc.

www.agdia.com

574-264-2014

ISK 13301 – ImmunoStrip for CymMV & ORSV

1/100 gram Scale:

Amazon has plenty starting under \$20

Letter Rack:

Any office supply store

Colored Labels:

Calwest Tropical

www.calwesttropical.com

They have good quality red, yellow, white, & green

Single Edge Razor Blades & Tweezers:

Any pharmacy

2 – Virus Control Supplies & Sources

Scissors:

HydroFarm Bonsai Shears – 60mm, \$12.50

Calwest Tropical or Amazon

Tri Sodium Phosphate:

TSP powder

Home Depot paint department

Bleach:

Clorox – sodium hypochlorite 6%

Gloves:

Disposable latex or blue nitrile

Any pharmacy

3 – Prevention Rules

Treat every plant as a potential carrier of virus.

New plant = fresh scissors EVERY TIME.

ALL used scissors get wiped and go into TSP bath for at least three minutes. Use gloves to protect your hands. Rinse and dry.

Think before you groom. Sticky fingers are infectious fingers.

Repot on a pad of fresh newspaper. Discard when finished.

Don't reuse medium.

To reuse plastic pots, wash then soak in 1 cup bleach per 1 gallon water for at least an hour. Rinse before using.

To sterilize terra cotta pots, wash then bake at 450 degrees for two hours.

Buy from reputable dealers. In general younger plants and plants from seed are safer than mericlones and older divisions.