



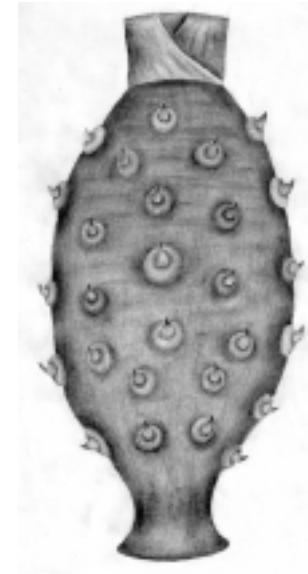
National Agricultural Research Institute

Copies of the leaflet can be obtained from:

Research Programme Leader  
Dry Lowlands Programme, Laloki  
PO Box 1828  
PORT MORESBY  
National Capital District  
Papua New Guinea

Telephone: (675) 3281015/3281068  
Fax: (675) 3281075  
Email: [dlplaloki@datec.com.pg](mailto:dlplaloki@datec.com.pg)

## **TARO MINI-SETT INFORMATION**



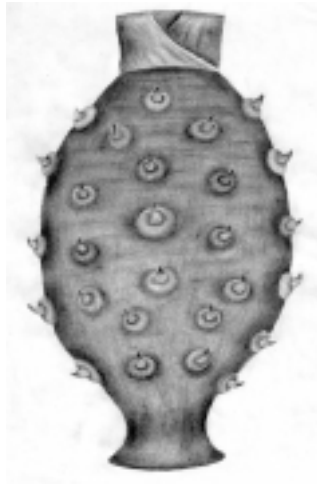
NARI TOKTOK  
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MAY 2002

## What is taro mini-sett?

Taro mini-setts are cut pieces of taro corm, or the under ground part of taro that has buds or eyes.

### *Taro Corm*



### *Taro Mini-sett*



## THE INSTITUTE

**The National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI)** was established by an Act of National Parliament of Papua New Guinea in July 1996 as a publicly funded, statutory research organisation, to conduct applied and development oriented research on food crops, alternative food and cash crops, livestock and resource management issues. Besides applied and adaptive research, NARI is responsible for providing authoritative technical, analytical and diagnostic services and up-to-date information to the entire agriculture sector in PNG. The major targets are the smallholder semi-commercial farmers in the country.

The mission of NARI is to contribute, through applied research and technical services, to the development of the agriculture sector and realization of the national goals by identifying, adapting and transferring agricultural technologies and information, so as to:

- Enhance the productivity, efficiency and sustainability of the smallholder agriculture, and
- Improve farmer income, food security and welfare of Papua New Guineans and the Nation.

**This toktok was written by Janet Paofa, NARI Dry Lowlands Programme in May 2002.**

Water the planted mini-setts three times a week to keep the soil moist. Mini-sett should be ready for planting after three to four weeks.

Note:

The advantage of taro mini-sett technique is that a lot of taro planting materials can be produced at one time. One medium size taro corm (20 cm x 6 cm) can easily produce 6-8 mini-setts.

## **Preparation of Taro Mini-setts as Planting Material**

To prepare taro mini-sett, uproot mature taro plant and remove the top, and gently clean the corm.

Cut the corm into pieces containing buds or eyes.



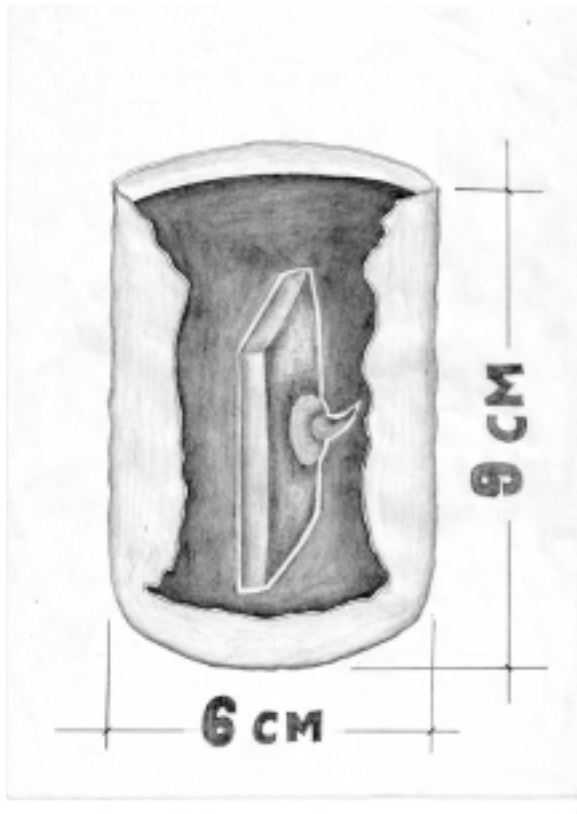
Treat the cut sides of each mini-sett with wood ash and place the treated sides facing upwards under shade to dry over night before potting.

## **Soil Preparation for Planting of Mini-setts (in polythene bag)**

Collect black topsoil and fill up polythene bag (size 6 cm x 9 cm) with soil as shown in the diagram.

Place each mini-sett in a polythene bag with

the bud facing in an upright position, then cover with soil and water as shown in the diagram below.



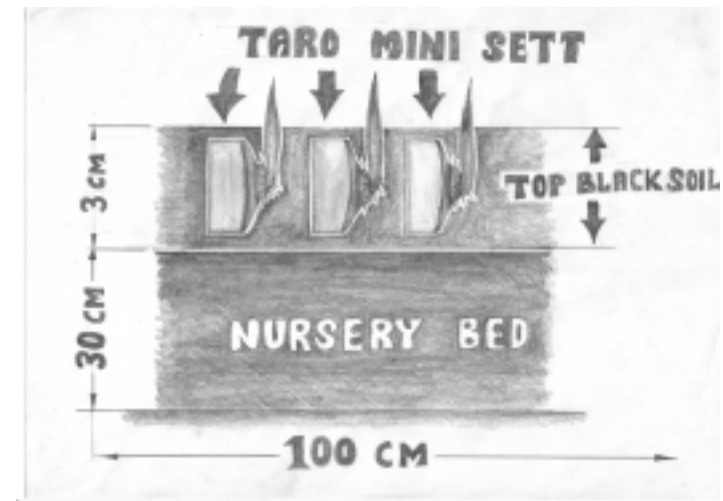
**Mini-sett Planted in Polythene bag**

Water the planted mini-setts three times a week and ensure the soil stays moist.

**Soil Preparation for Planting of Mini-setts in Nursery Beds**

Prepare a well drained nursery bed 100 cm long and 30 cm high.

Make furrows and place taro mini-setts side by side close together as shown in the picture below.



Cover the mini-setts with topsoil and water.