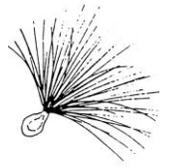


## Milkweed Propagation - Sowing Milkweed Seed

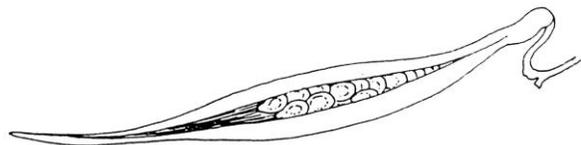


**Materials:** 5" x 5" inch trays, plastic wrap, labels, rubber bands, large tray with no drainage holes, propagation medium, scissors, water droppers.

1. Cut edges on top of tray making them round. This will keep the edges from tearing plastic wrap. Cut triangles in the bottom of the tray to allow better drainage. There should be slits already in the bottom. These should be enlarged, and triangles seem to be the easiest shape to cut.
2. Fill 5 x 5 trays with starter medium (it's best to pre-moisten the mix). Press down slightly to pack. Fill to 1/2 inch from top of tray (about the width of one adult's finger).
3. Water medium in trays. Soak well letting water run through the bottom. Soak a couple of times and let drain.
4. Sow 9 (or more) seeds on the top of the medium. The general rule for determining depth to sow seed is to plant seed at a distance half the width of the seed. Sprinkle soil mix on top of milkweed seed. Water gently over seeds with water dropper.
5. Record species, number of seeds and date of sowing on label. Place label horizontally along one edge of 5 x 5 tray. Be careful not to disturb seed.
6. Cover top of tray with plastic wrap. Secure it with rubber band. Make sure plastic is taught. You do not want it to sag in the middle and rest on the soil.
7. Set 5 x 5 trays in larger non-drain tray. Fill large non-drain tray with enough water to barely cover the bottom to maintain humidity.
8. Place in Grow Bucket, in greenhouse, or under lights. When plants are 4 or 5 inches tall they can be transferred to your Garden.

*Note:* Cold stratification is not normally necessary to break dormancy in *Asclepias tuberosa* or *Asclepias incarnata*. We expect the same to be true for the majority of other Georgia native milkweeds. If you want to try it, (it won't hurt) just mix seeds in damp vermiculite, seal, and store in the refrigerator for 4 – 6 weeks before planting. Or, after step 7 above, place the seed trays in the refrigerator for 4 – 6 weeks before moving them under lights.

Seed can also be sown directly into the garden a couple weeks after the last average frost date for your area of the state.



## Milkweed Propagation - Stem Cuttings

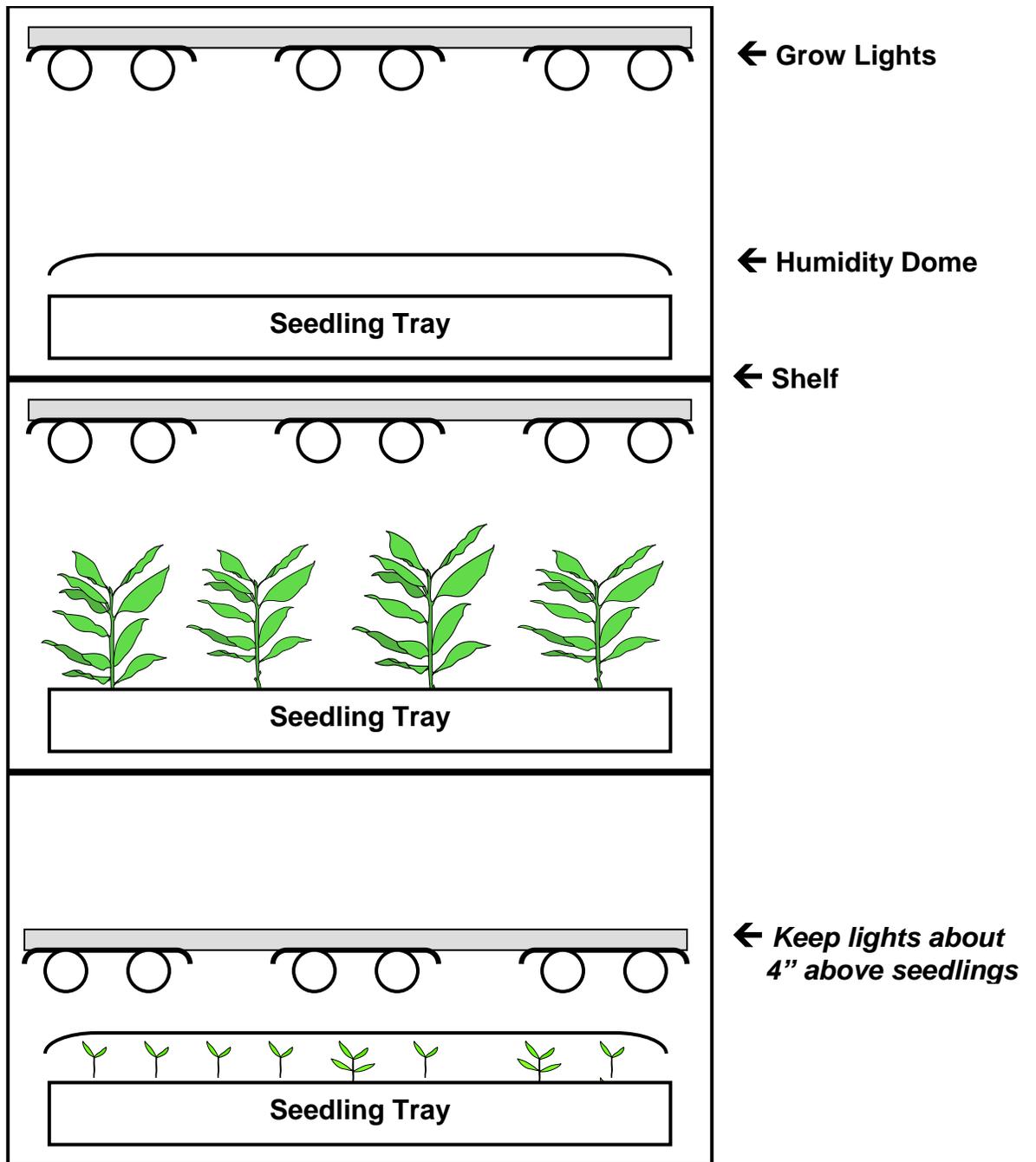
**Materials:** 5" x 5" trays, labels, large tray with no drainage holes, propagation medium, water.

1. Fill 5" x 5" trays with starter medium (it's best to pre-moisten the mix). Press down slightly to pack. Fill to 1/2 inch from top of tray (about the width of one adult's finger).
2. Water medium in trays. Soak well letting water run through the bottom.
3. Choose stock plant that is vigorous and disease free. Place bucket of water beside stock plant. Cut tip of stem for cutting. Make cut just below a leaf bud and include at least two nodes.
4. Place cutting in water after cutting to prevent sap from congealing.
5. Remove any flower buds from the top of the cutting and the leaves from the lower half.
6. Remove the tip to encourage side shoots.
7. Dip bottom of stem cutting in rooting hormone.\*
8. Plant about 1 inch of the stem in the soil. Plant four stem cuttings per tray.
9. Record species, and date of sowing on label. Place label in tray. Set 5" x 5" trays in larger non-drain tray. Keep moist so cuttings do not dry out.
10. Place in warm humid environment.

\* Rooting hormone is not necessary for rooting Mexican Milkweed, *Asclepias currasavica*.



## End View of Grow Rack



**Rack Dimensions: 4 ft. long x 2 ft. wide x 6ft. high (\$75)**

**Grow Lights: 4ft. 40-watt shop lights - 3 sets/shelf (\$10-\$12 each set)**  
**Suspend lights from chains or attach to sides of rack**