

Summary Conclusions and Recommendations

Session VI: New Technologies for Production of Planting Materials in Root and Tuber Crops

Tuesday, November 3, 2009

Dioscorea alata varieties in Africa do not have a high dry matter content. It would be advisable to check whether varieties present in the Caribbean region would have this character. Are there available trailing varieties which do not need stalks for climbing?

Quality Declared Planting Materials for root and tuber crops: the system to be sustainable would need an accountability mechanism. In fact, who should pay for quality control if not the informal seed growers? There should be also a set of criteria to identify the informal seed growers.

Cost of aeroponics might be diluted in the case of large production of minitubers, so as to realize important economies of scale.

Cassava in Central Africa: In the great lakes zone, it is absolutely important, in the case of large multiplication of cassava materials issued from disease-free in-vitro planting materials, to identify areas free of white flies (*Bemisia tabaci*), important virus carriers. These areas are located in the highlands.