Plant Propagation from Cuttings

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Materials needed:
Sterile rooting media: 1:1 mixture of peat and perlite; or coarse vermiculite
Sterile pot/container
Sterile scissors, sharp knife, or razor blade
Rooting hormone
Pencil
Cutting from plant
Mist system or plastic covering

Steps:
1. Fill container with rooting media.
2. Thoroughly moisten rooting media.
3. Make hole in which to insert the cutting (a pencil works well) in rooting media.
4. Prepare cutting
   a. Cut a 6-8 inch section from healthy, turgid stock plant.
   b. Cut just below a node (1/4 inch) at a 45 degree angle.
   c. Gently remove leaves from lower 1/3rd of cutting.
   d. Dip bottom portion of cutting (up to where leaves have been removed) in rooting hormone.
5. Insert bottom 1/3rd of cutting into hole (hole is to prevent rooting media from being displaced) and gently cover rooting portion with media.
6. Place under mist system until rooted in semi-shady location.
   a. If mist system is not an option, cover with clear covering such as a plastic bag or dome to keep humidity high. Provide some ventilation by putting a hole it the top of the bag, or leaving the covering cracked a bit. Ventilation is essential to preventing fungus or rot.
7. Once roots develop, gradually harden-off (acclimate to new environment) by reducing humidity level and increasing light.
8. Step up into larger pot once roots have filled out current pot.
9. Plant in garden once plant has fully rooted out, hardened-off, and reached sufficient size.

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