



## Custom Haifa controlled release blend increasing pine seedling survivability

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HAIFA's specialty fertilisers are delivering impressive results in the forestry industry.

Application of a custom Haifa controlled release fertiliser blend with hybrid pine seedlings has shown improved root development and stem thickness, promising increased survivability.

The specifically requested, high phosphorus content controlled release product is being used with Pinus caribaea / eliotti hybrid seedlings.

The Haifa Multicote eight-month blend was applied at 10 kilograms per cubic metre of potting mix.

It is being compared with a standard treatment applied at 7.5kg per cubic metre of potting mix, and which also is a blend of five to six month and eight to nine month controlled release fertiliser.

The Haifa Multicote blend demonstrated its superior performance.

Seedlings showed better root system development, stem thickness and

sturdiness compared with the standard treatment.

The difference between the fertiliser applications was dramatic and the high P Multicote will contribute to improved seedling survival.

Haifa's range of Mulicote products are based on fertiliser granules with a soluble nutrient core, surrounded by a polymer coating which can be adjusted during the manufacturing process to give longer or shorter release of the nutrients. Typical release periods range from two months to 16 months.

The products also can be blended to a desired NPK ratio for customers.

The Multicote fertilisers differ from many other controlled release products because the release rate is governed by temperature, not moisture.

This is important in ensuring the nutrient being supplied to plants is not lost during periods of high rainfall or over-watering.



Hybrid pine seedlings treated with a custom Haifa controlled release fertiliser blend on the left compared with seedlings that received a standard treatment on the right. The seedlings treated with the Haifa fertiliser show better root system development, stem thickness and sturdiness, which, importantly, contributes to increased survivability.

### Haifa Australia

Unit 14, 328 Reserve Road  
Cheltenham  
Melbourne Victoria 3192

**T: 03 9583 4691**

E: info@haifa-group.com

### Your Haifa team

**Trevor Dennis**, Managing Director 0400 119 852  
E: trevor@haifa-group.com

**Shaul Gilan**, Southern Agronomist 0419 675 503  
E: shaul.gilan@haifa-group.com

**Jason Teng**, Customer Service/Logistics 0400 124 155  
E: jason.teng@haifa-group.com