



# Foundation Plant Services

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## **FPS SWEET POTATO CUSTOM TESTING, TREATMENT AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES**

### **MERISTEM TIP CULTURE AND COMPLETE VIRUS INDEXING.....\$2,000.00/selection**

This procedure is an attempt to eliminate harmful virus in candidate sweet potato selections. Meristem tip cultures are established from candidate selection(s). Plants regenerated from meristem tip cultured explants are then indexed by grafting candidate selection(s) onto *Ipomoea setosa* (Brazilian Morning Glory), which is an indicator for feathery mottle virus.

If candidate materials are received at the optimum time by early Fall each year, the process normally takes 8-9 months to complete, and disease-tested plants can normally be ready to return to the customer the following Spring. FPS isn't able to guarantee Spring delivery for material received at other times of the year.

Occasionally, a selection that is more difficult to propagate or regenerate from tissue culture can take longer than the standard time to process.

At the end of the process, as part of the contract, FPS will return to the customer 16 small green plants that have been runner propagated from a meristem that tests negative for feathery mottle disease. Any additional plants requested by customer will be provided at the standard charge of \$1.00 per plant.

The signing of a business agreement with the University of California is required to contract with FPS for these services, and payment in full is due at the time candidate materials are submitted for service. Materials can be held on a proprietary basis at the request of the customer. Please contact sweet potato program coordinator Cheryl Covert at the FPS office if you have further questions or to initiate service.

### **MAINTENANCE OF A SWEET POTATO SELECTION AT FPS AS NUCLEAR STOCK .....\$1,000.00 per year per selection**

After FPS has completed meristem tip culture and virus indexing, a customer may elect to have FPS maintain nuclear stock of the selection in its virus-tested sweet potato collection. As part of this service, FPS will maintain four (4) mother plants for each contracted selection, and provide the annual virus indexing and repropagation required to maintain the selection's nuclear status. Materials can be held on a proprietary basis at the request of the customer. If a field evaluation process is required as in intermediate step in selecting which tissue culture explant will be maintained, the maintenance fee will begin at the time the selection is made. The maintenance fee does not cover any additional propagation of plants for distribution to customer or growers, which can be provided at the standard charge of \$1.00 per plant. This service also requires the signing of a business agreement with the University of California, and payment in full is due at the beginning of each year for which service is contracted. Again, please contact Cheryl Covert for further information.

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*Every effort is made to ensure that our tests and procedures are conducted to maximize success. Due to biological factors and the limitations of the technology, our testing cannot guarantee virus-free plants. Refunds cannot be made for treatments which are not successful.*

*When submitting candidate materials, please label all selections individually and include a complete listing of items included with the submission.*

*The fees established for this service are intended to be sufficient to cover the actual costs incurred by the University and will be reviewed periodically and revised as necessary.*