



F56

Advances in genetic research have enabled us to develop new varieties of *Agaricus bisporus* which meet the increasingly high quality standards demanded by purchasers of fresh mushrooms. Following the introduction of F50, Italspawn offers a further strain with exceptional characteristics. **A medium consistent size, an easy-pinning and a very short production cycle** make **F56** a strain at the leading edge of mushroom cultivation technology.

Compost and spawning

Highest quality substrate is recommended, with the following basic characteristics:

- Moisture level 68 -70 % (*if incub. in tunnel 70-72%*)
- No ammonia
- pH from 7,2 to 7,8. It's better not to exceed this level to avoid problems like unusual vegetative growth of spawn (or risk of competitive moulds when pH is lower).

The recommended spawn rate is 8/10 lit x ton of pasteurized substrate.

Substrate	Good quality
Moisture	68 - 70 %
Ammonia	Absent
pH	7,2 – 7,8

Substrate incubation

Keep the compost temperature between 24° and 27° until the spawn is completely spread through the compost in 13 - 17 days. Temperatures higher than 30° C have to be avoided to prevent damage to the spawn. On the other hand lower temperatures delay the spawn growth.

Compost temperature	24° - 27° C
Incubation period	13 - 17 days

Casing

Particular attention needs to be paid during casing soil preparation, which needs to have a high moisture rate, a good structure, a pH of 7-7,5 and to be free of parasites and polluted materials. The layer should have a depth of 4,5 -5,5 cm.

Casing moisture	High
pH	7 – 7,5
Depth	4,5 –5,5 cm

Caccing

Quantities to add to the casing soil should be as follows: if ITALSPAWN CAD is used the rate is 80 - 100 gr /m² ; alternatively if caccing compost is used the rate is 300-600 gr /m². If caccing is not used, it's necessary to ruffle to full depth after 8-10 days. During incubation of casing soil it is recommended to keep a temperature of 26° C in the compost, the CO₂ level higher than 3000 ppm and a RH higher than 90%.

CAD rate	ITALSPAWN	80 – 100 gr / m²
Caccing compost rate		300 - 600 gr / m²
Compost temperature		26° C
CO₂		Higher 3000 ppm
RH		Higher 90 %

Watering

An example of watering schedule:

Casing day	Treatments	No cacing lit/ m ²	Cacing lit/m ²
Day 2	Insecticide		2
Day 3		1 - 2	2
Day 4		2	2 + 2
Day 5		2 + 2	2 + 2 + 2
Day 6	Fungicide	2 + 2	2 + 2 + 2
Day 7		2 + 2	
Day 8		2 + 2	cooling down
Day 9		ruffling	

Cooling down

When CAD is used the cooling down process will take place after 6-8 days (otherwise after 2-3 days from ruffling day). It is suggested to cool down in about 2-3 days, until the following levels are reached:

- air temperature 16° - 17°C

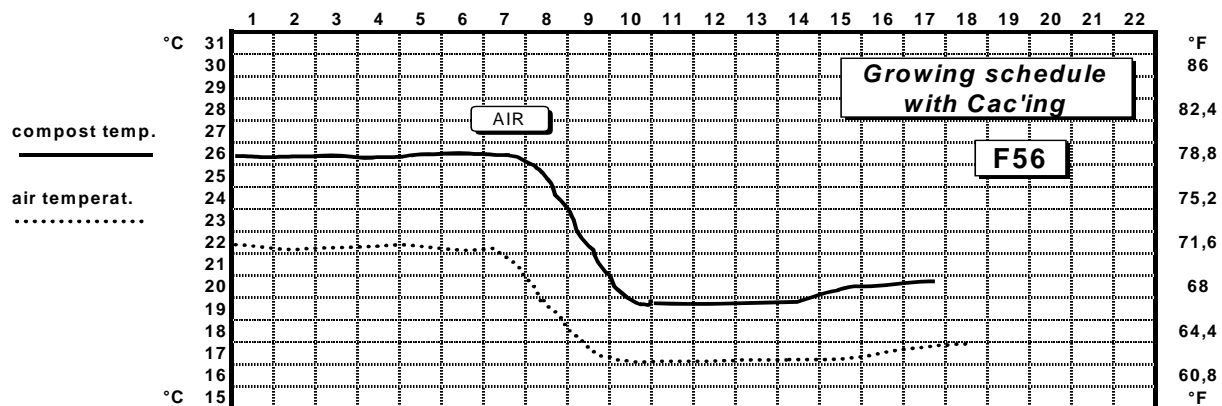
- substrate temperature 18° - 19°C

The RH must be kept to 95% during the 3 days of cooling down, and to 88-90% in the following ones. In order to have good sized mushrooms we suggest to start from a CO₂ level around 3000 ppm and reduce it in 3/4 days to 1200 ppm.

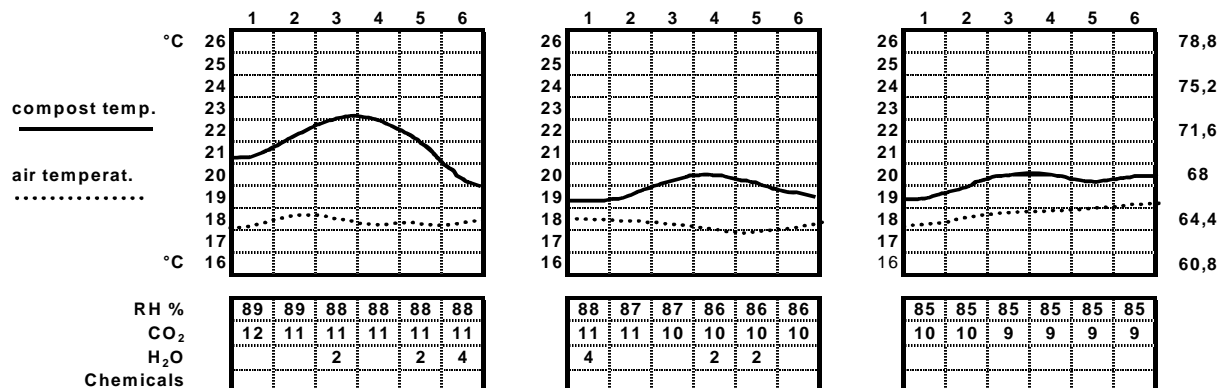
With Cacing	After 6-8 days
No Cacing	2-3 days after ruffling
Air temperature	16° - 17°C
Substrate temperature	18° - 19°C
CO₂	From 3000 till 1200 ppm in about 3/4 days
RH	95% during cooling down, then 85-90%

Cropping

The first picking generally occurs after about 16 - 18 days from casing with Cacing.



RH %	95	95	95	95	95	95	95	95	95	95	94	94	94	93	91	90	90	90		
CO ₂	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	20	16	14	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12		
H ₂ O	2		2	2	6	6								2	4	4				
Chemicals	I					F														



The intent of these technical sheets is to provide an introduction to our various spawn strains in order to help you make a selection of the mushroom varieties best suited to your needs. The growing tips provided in this sheet are only intended to give general guidelines or recommendations on how to use our products in a standard mushroom farm environment. However growing techniques may differ according to particular farm environments. For further information on specific growing conditions please contact your local Italspawm representative.