

## F450 INTERMEDIATE HYBRID

### External appearance

The F450 large intermediate produces a large, white, dense mushroom with a well-rounded cap of 40-60 mm across. This strain has an extremely high picking rate and is most suited for growing large closed mushrooms for the fresh-market. With this strain it is easy to make a nice spread and create more than 4 picking days.

### Growing characteristics

F450 requires a homogeneous active not dry compost. At cropping take care to have a good temperature difference between air- and com-post temperatures. Avoid high air-velocities at cropping and preferably do use supplements at casing. The first picking at 12 to 13 days after aeration. This strain needs 2 days more of mycelium growth before fresh air. This can be reduced by adding more Cacing.

### Compost and peak heating

This strain likes nutritious, well-degraded compost with relatively high moisture content. Too dry and inactive composts will result in a dramatic reduction in yield. Compost density and filling-weight at about 90 to 100 kg per m<sup>2</sup> at spawning. For this strain compost has to be free of ammonia at spawning.

### Spawning and incubation

Recommended spawning-rate is 5 to 7 litres per tonne of fresh compost or about 8 litres per tonne through spawning. After spawning the mycelium growth is normal. The optimal incubation period is 14 to 16 days. Avoid temperatures over 29 °C (84° F) in the compost and do avoid drying of the compost at this stage.

### Supplementing

F450 reacts very positively to supplementation at the moment of casing with a rate of 1 kg per 2 m<sup>2</sup>. Without supplementation pin setting and pin growing may not come up to expectations. Also the quality and shelf life of the fruit bodies will be improved by the addition of supplements.

### Casing

This strain likes a casing-soil with a high water content and a coarse lumpy structure. F450 also responds well to casing. For handpicking the depth of the casing layer should be about 5 cm (2 inches).

### Cacing

At casing about 400 gr. spawn runned compost or 100 gr. CMS per m<sup>2</sup> can be mixed into the casing soil. With this method of cacing a more wet casing soil should be used because less days for watering are available. In a more tight growing schedule increase the amount of cacing compost to 500 gr per m<sup>2</sup>. Stop watering at least one day before aeration. This strain can also be grown with the system of scratching at about 7 days after casing.

OVER  
40 YEARS  
HIGH  
QUALITY  
STANDARDS

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### **Aeration and pin-setting**

It is not necessary to reduce the temperatures fast and low for this strain. The ideal is to end up with an air-temperature of 16,5 °C and a compost temperature of 18,5 °C at about 6 days after the start of aeration. Keep relative humidity high at 92% or higher and the CO<sup>2</sup> - content over 1000 ppm. It is important to keep temperature difference as wide as possible by low air-volumes and a high humidity in the micro-climate. The F600 reacts very good at this and therefore it's very easy to create a good spread.

### **Pin growing and cropping**

For optimal production and quality the relative humidity should gradually be lowered, at high CO<sup>2</sup> contents 6 to 7 days after the start of aeration. This results in a more dispersed appearance of the first flush and improved size and picking-rate of all flushes. Avoid compost-temperatures over 20 °C until 75% of the yield of the first flush has been picked. At the last picking day re-water the casing soil and increase air-temperature, relative humidity and CO<sup>2</sup> content for re-pinning as shown in growing proposal.

### **Third Flush**

For the third flush a good compost activity, a moist casing soil and a good temperature difference between compost and air is important. Increase the air temperature at the end of the second flush to bring the compost temperature up to 21 °C while keeping a high relative humidity and CO<sup>2</sup> in the air for a short while. After this lower the air-temperature, relative humidity and CO<sup>2</sup> for improving the evaporation to encourage the pin growing of the third flush.

### **LOTS OF SUCCESS IN GROWING F600.**



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