

Economic Findings:

The costs of developing the hop nursery yard were in line with the proposed budget. We do not have data on the economics of vegetative propagation versus rhizome plantings yet.

New Ideas Generated from Project Research:

Our project has been modified slightly from its original proposal. The Kent Golding hop variety did not thrive in our growing conditions. We will continue to work with the Cascade and Willamette varieties and may substitute another variety such as Sterling, which during our earliest propagation trials resulted in healthy plants.

We anticipated that the greenhouse would provide a controlled environment for the establishment of the cuttings. In reality, it was not outfitted to provide the moisture and ventilation necessary to nurture the plants under the hot sun of late July and August. We will retrofit the greenhouse with a misting system and fans.

We may try starting plants under a cold frame equipped with a shade cloth as well as in the greenhouse. Early trials done under the shade of a tree in our back yard resulted in stronger plants than our greenhouse trials.

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