Macro propagation is a cost effective seedling production technology that enables production of affordable healthy banana seedlings, by use of cheap inputs.

The process is carried in a unit known as a macro propagator that can be made from locally available materials.

The seedlings can be selected to have uniform size and they tolerate post establishment stress better than tissue cultured plants.

**EDULINK HEIs – ESA PROJECT**
A project for enhancing nutrition and food security through improved capacity of agricultural higher education institutions in East and Southern Africa

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**MATERIALS**

- Jik (Sodium hypochlorite)
- strings/ropes
- Black polythene
- Banana suckers, from a healthy mother plant (at near flowering stage)
- Manure
- Sawdust
- Clear polythene
- Small Polythene tubes
- Metallic tank
- Macro propagation unit (plastic, wooden or metallic structure)

**The process**

- Selection of corms from healthy banana plants with desirable characteristics
- Corms ready for macro propagation.
- Preparation of corms; washing in clean water, removal of roots, and scarification of buds.

**Macro propagation chamber. Roof covered with black polythene**

**Sides covered with clear polythene.**

**Propagation beds filled with steam**

**Serial removal of pseudo stem sheaths, using sterilized cutting tools, this should be concurrent with scarification of buds.**

**Disinfection of cutting tools by dipping in 10% Sodium hypochlorite**

**Clean corms ready for planting**