



# TOOLKIT COK-03a: Transplanting (*Ocimum kilimandscharicum* and other crops)

## 1

The seedlings are ready for transplanting after 4-6 weeks in the seedbed. The seedlings are planted in straight rows. Tie a string or rope across the prepared land to provide a straight line for planting.



## 2

Holes for transplanting are dug with spacing of 30 cm apart in each row, and 45 cm between the rows. Using a tape measure, measure and cut sticks or pieces of wood with lengths of 30 cm and 45 cm for use in spacing the holes and rows.



Washirika:







### 3

Mark points with spacing of 30 cm apart in each row for digging the holes using the 30 cm long stick. Holes are dug about 2 inches deep and sufficiently wide using a stick or machete.



### 4

Collect seedlings from the seedbed. Use a shovel, stick or machete to gently loosen the soil around the seedlings. During the dry season, water the seedbed for ease of removal of the seedlings.



Washirika:







## TOOLKIT COK-03b: Transplanting (*Ocimum kilimandscharicum* and other crops)

### 5

Remove the seedlings by handling them by the leaves or the soil ball around the roots. **Do not** lift them out by the stem to avoid injury to the stem.



### 6

Put the seedlings in water as soon as you take them from the seed bed.



Washirika:







## 7

Place the seedling in the previously dug hole and gently pull the seedling upward to straighten out roots.



## 8

Pack the soil against the roots, starting at the bottom of the hole.







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### 9

Mark the next row at a spacing of 45 cm using the 45 cm long stick. Mark using the 30 cm long stick and dig holes in the new row 30 cm apart.



### 10

Plant seedlings in the new row as described previously.



Washirika:







## 11

Apply dry mulch using dry grass or dry leaves, twigs, crop residues, straw or other organic material. Mulch is important for conserving water in the soil and for keeping roots cool and weed free. It enhances the activity of soil organisms such as earthworms and it increases the content of organic matter in the soil and prevents soil erosion.



## 12

Water the seedlings immediately after transplanting, and again when they wilt. Weed the plants regularly. Do not apply synthetic pesticides. Apply manure where possible. Keep records of manure applications on the plots to determine changes in yields. After transplanting, the maturation period of the plant is 4 months before the first harvest commences.

