Producing healthy vegetable seedlings

Vegetables are both food, medicine and source of income to farmers and through following the correct steps farmers can easily produce quality seedlings for a better crop.

However the whole process starts by selecting good quality seeds from reliable sources that are disease free, uniform, high germination and stored under cool dry conditions. There are several diseases affecting vegetables and the major ones are aphids and other sucking pests which transmit viruses, for soil borne diseases the best way to control them is by using soilless media such as pitmus and vermiculite always remember to avoid using wood benches as the roots may grow into wood.

Basic production steps

Begin by selecting good quality seed from reliable sources and grow them in containers these should be planted one seed per hole to a depth 0f 1cm in disease free media and cover, additionally place the containers on raised metal benches to avoid soil born diseases then water to kick start germination process after provide a shade and temperature of 20- 45 degree centigrade to improve germination and seed emergence.

When seedlings are grown in green houses ensure there is no shade and control pests and soil borne diseases however the best way to control soil borne diseases is by using soilless media, conclusively after 4 weeks transplant and harden off while maintaining cotyledons because if they break this may act as entrance for diseases.