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## Production of cuttings in response to stock plant temperature in the subtropical eucalypts, *Corymbia citriodora* and *Eucalyptus dunnii*

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**Abstract** Propagation of subtropical eucalypts is often limited by low production of rooted cuttings in winter. This study tested whether changing the temperature of *Corymbia citriodora* and *Eucalyptus dunnii* stock plants from  $28/23^{\circ}$ C (day/night) to  $18/13^{\circ}$ C,  $23/18^{\circ}$ C or  $33/28^{\circ}$ C affected the production of cuttings by stock plants, the concentrations of Ca and other nutrients in cuttings, and the subsequent percentages of cuttings that formed roots. Optimal temperatures for shoot production were  $33/28^{\circ}$ C and  $28/23^{\circ}$ C, with lower temperatures reducing the number of harvested cuttings. Stock plant temperature regulated production of rooted cuttings, firstly by controlling shoot production and, secondly, by affecting the ensuing rooting percentage. Shoot production was the primary factor regulating rooted cutting production by *C. citriodora*, but both shoot production and root production were key determinants of rooted cutting production in *E. dunnii*. Effects of lower stock plant temperatures on rooting were not the result of reduced Ca concentration, but consistent relationships were found between adventitious root formation and 2–22% for

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