



# **Growing Oyster Mushrooms on Paper Pellets**

### To start you will need:

Breeders choice paper pellets (available from pet stores)
Hydrated Lime (builders lime, available in the concrete section at bunnings)
Water
Oyster Mushroom Spawn

### Step 1 - Hydrate paper pellets

Mix well 5g of hydrated lime to 1500ml of water for every 1kg of paper pellets.

Hydrate your pellets with your lime water and mix well so it soaks all the water up.

\*\*\*Option: You can add 500g of spent coffee grounds to the above recipe

(must be within a day old, do not use if there is any sign of other things growing on it).

You can make up to 50% of your mix with coffee but the more you add the more you risk it not working, so start small and build up your percentage each time.

### Step 2 - Add spawn

Mix in your spawn. We suggest when learning, use 1 spawn bag per 10kg of material and work up to 20kg of material and then more as you get better

You can make up to 80kg of material per spawn bag with other methods and material types like straw.

## Step 3 - Bag it up

After your spawn is mixed in, place your mix into mushroom filter bags. Fill them no more than 1/2 - 2/3 full or the filter won't be able to diffuse enough air. You can alternatively use straw log bags with pre added holes. Fill to the top and seal with tape or wire

Seal your bags with an impulse sealer, or wire, or stock tape.

(tip: keep as much air in the bag as you can)

#### Step 4 - Incubate

Incubate for 2-3 weeks at 18-24°C (not over 24°C as the bags might overheat)

After 3-4 weeks the bags should look nice and white and ready to fruit, at this point you can store them in the fridge for a few weeks until you're ready to use them.

Fruit the bags by cutting an X in the side of the bag and placing somewhere humid and cool.

Mist with a spray bottle once or twice per day with water and watch them grow.



#### Tips for best success

Clean all equipment very well before use.

Make your bags indoors.

If you have contamination issues regularly, clean the whole room your working in prior to start, bleach floors and benches and equipment.

Wear gloves and sterilize regularly with isopropyl alcohol.



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