4.2 STENTLING (GRAFTING)

Stentling, also known as cutting-grafting or top-graft system, is a method of quick propagation of roses based on grafting a cultivar, or scion or an unrooted rootstock cutting.

In this propagation method, as seen in the cutting method, the scion consists in a segment of stem with one five-leaflet leaf with a single dormant eye.

The Rootstock

The rootstock to be used has to come from a healthy and strong mother plant (photo 43). The wood must be mature and tender (soft-wood) with well-developed leaves and thorns (prickles) that are easy to cut away. An excessively young and tender wood with a small amount of reserve substances would have little possibility to root and would easily be prone to black rot. That is why the end portions of the softer and redder rootstock wood have to be cut away.

The rootstock stems are the gathered in stacks of about 80-100 cm in length and 4-10 mm in diameter (keeping in mind that they have had their leaves and thorns removed), are then taken to the working area where they are cut into segments of 6, 8 and 10 cm (photo 12, 13, 14). The dormant auxiliary buds (eyes) are also taken to this work area. The final thing to do is

and Brazil the method of propagation via cutting is used by 90-95% of companies. In Vietnam and Thailand 90-95% of cuttings are done outdoors, the other 5-10% being done in a greenhouse on soil. This is because of economic reasons, poor propagation structures, limited expertise, and limited knowledge of alternative propagation methods. Most of the cuttings are put to root in organic medium, such as peat moss, placed on wide beds. When they are ready, they are easily uprooted, cleaned out and then sold on markets or in neighbouring countries.

In fact, Vietnam and Thailand’ growers buy about 60-70% of their cutting plants from nearby China. The rest of the cutting plants would be produced in their own territory. Only 2-3% is bought in Holland.