

Next, seeds. healthy
star fruit seeds with a



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

Next, for seedling preparation we need mature seeds from mature starfruit. There are usually contain between 10 to 12 seeds and sometimes there are no seeds per fruit. Seeds are edible in size which is only 0.6 to 1.3 cm long, thin, brown in color and enclosed by a gelatinous aril at outer layer of seeds.

Healthy star fruit seeds with a dark brown in color and has glossy seed coat is suitable to germinate. The star fruit seeds lose viability in a short time, so we should plant them immediately after removing from the fruit to increase the chances of success. There is no pretreatment or stratification is needed to sprout the star fruit seeds, but only need two to three day old seeds then soak in water for 24 hours to moist them before sowing. Seeds need moist condition to germinate well. There are several steps included in this seedling preparation.

First, prepare 2 inch pot with multiple drainage holes or germinating trays with plugs to sow the seeds. Then fill each pot with nursery medium. Do not compact the nursery medium too much because too compact medium will result in bad drainage. Next, sow one seed per pot. Place the seed on the surface of nursery medium then put thin layer of medium to cover the seed. Avoid covering with thick layer of medium.

It will harder the germinating process. Do not seal the edges, and do not place the pot in direct sunlight. It is important to water the seeds, for example we can use a spray bottle to water the seed to make sure the seeds do not dislodge. Do not water too much.

The germination process might take 1-2 weeks. After 1-2 weeks the starfruit seedlings grow rapidly and should be transplanted into nursery box filled with sandy and loam soil as soon as they produce two or more of leaves.

Provide them with regular water to avoid them become wilt and the fertilizer because starfruit trees are moderately heavy feeders. Fertilize weekly with half teaspoon of NPK (15: 15: 15) fertilizer diluted in a gallon of water to enhance the growth of root and leaves of seedlings. After few weeks the seedlings are ready to plant.