

SPOPPO, which has HK35 in its genealogy, offers the huge advantage of *Not Producing Spores*. This prevents lung-related health problems amongst pickers and prevents the spread of infections by spores.

General Comments

SPOPPO can be grown in similar conditions to those recommended for HK35. It is not as sensitive to extreme conditions or condensation compared with related strains.

Colour

Cream / light grey to dark brown / dark grey mainly depending on the air temperature, compost temperature, humidity and the level of evaporation. Where the fan driven air speed is higher the mushrooms will be a lighter colour so there can be colour variations within the same room.

Stem

Usually not central to the cap and reduced in length when using good ventilation. The stem tends to be central and longer in poor ventilation.

Cap

Average size and rounded. Tends to be trumpet shaped in poor ventilation or at a very low temperature combined with a high RH. The gills are larger than sporulating strains.

Incubation Phase

Incubation lasts a minimum 2 weeks at a substrate temperature of 26-30 °C and at a spawning rate of 30ltr per tonne. Best results are achieved by high air circulation and high air temperatures but avoiding temperatures higher than 30 °C inside the substrate. To avoid fluffy growth and pinset underneath the plastic, no condensation or free water should be present on the surface of the substrate.

Perforation of the plastic at spawning is preferable. A higher perforation rate gives more pins but a lower weight per fruitbody. Once the first pins appear airing should start. SPOPPO tends to pin quicker than HK35.

Growing Phase

Good results are achieved with an air temperature lower than 20 °C, an RH of 85-90%, CO₂ rate of 500 - 1000ppm and good lighting. The greater the air circulation the higher the RH and CO₂. Air temperatures less than 17 °C result in slower growth and therefore a better colour and shelf life. The yield curve is very similar to that of HK35. Two flushes can be picked with 3 weeks between the end of the first flush and the beginning of the second.



Spoppo - Sporeless *Pleurotus ostreatus*