

## Winter Propagation Frame<sup>®</sup>

### Douglas Justice

UBC Botanical Garden & Centre for Plant Research, 6804 Southwest Marine Drive, BC V6T 1Z4 Canada

#### Winter Propagation Frame:

- Used inside; i.e. in a frost-free enclosure, not subject to outside precipitation
- Used from late November to early February (sun is too strong before and after and will heat air above root temperature)
- Used for direct-stuck cuttings that do poorly under mist; e.g. *Cistus*, *Daphne*, and grey-leafed plants, such as, *Brachyglottis*, *Senecio*, *Lavandula*, etc.

#### Materials:

- Wood frame (made from four 2 inch × 12 inch boards) (our frame size is approximately 3 ft × 6 ft and has space for two rows of four 17 inch × 17-inch flats)
- Fasteners
- Styroboard (bottom layer, sits on the floor)
- Electric heating cable (sits on styroboard) with thermostat
- Sand, 2 inches (for bedding heating cable)
- Aquarium gravel, 2 inches (sits above sand to discourage weed growth)
- Heavy gauge wire (attached across top of frame to prevents cover from sagging)
- Vispore perforated plastic sheeting (3 ft × 8 ft)
- 2 ft to 3 ft 2 inch × 4 inch boards — one 2 × 4 secures Vispore to the frame at one end, the other is secured to Vispore and acts as a tightener (hangs off the other end of frame)

#### Procedure:

- Place cuttings flats on aquarium gravel
- Water in well
- Roll Vispore over frame to cover flats
- Check every few days for drying, mist as necessary