

cessation of growth, yellowing of leaves etc.. Seedlings showing severe stress symptoms under high water stress conditions are rescued by passage through gradually decreasing levels of PEG. Finally, they are maintained in the normal growth medium until they recover

completely from water stress. These seedlings are then transferred to the soil for field planting in drought-prone areas. Once planted in the field, their performance is monitored regularly as it is very important to correlate results obtained under *in-vitro* conditions with those under field conditions.

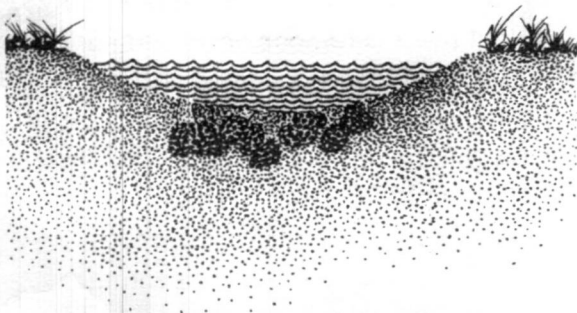
## INDIGENOUS TECHNOLOGY FOR TERMITE CONTROL

Termite is a pest of coconut found in many coconut growing areas. They damage not only coconut seedlings but also roots of mature palms. An easy way to control the population of termites in coconut estates is the destruction of termite colonies. A termite hill is the aerial part of the colony and the underground part is the breeding ground with a queen living in it. A termite colony could not be destroyed just by removing the aerial parts without killing the queen found in underground parts.

A traditional method adopted by farmers to destroy termite colonies is highlighted in this note. At the onset of rainy season, the aerial part of the termite colony is removed leveling it to the ground.



Then make a basin like depression covering the entire area of the colony facilitating water to be collected during the rainy season. Due to the collection of water, an unfavourable environment will be created in the breeding part of the colony. As a result the queen and the entire breeding ground will be destroyed naturally. You may try this in your coconut lands.



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