AVOCADO PLANTING SYSTEMS

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In many countries around the world recommendations are made for planting large, one meter by one meter by one meter holes that are backfilled with a mixture of native soil and 25% by volume of organic planting material. Aside from being expensive, this is very labor intensive. Trials were established in New Zealand on a well drained sandy loam, *Phytopthora*-free soil with seedling root-stocks and in California on a clay loam, infested with root rot using clonal rootstocks. 'Hass' scions were used. Trees were planted into large holes (1.8 X 0.8 X 0.6 m) with or without 25% well rot-ted compost planting mix or small holes (0.3 m wide and 0.5 m deep) with or without the organic planting mix. Trees were measured for stem girth, tree height and canopy dimension. After 6 months of growth in New Zealand and after 18 months growth in California there are no differences in tree dimensions with any of the combinations of hole size or backfill composition.