

Cuttings may be rooted to preserve a particularly desirable selection. However, branching must be induced by girdling or decapitation in order to provide the suckers for rooting.

Seed can be obtained from papaya fruit purchased at the local supermarket. If the fruit is from Hawaii, the chances are good that the resulting seedlings will be mostly bisexual. For nursery production of papaya seedlings with a high percentage of female or bisexual flowers, controlled pollination between desirable parents is essential. The expected distribution of the various flower types for different crosses is presented below:

Fruit Parent	Pollen Parent	Progeny Distribution		
		Male	Female	Bisexual
Female	Male	50	50	–
Female	Bisexual	–	50	50
Bisexual	Bisexual	–	33	67
Bisexual	Male	33	33	33

Obviously, the most desirable combinations are female or bisexual flowers pollinated by bisexuals, because no males are produced in these combinations.

Pollination is accomplished by covering an unopened flower (female or bisexual) with a small paper bag until it opens, then transferring pollen from a bisexual (or male) flower onto the protected stigma, and re-covering the pollinated flower for several days. The resultant fruit should be marked so that its seed can be collected at maturity.

In colder areas where overwinter survival is questionable, seedlings can be developed in late fall and carried through the winter in greenhouses. After frost danger passes in spring, these seedlings can be planted outdoors to provide fruit until the next killing frost.