

Effect of Presowing Treatments on Seed Germination of two Savanna Tree Legumes

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ABSTRACT

The investigations on some presowing treatments in seed germination of *Albizia lebeck* (Linn) Benth and *Senna siamea* (Lam), two savannah tree legumes in Nigeria, were carried out. Percentage germination in fresh seeds was 15-25, with 90-100% viability which further improved to 90-100%, following presowing treatments. The seeds of the two species exhibited physical dormancy due to hard seed coat. Dormancy in *A.lebeck* and *S. siamea* was terminated by soaking seeds in concentrated sulphuric acid for 10 and 15 minutes, wet heat at 100°C for 30 and 60 seconds, dry heat at 80-100°C for 5 to 10 minutes. respectively. Total carbohydrate and ethanol soluble sugars were well mobilized.

Keyword

Savannah seeds, germination, legumes, presowing treatment.