



**HANDLING SEED OF *ACACIA MEARNSII*
(BLACK WATTLE)**

Seed Issue Note No. (51) 1996

Temporary storage

Seeds can be stored for 4 years at room temperature without significant loss of viability, if they are maintained in the sealed polyethylene bag. However, it is recommended to sow the seeds within one year of receipt.

Treatment before sowing

Pour boiling water over the seed (volume of seed to water should be 1:5) stir to facilitate soaking until the water-cools. Seeds not swollen should be separated and treated again. Treated seeds should be sown immediately.

Sowing

A space about 1 cm should be left between the seeds. This will give a sowing density of 10,000 seeds per m² of seed bed corresponding to approx 0.1 kg of seed bed. Seeds should be covered with 0.5 cm of sand.

Germination

Germination reaches 20% after 10 days and 70% after 20 days.

One kg contains 80,000 seeds and may produce 56,000 seedlings under ideal conditions. However, in many cases only 40,000 seedlings per kg will be obtained.

Transplanting into pots can take place when the seedling has appearance shown at day 8 in the drawing.

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