

## TANZANIA TREE SEED AGENCY



### HANDLING SEED OF *ACACIA SENEGAL* (GUM ARABIC)

Seed Issue Note No. (50) 1996

#### Temporary storage

Seeds can be stored for 2 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.

Alternatively seeds can be nipped at the end opposite the scar by a nail cutter.

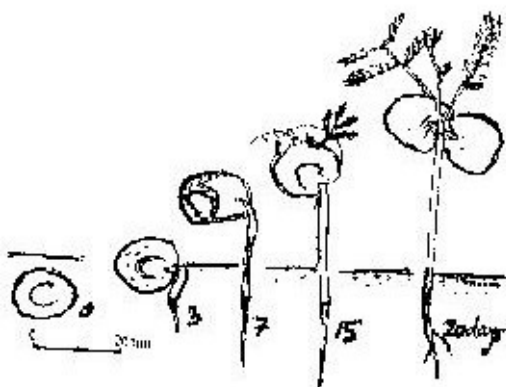
#### Sowing

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

#### Germination

At the 3rd day after sowing the root comes out (See drawing). The germination reaches 50% after 7 days and 95% after 20 days.

One kg contains 9,000 seeds and may produce 8,000 seedlings under ideal conditions. But in many cases only 7,000 seedlings per kg will be obtained. Transplanting into pots can take place when the seedling has appearance shown at day 7 in the drawing.



Germination stages in seed of *Acacia senegal*

Tanzania Tree Seed Agency  
S.L.P. 373, Morogoro – Tanzania

Tel: 023 260 3192/3903

Fax: 023 260 3275

E-mail: [ttsa@morogoro.net](mailto:ttsa@morogoro.net)