TANZANIA TREE SEED AGENCY



HANDLING SEED OF ACROCARPUS FRAXINIFOLIUS (INDIAN ASH)

Seed Issue Note No. (85) 1999

Temporary storage

Seeds can be stored for three years at room temperature without 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 seedbed corresponding to approx 0.4 kg of seed per m² of seedbed. Seed should be covered with 0.5 cm of sand.

Germination

Germination is very good. It attains 50% after 7 days and 95% after 14 days after sowing.

One kg of seeds contains 28,000 seeds and may produce 26,000 seedlings under ideal conditions. However, in many cases only 20,000 seedlings per kg will be obtained.

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