

## TANZANIA TREE SEED AGENCY



### HANDLING SEED OF *BAUHINIA PURPUREA* (PINK PURPUREA)

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#### **Temporary storage**

Seeds can be stored for several 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 1.5 cm should be left between the seeds. This will give sowing density of 4,500 seeds per m<sup>2</sup> of seedbed corresponding to approx 0.5 kg of seeds per m<sup>2</sup> of seedbed. Seeds should be covered with 0.5 cm of sand.

#### **Germination**

At the 5<sup>th</sup> day after sowing the root comes out. The germination reaches 50% after 5 days and 80% after 10 days.

One kg contains 6,000 seeds and may produce 5,000 seedlings under ideal conditions. However, in many cases only 4,500 seedlings per kg will be obtained.

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