

TANZANIA TREE SEED AGENCY



HANDLING SEED OF *DODONAEA VISCOSA* (SAND OLIVE)

Seed Issue Note No. (76) 1997

Temporary storage

Seeds can be stored for several years at room temperature without significant loss of viability, if they are well dried and packed in polyethylene bag or any airtight container. However, it is recommended to sow the seeds within two years of receipt.

Treatment before sowing

Seeds should be soaked in cold water for 6 - 12 hours before sowing.

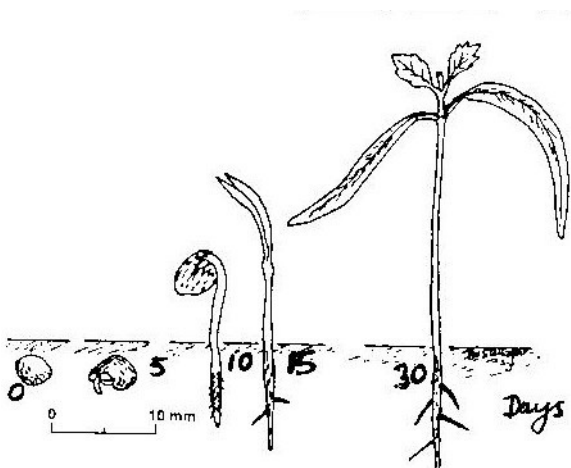
Sowing

A space about 0.5 cm should be left between the seeds. This will give a sowing density of 40,000 seeds per m² of seedbed. This is approximately 400 g kg of seed per m² of seedbed. Seeds should be covered with thin layer of sand.

Germination

Germination reaches 20% after 2 weeks and 70% after 3 weeks from sowing day.

One kg contains 90,000 seeds and may produce 60,000 seedlings under ideal conditions. But in many cases only 40,000 seedlings per kg of seed will be produced. Transplanting into pots can take place when the cotyledons have just appeared on the surface of the seedbed (see drawing).



Germination stages in seed of *Dodonaea viscosa*

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