

**EFFECT OF SEED TREATMENT ON GERMINATION OF IPIL-IPIL  
(*LEUCAENA LEUCOCEPHALA* (L.) BENTH) SEEDS**

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Ipil-Ipil is propagated by seeds which have a seed coat impervious to water. This gives rise to irregular and delayed germination affecting the uniformity of germinated plants. This paper reports results of three pre-treatments (namely, soaking in 60° C water for 24 hours ( $T_1$ ), soaking in conc.  $H_2SO_4$  for 5 minutes ( $T_2$ ) and mechanical scarification ( $T_3$ ) effected with a view to hastening germination.

## SECTION B

The approximate number of days taken for 50% germination of the control, T<sub>1</sub>, T<sub>2</sub>, and T<sub>3</sub> were 12, 6.5 and 7.5 days respectively. On the 12th day, the control had only about 48% germination whilst T<sub>1</sub>, T<sub>2</sub>, T<sub>3</sub> had 94.0%, 96.0% and 87.0% respectively. All the 3 treatments had hastened germination over the control. However, T<sub>2</sub> was more effective than T<sub>1</sub> and T<sub>1</sub> was more effective than T<sub>3</sub>.

Final percentages of germination observed on the 16th day, in respect of the control T<sub>1</sub>, T<sub>2</sub> and T<sub>3</sub> were 93.8%, 95.0%, 96.2% and 89.4% respectively. Though T<sub>2</sub> has given a higher % germination, it was significantly superior only to T<sub>3</sub>. The relatively poor final percentage germination observed in T<sub>3</sub> may be due to the damage caused to cotyledons in the process of scarification.