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# SEED PRODUCTION, SEED GERMINATION AND CHEMICAL COMPOSITION OF *PANICUM MAXIMUM* (JACQ)

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An experiment was conducted to study the effect of harvesting stage and 'cultivars' on the seed production and chemical composition of *Panicum maximum* (Jacq).

SECTION B

Three 'cultivars' of *Panicum maximum* (Jacq) namely, Guinea 'A', Guinea 'B' and Hamil were harvested at five stages panicle growth (at flower appearence stage, seven days after flower appearence, fourteen days after flower appearence, twenty one days after flower appearence and 28 days after flower appearence) and tested for percent seed germination with and without Potassium nitrate application.

The highest total seed production (4390 seeds/panicle) was observed in Hamil grass whereas Guinea 'A' showed the lowest. Crude protein content, ash content, weight per seed and percent germination was highest in Hamil, whereas lowest was recorded in Guinea 'A'. Weight per seed was highest at twenty one days after flower appearence. The germination percentage tended to increase with the application of Potassium nitrate but, the difference was not significant.