

EFFECT OF EUCALYPTUS LITTER ON GERMINATION AND
INITIAL ESTABLISHMENT OF NEIGHBOURING PLANTS

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A preliminary trial was carried out with a view to test the effect of eucalypt litter on the germination and establishment of other plant species in the neighbourhood. Substrates were prepared with different combinations of soil and ground Eucalyptus camaldulensis litter, the combinations being; 9s:1e, 8s:2e, 7s:3e, 6s:4e, 5s:5e, 4s:6e, 3s:7e, 2s:8e, 1s:9e, eucalypts only and soil only. Certified seed of Vigna sesquipedalis spp. were sown on these substrates. Around 91% of germination was obtained which was not statistically significant among the treatments. However, the mean height and leaf number observed after one month of establishment was highest in the treatment 6s:4e beyond which they declined as the proportion of eucalyptus grew higher. The lowest was recorded in the treatment containing only eucalypt leaves.

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