B 030

A study to develop effective seed propagation techniques for Elabatu (*Solanum Melongena* var. insanum)

A series of pot experiments were conducted to develop effective seed propagation techniques for Elabatu (*Solanum melongena* var. insanum). There were six treatments; Control – No soaking $(T_1)_2$ Seeds soaked for 24 h in normal water $(T_1)_2$ Seeds soaked for 24 h in 1% $KMno_4$ $(T_3)_2$ Seeds soaked for 24h in 1% H_2O_2 $(T_1)_2$ Seeds for 24 h in normal water and then treated with 25% HNO3 for 1min. $(T_1)_2$ and Seeds soaked 24 h in normal water and then treated with.

55 ^oC of hot water for 5 minutes, arranged in a Complete Randomized Design with a replicates. Seeds with different storage periods (i.e. 2, 4, 8, 12, 16 and 20 weeks of storage) in air temperature were used separately. Twenty-five seeds from each treatment were kept on wet filter paper in a Petri dish for germination and germinated seeds were counted up to 8 weeks.

The rate of seed germination was considerably low in all treatments except in the seeds of the (T_1) treatment, which was stored for 20 weeks period where 64% seed germination was recorded. Therefore the results revealed that Elabatu seeds have dormancy and only seeds stored for 20 weeks and then tread with 25% HNO# for 1 minute were able to break the dormancy.