

TANZANIA TREE SEED AGENCY



HANDLING SEED OF (LUCKY BEAN TREE)

Seed Issue Note No. (12) 1995

Temporary storage

Seeds can be stored for several years at room temperature without significant loss of viability, if they are maintained in the sealed polythene bag. However, it is recommended to sow the seeds within one year of receipt.

Treatment before sowing

The aril (red cap) should be removed by a knife or secateur. Then a small portion of the outer black part of the seed coat should be scratched off by a knife or sand paper.

Sowing

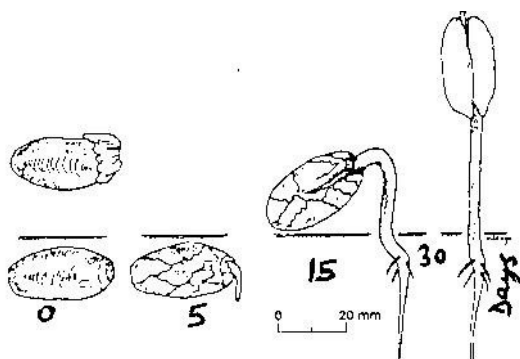
A space about 1.5 cm should be left between the seeds. This will give a sowing density of 4,500 seeds per m² of seedbed corresponding to approx. 0.5 kg of seed per m² of seedbed. Seeds should be covered with 0.5 cm of sand.

Germination

At the 6th day after sowing the root comes (see drawing). The germination reaches 85% after 20 days and 95% after 25 days.

One kg of seeds contains 480 seeds and may produce 450 seedlings under ideal conditions. However, in many cases only 330 seedlings per kg of seed will be obtained.

The species fixes nitrogen and has mycorrhiza association.



Stages in the Germination of *Afzelia quanzensis* seed

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