

## TANZANIA TREE SEED AGENCY



### HANDLING SEED OF *OCOTEA USAMBARENSIS* (EAST AFRICAN CAMPHOR WOOD)

Seed Issue Note No. (104) 1999

#### Temporary storage

Seeds should be stored moist at room temperature (1 - 5 litres) cotton bags. They cannot tolerate desiccation and freezing temperatures. Seeds should be sown within six weeks after collection.

#### Treatment before sowing

Seeds coat at the scar end must be peeled off before sowing.

#### Sowing

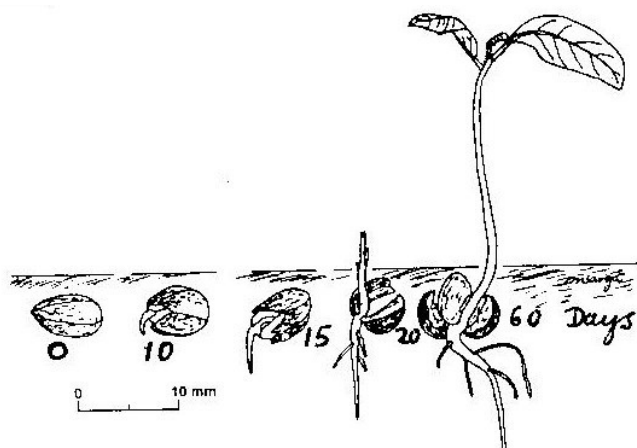
A space about 1 should be left between the seeds. This will give a sowing density of 10,000 seeds per m<sup>2</sup> of seedbed. This is approximately 0.5 kg of seed per m<sup>2</sup> of seedbed. Seeds should be covered with sand to a depth of 0.5 cm.

#### Germination

Germination is good and somewhat sporadic. It reaches 30% after 3 weeks and 60% after seven weeks from sowing.

One kg contains 20,000 seeds and may produce 12,000 seedlings under ideal conditions. In many cases, 1 kg of seed produces about 10,000 seedlings.

Transplanting into pots takes place when the seedlings have attained appearance showing at day 60 in the drawing.



Stages in germination of *Ocotea usambarensis* seed

Tanzania Tree Seed Agency  
S.L.P. 373, Morogoro – Tanzania

Tel: 023 260 3192/3903

Fax: 023 260 3275

E-mail: [ttsa@morogoro.net](mailto:ttsa@morogoro.net)