



## HANDLING SEED OF *PTEROCARPUS TINCTORIUS* (MNINGA MAJI)

Seed Issue Note No. (45) 1996

### Temporary storage

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

### Treatment before sowing

The seed does not require any pre-treatment.

### Sowing

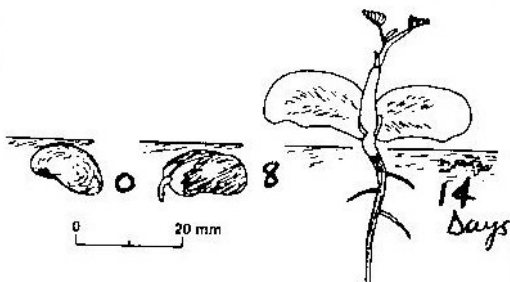
A space about 1.5 cm should be left between the seeds. This will give a sowing density of 4,500 seeds per m<sup>2</sup> of seedbed corresponding to approx 1 kg per m<sup>2</sup> of seedbed. Seed should be covered with 0.5 cm of sand.

### Germination

At the 8th day after sowing, the root comes out and germination is finalised in 21 days.

One kg of seeds contains 4,700 seeds and may produce 4,000 seedlings under ideal conditions. However, in many cases only 2,000 seedlings per kg will be obtained. Transplanting into pots can take place before the seedling has appearance shown in day 14 in the drawing.

The species fixes nitrogen and has got mycorrhiza association.



Germination stages in seed of *Pterocarpus tinctorius*

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)