Effect of different storage temperatures on the germination behaviour of Jatropha curcas L. seeds

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ABSTRACT
Seeds of Jatropha curcas L. were stored under three different temperatures viz., room temperatures (26.33°C), 20°C and 10°C. Initially the data were recorded after 1 month of storage i.e. in February 2008 at different storage temperature thereafter; the germination and moisture content were recorded at 1, 3, 6, 9 and 12 months of storage duration. The temperature 10°C significantly influenced the germination percentage and other germination parameters of Jatropha seeds when germination test was carried out in 1st month which was followed by 20°C and room temperature, thereafter a steep decline in the germination percentage till the termination of the experiment after 12 months of storage under all temperatures.

KEY WORDS: Jatropha seeds, Storage temperature, Germination per cent, Germination speed, Germination energy, Moisture content