THE EFFECT OF FRUIT FERMENTATION AND SOME PRETREATMENTS ON THE GERMINATION OF SEEDS OF SPONDIAS MOMBIN (LINN)

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ABSTRACT

The effects of fruit fermentation and some standard pretreatment for dormancy release through depulping, leaching and sundrying on the germination of seeds of *Spondias mombin* (Linn) were investigated. Fermentation of fruits in the open or enclosed space for 5-7 days and subsequent leaching in running water and sundrying gave 90-100% germination within 18-20 days. The standard method of depulping of fruits followed by leaching in water and sundrying gave 80% germination within 22 days. The likely complementary roles of such fruit fermentation in dormancy breaking in seeds from pulpy fruits such as those of *S. mombin* is degradation of inhibitors and other chemicals.

Key words: *Spondias mombin*, seed pretreatment, fruit fermentation, dormancy, seed germination