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Effect of Seed Source Altitude in Wild Service Tree, on Seed Germination

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Abstract

In order to determine the effects of *Sorbus torminalis* seed origin altitude on the germination of seed, 200 seeds of 40 individual wild service trees from two origins, namely Ashak (2100-2200m a.s.l) and Sangdeh (1700-1800m a.s.l), were planted in plastic flower- vases, in a nursery at 1500 m a.s.l. Germination of seed, survival and height growth of seedlings were recorded during the first year. Analyse is of data showed that, the effect of seed source altitude on seed germination was significant ($p<0.05$). The effect of seed source altitude on seedling survival ($p<0.05$) and the height growth of seedlings ($p<0.01$) was significant too. Germination rate of seeds collected from higher altitudes alttitude(Ashak) was higher than the germination of seed from lower altitude (Sangdeh). Despite that, the survival and height growth in seedlings of seeds from lower altitude was more than those in seeds collected from higher altitudes. It is therefore suggested to collect seeds from the nearest origin to the nursery.

Keywords: *Sorbus torminalis*, Germination, Site altitude , Survival, Height growth , Nursery

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